

# Annex A

## Local government scrutiny committee powers

Current powers	Potential future powers
<p>Information can be required from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• officers of the council</li> <li>• members of the council executive</li> <li>• local NHS bodies in relation to planning, provision and operation of health services in the area</li> <li>• police forces, Police authorities, fire and rescue authorities, probation authorities and parish councils in relation to crime and disorder functions</li> <li>• LAA partner authorities where the information relates to an LAA target that the partner authority has signed up to (pending regulations)*</li> </ul>	<p>Enabling scrutiny committees to use their powers to require LAA partner authorities to provide information on issues not directly related to LAA targets** and</p> <p>Extend the power to require information from a wider range of authorities and bodies that carry out public services locally, for example to utility companies, and to sub-regional partnerships.</p>
<p>Attendance before the scrutiny committee can be required from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• members of the council executive</li> <li>• officers of the council</li> <li>• officers of local NHS bodies</li> <li>• officers or employees of police forces, police authorities, fire and rescue authorities, probation authorities and parish councils in relation to crime and disorder functions</li> </ul>	<p>Extend the power to require attendance to a wider range of authorities and bodies carrying out public services locally and to sub-regional partnerships.</p>

Current powers	Potential future powers
<p>Reports and recommendations can be made to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the council</li> <li>• local NHS bodies and their relevant council</li> <li>• police forces, police authorities, fire and rescue authorities, probation authorities and parish councils</li> <li>• reports and recommendations can be copied to LAA partner authorities</li> </ul> <p>The current arrangements on receipt of scrutiny reports and recommendations vary. For example, LAA partners are required to 'have regard' to recommendations, but not required to respond formally, unlike the council, local NHS bodies or police forces etc.</p>	<p>Extend the power for scrutiny committees to make reports and recommendations to a wider range of authorities and bodies carrying out public services locally and to sub-regional partnerships.</p> <p>Extend the current arrangements to require a wider range of authorities and bodies carrying out public services locally to consider and formally respond to scrutiny reports and recommendations and to sub-regional partnerships.</p>

\*The duty to co-operate in regard to LAAs applies to: unitary and county authorities, district authorities, Environment Agency, Natural England, fire and rescue authorities, JobCentre Plus, Health and Safety Executive, Broads Authority, national park authorities, youth offending teams, police authorities, probation trusts and other providers of probation services, Transport for London Chief Officer of Police, joint waste authorities, primary care trusts, NHS trusts, NHS foundation trusts, regional development agencies, Learning and Skills Council, Sport England, English Heritage, Arts Council, Museum and Libraries Archives Council, Highways Agency, metropolitan passenger transport authorities, Homes and Communities Agency, any other organisations added by an order under section 104(7) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

\*\*Appropriate measures will be put in place, to ensure the protection of sensitive information, if these proposals on information provision are to be taken forward.