

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
BOARD**

17th November 2014

JOINT WRS SCRUTINY TASK GROUP – UPDATE REPORT

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Kit Taylor (at the time of the investigation)
Portfolio Holder Consulted	The Portfolio Holder was consulted by the group during the review as an expert witness.
Relevant Head of Service	Steve Jordan, Head of Regulatory Services
Ward(s) Affected	No specific ward relevance.
Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

This report provides an update on the Worcestershire Shared Services Joint Committee's response to the recommendations made by the Joint Worcestershire Regulatory Service (WRS) Scrutiny Task Group.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

**The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that
the report be noted.**

3. KEY ISSUES

Background

- 3.1 The Joint WRS Scrutiny Task Group was originally proposed in summer 2012 by Wychavon District Council and was launched in September 2013. All authorities in Worcestershire agreed to participate in the review and two representatives, a lead and substitute member, were appointed per Council. Bromsgrove Overview and Scrutiny Board appointed Councillors Rod Laight and Pete Lammas respectively.
- 3.2 The review concluded in June 2014. The group's recommendations were subsequently presented for the consideration at each Overview and Scrutiny Committee throughout the County, with all, except for Wyre Forest District Council's Committee, endorsing the group's recommendations.
- 3.3 The Joint WRS Scrutiny Task Group's final report was presented, by Councillor Laight and Councillor Peter Tomlinson from Wychavon District Council, at the Worcestershire Shared Services Joint Committee on 2nd October. The Joint Committee has delegated powers to make some decisions in respect of WRS on behalf of partner authorities, in respect of others it is required to forward any recommendations that would require significant policy and budget changes or alterations to the partnership agreement onto the Executive/Cabinet of each partner

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authority. Significant changes can only proceed if every partner agrees to the proposals.

- 3.4 A summary of the decisions made by the Joint Committee are attached at appendix 1.

Financial Implications

- 3.7 There are no direct financial implications relating to this report.

Legal Implications

- 3.8 There are no direct legal implications in respect of this report.

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.9 The group's recommendations have a number of service and operational implications which were detailed within the final report.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 3.10 No direct customer or equality and diversity implications have been identified for the purpose of this report.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

No risks have been identified.

APPENDIX

- 5. Response from Joint Committee**

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