

Report to:	Cabinet	Date of Meeting:	3 December 2020
Subject:	Draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol		
Report of:	Chief Legal and Democratic Officer	Wards Affected:	All
Cabinet Portfolio:	Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

Further to Minute No. 27 (3) of the meeting held on 30 July 2020 to present the views of the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board on the production of an Executive/Scrutiny Protocol in Sefton.

Recommendation:

That the Executive/Scrutiny Protocol be approved.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To comply with a previous decision of the Cabinet (Minute No. 27 (3) of the meeting held on 30 July 2020) seeking the production of an Executive/Scrutiny Protocol in Sefton.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

No alternative options have been considered because a decision is required by the Cabinet.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

There are no direct financial implications arising from the development of a protocol. Any financial implications that do arise will be reported to the Cabinet at the appropriate time.

(A) Revenue Costs

See above

(B) Capital Costs

See above

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): None
Legal Implications: None
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: None directly applicable to this report.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: None directly applicable to this report.
Commission, broker and provide core services: The development of an Executive / Scrutiny protocol should improve relationships between Cabinet and Scrutiny Members and contribute towards more effective scrutiny in Sefton.
Place – leadership and influencer: As above
Drivers of change and reform: As above
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: None directly applicable to this report.
Greater income for social investment: None directly applicable to this report.
Cleaner Greener: None directly applicable to this report.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD 6183/20) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD4375/20) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

The four Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board have been consulted and their views are contained in this report.

(B) External Consultations

None

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting

Contact Officer:	Paul Fraser
Telephone Number:	0151 934 2068
Email Address:	Paul.fraser@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

Draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol – Appendix A

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 The Cabinet, at its meeting held on 30 July 2020 considered a report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer on the Overview and Scrutiny Function – Information from the Centre for Public Scrutiny.
- 1.2 The report indicated that the Annual Survey of the Centre for Public Scrutiny found that the presence of an Executive/Scrutiny protocol made a difference to the quality of the scrutiny/executive relationship; and that it was also considered that the protocol could be utilised as a training tool, particularly for new Members.
- 1.3 The Cabinet, upon consideration of the report, resolved that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board be requested to develop an Executive / Scrutiny protocol for use in Sefton.
- 1.4 At its meeting held on 8 September 2020 the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board approved a draft protocol and requested that the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees consider and comment upon the document.

2. Overview and Scrutiny Committee Consultation

- 2.1 The four Overview and Scrutiny Committees considered the draft protocol during the October/November cycle of meetings and the views of the Committees are set out below.

2.2 O&S (Adult Social Care and Health) - 13 October 2020

That the draft Executive/Scrutiny protocol, as attached to the report, be endorsed and submitted to Cabinet for approval, in due course.

O&S (Regulatory, Compliance & Corporate Services - 20 October 2020

That:

- (1) that draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol be endorsed; and
- (2) the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and Cabinet be advised accordingly.

O&S (Regeneration and Skills) - 3 November 2020

That:

- (1) that draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol be endorsed; and
- (2) the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and Cabinet be advised accordingly.

O&S (Children's Services and Safeguarding) – 10 November 2020

That the draft Executive/Scrutiny protocol, as attached to the report, be endorsed and submitted to Cabinet for approval, in due course.

- 2.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board considered the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees on 10 November 2020 and resolved that:

That the draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol be submitted to Cabinet for approval

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 Bearing in mind the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board it is recommended that the draft Executive/Scrutiny protocol be approved for use in Sefton.