

GWYNEDD COUNCIL

Role and Responsibilities of Members of Scrutiny Committees

1) ACCOUNTABILITY

- To the Chair and Vice Chair of the appropriate Scrutiny Committee
- To Full Council

2) ROLE PURPOSE AND ACTIVITY

2.1 Participation

- To participate fully in the activities of the Scrutiny Committee, the development and delivery of its work programme and associated task and finish groups.

2.2 Reviewing and developing policy

- To assist in the creation, development, improvement and refinement of Council policy.
- To challenge policies on the basis of sound evidence.
- To assess impact of existing policy.

2.3 Holding the Board to account, monitoring performance and service delivery

- To monitor the performance of internal and external providers against standards and targets including questioning and challenging Portfolio Leaders and Senior officers.
- To contribute to the identification and mitigation of risk.
- To identify and investigate poor performance, and recommend appropriate action.
- To monitor progress on recommendations
- To evaluate the validity of Board decisions and challenge decisions where appropriate.

2.4 Promoting the work of Overview and Scrutiny

- To promote the role of overview and scrutiny within and outside the Council, developing effective internal and external relationships.
- To demonstrate an objective and evidence based approach to scrutiny.
- To add value to the decision making process and service provision of the Authority through effective scrutiny.

2.5 Community Leadership

- To hold other public bodies to account.
- To develop the principle of accountability within public bodies and partnerships
- To use scrutiny as a means to address community issues and engage the public.
- To encourage stakeholders to participate in the scrutiny process.
- To develop locally viable and acceptable policy solutions which are appropriate to Gwynedd.
- Promote dialogue around priorities, objectives and performance, among communities and stakeholders.

2.6 Meeting participation

- To make adequate and appropriate preparation for meetings (e.g. through research, enquiries, reading the agenda and reports and attending preparatory meetings).
- To participate in a proactive, informed and effective manner taking account of the Code of Conduct, Procedural Rules and other constitutional requirements.
- To ensure that committee meetings are held in accordance with Gwynedd Council's language policy to promote the use of Welsh.

3) VALUES

3.1 To be committed to the values of the Council and the principles of members' conduct:

Council Values

- Respect
- Working as a team
- Value for money
- Serving
- Positive

Principles of Members' conduct:

- Selflessness
- Honesty
- Integrity and propriety
- Upholding the law
- Stewardship
- Objectivity in decision-making
- Equality and respect
- Openness
- Accountability
- Leadership