



**DEMOCRATIC SERVICES NEEDS**

# YOU

**TO COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE**

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

**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.**

**Officers have a role to play 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:			
Director <input type="checkbox"/>	Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/>	Officer <input type="checkbox"/>	Name (Optional)

How often are you invited to attend scrutiny?			
3 or more per year <input type="checkbox"/>	1-2 times per year <input type="checkbox"/>	Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>	Never <input type="checkbox"/>

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

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

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

Does the work of scrutiny contribute to the development of your service?			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Partially <input type="checkbox"/>	Not sure <input type="checkbox"/>
How does it/doesn't it do this?			

Do you understand the role of scrutiny?			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Partially <input type="checkbox"/>	Not sure <input type="checkbox"/>

Do you feel you have the skills and expertise to support scrutiny members in their work?			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Partially <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
What do you need?			

Do you feel members have the relevant skills and expertise to undertake effective scrutiny?			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Partially <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
What do they 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"/>
Why?			

How do you think the scrutiny work plan should be determined?			
Driven by the business plan and forward plan <input type="checkbox"/>	Driven by the 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 two options <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
Why?			

What are your views on officer support?			
More than adequate support provided <input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate support provided <input type="checkbox"/>	Support is not adequate <input type="checkbox"/>	Scrutiny is seriously under resourced <input type="checkbox"/>
What officer support do you need for effective scrutiny?			

**Please add your additional comments here:**

**Thank you for your time.**

**Please return to Democratic Services by the 31 August 2011.**