

MINUTES OF THE IMPROVING SCRUTINY TASK AND FINISH GROUP

Tuesday, 12 September 2023 at 6.00 pm

In attendance: Councillors Mark Jackson, Sian Eiles, Mark Ingleby and James Rathbone

Also joining the meeting virtually: Councillor Aliya Sheikh

Also present: Councillor John Paschoud

NB: Those Councillors listed as joining virtually were not in attendance for the purposes of the meeting being quorate, any decisions taken or to satisfy the requirements of s85 Local Government Act 1972

1. Election of the Chair

1.1 **Resolved:** that Councillor Jackson be agreed as Chair of the Task and Finish Group.

2. Declaration of interests

2.1 There were none.

3. Improving scrutiny Task and Finish Group scoping report

3.1 Councillor Jackson introduced the report – setting out the key intentions of the Task and Finish Group. In the discussion that followed, these key points were noted:

- It had been 20 years since Overview and Scrutiny had been implemented in local government.
- There had been a long history of changes to scrutiny – that moved at different paces.
- The Group should not be afraid to look at everything – and fundamentally change the approach to be more effective.
- That scrutiny should be forward thinking and fit for the future.
- The importance of achieving consensus.
- The Group might recommend sets of changes rather than implementing them as a whole.
- The potential to learn from other authorities.
- Recommendations should fit with Lewisham’s approach whilst enabling the production of dynamic work.

The meeting ended at 18:30

Chair:

Date:
