

Scrutiny Review Plan – Form B

This form should be completed by the overview and scrutiny committee after the Scrutiny Review Proposal has been completed and the topic has been included in the work programme of that committee.

<p>Topic title</p>	<p><i>Review of the VOI E-Scooter Trial in West Northamptonshire</i></p>
	<p>The scrutiny review will consider the effectiveness of VOI E-Scooter Trial in West Northamptonshire, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that the current trial meets the requirements introduced by the Department for Transport in April 2022 • An evaluation of the mis-use of E-scooters operating under the trial (including underage usage, issues of drink-driver usage, poor parking), the impact this has on the safety of all road users, the complaints procedure relating to the mis-use of E-Scooters and enforcement where appropriate. • An evaluation of the suitability of Northampton’s infrastructure to accommodate E-scooters. • An evaluation of the benefits that E-Scooters bring to West Northamptonshire as part of the options for sustainable transport. <p>The scrutiny review will enable the Committee to produce a report which makes recommendations to Cabinet regarding the evaluation of the VOI scooter trial</p>
<p>Link to the Council’s Corporate Priorities (from Form A)</p>	<p>E-scooters offer increased accessibility in the town centre, major employment locations as well as access to local services including health care and leisure.</p> <p>The provision of E-scooters may encourage modal shift from car use for short trips, improving air quality and reducing emissions.</p> <p>The use of E-scooters and E-bikes links to the following corporate priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean & Green • Improved life chances • Connected Communities • Thriving Villages and Towns • Economic Development

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robust Resource Management
Key objectives and measures of effectiveness (from Form A)	<p>The scrutiny review will seek to understand where the VOI scooter trial has worked well and where there are areas for improvement. It will consider all of the evidence received to make informed recommendations to Cabinet regarding the VOI scooter Trial in West Northamptonshire, and which will be also be provided to VOI.</p>
Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE)	<p><i>The Key Lines of Enquiry of this Review:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that the current trial meets the requirements introduced by the Department for Transport in April 2022 • An evaluation of the mis-use of E-scooters operating under the trial (including underage usage, issues of drink-driver usage, poor parking), the impact this has on the safety of all road users, the complaints procedure relating to the mis-use of E-Scooters and enforcement where appropriate. • An evaluation of the suitability of Northampton’s infrastructure to accommodate E-scooters. • An evaluation of the benefits that E-Scooters bring to West Northamptonshire as part of the options for sustainable transport and the economy.
Outlining stakeholders	<p>The Committee will ask for evidence and information from the following expert advisors to inform its Review:</p> <p>Internal Expert Advisors</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport, Highways and Waste</p> <p>Assistant Director – Highways and Transport</p> <p>Head of Economic Growth & Sustainability – Highways and Transport (North Northants Council)</p> <p>External Expert advisors</p> <p>Senior Officers - VOI</p> <p>Officers – Northamptonshire Police</p> <p>Representative of Employers from Northampton where their employees use the E-scooters eg.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brackmills BID

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northampton General Hospital • University of Northampton <p>Parish and Town Councils</p> <p>Chief Executive of NCALC</p> <p>VOI scooter users</p>
<p>Outlining evidence</p>	<p>VOI scooter contract</p> <p>Government Guidance - Powered Transporters</p> <p>Statistical data from the Trial included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Safety measures ➤ Scooter usage data, including Km travelled ➤ Health and wellbeing data ➤ Parking of the VOI scooters ➤ Complaints data ➤ Governance data ➤ Action plan - VOI <p>Background information to the Trial – including what constitutes a legal E-Scooter, where they can be ridden and by whom; “no ride” zones</p> <p>Compliments and complaints procedure</p>
<p>Outlining Briefings and/or site visits</p>	<p>VOI has offered a visit to their establishment in Northampton for Councillors to understand their operation more fully and its impact.</p> <p>It is important that any recommendations are deliverable therefore it may be necessary to provide context or research from other schemes delivering similar services.</p>
<p>Risks</p>	<p>The subject matter of this Review is relatively wide and could involve evidence from a large number of groups, therefore a number of meetings may be required which may make a report to January 2024 cabinet (as per the proposal form) difficult to achieve.</p> <p>Risks will be mitigated by agreeing in advance of the commencement of the Review a series of dates for meetings with focussed agendas allowing for the correct experts/witnesses to be available to respond to the line of questioning at each meeting.</p>

Membership	A Task and Finish Group to be convened. Membership to comprise all Members of Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Councillors E Roberts and Z Smith invited to join the Task and Finish Group.
Timeframe	<p>The review will commence in December 2023, concluding in January 2024. The Chair of the Committee will present the report of Place OSC to Cabinet at its January 2024 meeting:</p> <p>Meeting dates:</p> <p>4 December 2023 - to formally approve the scope of the Review.</p> <p>Task and Finish Group meetings:</p> <p>4 December 2023</p> <p>Receive evidence from:</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport, Highways and Waste</p> <p>Assistant Director – Highways and Transport</p> <p>Head of Economic Growth & Sustainability– Highways and Transport (North Northants Council)</p> <p>Representative(s) from Northamptonshire Police</p> <p>Head of Economic Growth & Sustainability– Highways and Transport (North Northants Council)</p> <p>18 December 2023 - Task and Finish Group meeting</p> <p>Evidence gathering:</p> <p>Senior officers - VOI</p> <p>Representative of Employers from Northampton where their employees use the E-scooters eg.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brackmills BID • Northampton General Hospital • University of Northampton <p>Parish and Town Councils</p> <p>Chief Executive of NCALC</p> <p>VOI scooter users</p>

	<p>4 January 2024 - To consider the evidence received and develop potential conclusions and recommendations for the final report</p> <p>15 January 2024 – The Chair to present the final report to the meeting of Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>12 March 2024 - Report of Place Overview Scrutiny (Review of the VOI scooters) to be presented to Cabinet</p>
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