



DEMOCRATIC SERVICES NEEDS

YOU

**TO COMPLETE THIS
QUESTIONNAIRE**

This is your survey and your opportunity to tell us what you think about the current scrutiny arrangements and the future of scrutiny at Cheltenham Borough Council.

You are aware that both shared services and commissioning have implications for accountability, and for operation of the local government scrutiny function. As more services are delivered in different ways, effective management and governance of these arrangements will be crucial and scrutiny can play a central part in the process.

You will play a key role in shaping the future of scrutiny so please take this initial opportunity to start doing so. Feel free to select more than one answer and make as many additional comments as you wish – all feedback will be gratefully received.

Personal details:			
Cabinet Member	O&S Committee Member	Non O&S Committee Member	Name (optional)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

How do you think scrutiny is operating in CBC at the moment?			
Very effective	Effective	Less than effective	Poor
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Why do you think this is?			

Is the cabinet being effectively held to account?			
Effectively held to account	Held to account but could be improved	Rarely held to account	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How could this be more effective?			

Is scrutiny contributing to the development of new policies and strategies?			
Yes	No	Partially	Not sure
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How could this improve?			

Is scrutiny achieving positive outcomes for the residents of Cheltenham?			
Yes	No	Partially	Not sure
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If not, why not?			

Do you feel you have the skills and expertise to carry out your scrutiny role?			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Partially <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
What do you need?			

What areas of scrutiny need the most review?			
Size and structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Agenda and reports <input type="checkbox"/>	Training <input type="checkbox"/>	Officer support <input type="checkbox"/>
What specifically?			

How do you think the scrutiny work plan should be determined?			
Driven by business plan and forward plan <input type="checkbox"/>	Driven by chairs in consultation with Directors <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussed by all scrutiny members <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>

What form should the agenda take?			
One topic discussed in depth <input type="checkbox"/>	Lots of smaller topics <input type="checkbox"/>	Combination of previous options <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Why?			

If you have been involved in a working group how would you rate its effectiveness?			
Very effective <input type="checkbox"/>	Effective but could be improved <input type="checkbox"/>	Less than effective <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
How could it be improved?			

What is your preference for the size and structure of scrutiny in CBC?			
Maintain current size and structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Current size and structure with more working groups <input type="checkbox"/>	An overarching committee and task & finish groups <input type="checkbox"/>	Ad hoc committees for specific topics <input type="checkbox"/>

What officer support do you need for effective scrutiny?

What is the most important skill of a scrutineer?			
Financial scrutiny skills <input type="checkbox"/>	Questioning skills <input type="checkbox"/>	Team – working <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>

Please add your additional comments here:

Please return to Democratic Services by the 31 August 2011.

Thank you for your time.