

The Four Principles of Good Public Scrutiny

1: good public scrutiny...

provides 'critical friend' challenge

to executive policy-makers and decision-makers

2: good public scrutiny...enables the

voice and concerns of the public

and its communities

3: good public scrutiny...is carried out by

'independent minded governors'

who lead and own the scrutiny role

4: good public scrutiny...

drives improvement

in public services

Understanding the scrutiny role.....

- Clarity of purpose
- Constructive, robust and purposeful challenge
- Respect for the scrutiny role as a legitimate check on executives
- A constructive working relationship with executive colleagues including external bodies

- ensuring an on-going dialogue with the public
- to create and an 'accountability relationship' representing and engaging diverse communities

- independent and impartial 'non-executives' appointed or elected to ensure the public interest is served
- champions of the value and potential of good scrutiny
- active engagement on the board or in the committee

- promote community well-being and improve the quality of life
- strategic quality assurance

Creating an enabling environment for good public scrutiny.....

- Clear rules of engagement
- Work programmes that fit with existing corporate processes
- Non-aggressive environment and behaviours to create optimum conditions for investigative evidence- based

- open and transparent processes with public access to information
- meeting conducted in public which invite public participation and 'active citizenship'

- active engagement of members in a scrutiny role
- ensure adequate public accountability and community leadership
- create conditions for deliberation and consensus

- strategic review of corporate policies , plans and budgets
- co-ordinate reviews of policy and service performance in line with strategic objectives

Supporting public scrutiny.....

- Objective questioning
- Inclusive, focused chairing
- Access to information and expert advice

- active listening and sympathetic questioning
- adequate resourcing for public dialogue

- deliberative skills and consensus building
- reflect on the process, learn from the experience and innovate
- acknowledges professional support for 'lay' members

- access to timely and accurate performance information
- analysis and interpretation of performance data
- resources and professional support for the collection and presentation of performance information