

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 23 MARCH 2022**

### **WEBCASTING OF PUBLIC SCRUTINY MEETINGS**

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#### **Summary**

1. The Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager has been invited to provide the Board with an update on the progress made with regard to the webcasting of all public Scrutiny Meetings.

#### **Background**

2. At the present time, a number of the Council's public meetings are routinely webcast including: Council, Cabinet, Planning and Regulatory Committee, Health and Wellbeing Board, Pension Investment Sub-Committee, West Mercia Police and Crime Panel and the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board.

3. During COVID-19 pandemic, Council meetings were held in accordance with the relevant legislative arrangements for remote meetings of a local authority ie the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020. Accordingly, public meetings were conducted remotely by videoconferencing between invited participants and live streamed for general access via a link on the Council's website to the Council's You Tube Channel. This approach to public Scrutiny meetings generated more in interest from the public and other interested parties than meetings which are held face to face and allowed people to watch at their leisure.

4. From May 2021, the Regulations came to end and public meetings reverted to being held in person with a limited number being webcast.

5. Following a number of requests from councillors and interest from the public, the feasibility of public Scrutiny Meetings being webcasted is being considered.

#### **Purpose of the Meeting**

6. Members are asked to consider and comment on the update provided.

#### **Contact Points**

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## **Background Papers**

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)