

**REPORT TITLE: APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINY CO-OPTEE FOR 2025/26**

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>12 September 2025</b>
<b>Cabinet Member (if applicable)</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
<b>Key Decision Eligible for Call In</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Purpose of Report: Allocation of Additional Co-optee for 2025/26</b>	
<b>Recommendations</b>  That the allocation of an additional scrutiny co-optee for the 2025/26 municipal year, as set out in paragraph 2.2, be agreed.  <b>Reasons for Recommendations</b> An additional co-optee has been recruited and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee is required to confirm this appointment and allocate them to a Scrutiny Panel.	
<b>Resource Implications:</b> Not applicable	
<b>Date signed off by <u>Executive Director</u> &amp; name</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer)?</b>	<b>Rachel Spencer- Henshall 3-9-25</b>  <b>Not applicable</b>  <b>Samantha Lawton</b> (Leigh Webb – 22-8-25)

**Electoral wards affected:** All

**Ward councillors consulted:** Not applicable

**Public or private:** Public

**Has GDPR been considered?** Yes

## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 An additional co-optee has been recruited and the Committee is required to confirm their appointment and allocate them to one of the Scrutiny Panels.

## 2. Information required to take a decision

- 2.1 At the start of the municipal year 2025/26 there were a total of three co-optees involved in scrutiny. An additional co-optee has since been recruited and a further recruitment exercise is to be undertaken later in 2025.
- 2.2 The table below shows the current co-optees and their allocated Panel for the 2025/26 municipal year.

It is proposed that the new co-optee, Kevin Evans, be allocated to the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Panel.

Name	Allocation 2025/26
Helen Clay	Health and Adult Social Care
Chris Friend	Regeneration and Growth
Kim Taylor	Health and Adult Social Care

## 3. Implications for the Council

### 3.1 Council Plan

Co-optees may have specific skills, knowledge and experience which can assist scrutiny in its work, providing an alternative, external perspective. Their input helps to contribute to transparency, effective and accountable decision-making, and policy development across the whole range of services the Council provides and towards achievement of the priorities and shared outcomes set out within the Council Plan.

### 3.2 Financial Implications

Not applicable.

### 3.3 Legal Implications

Not applicable.

### 3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

Not applicable.

### 3.5 Other (eg Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)

Not applicable.

## 4. Consultation

No consultation was appropriate in respect of the contents of this report.

- 5. Engagement**  
No engagement was necessary in respect of the contents of this report.
- 6. Options**
  - 6.1 Options considered**  
Not applicable
  - 6.2 Reasons for recommended option**  
Not applicable.
- 7. Next steps and timelines**  
Subject to the decision of the Committee, Kevin Evans will be advised of the confirmation of his appointment to the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Panel and will receive an appropriate induction and ongoing support.
- 8. Contact officer**  
Sheila Dykes, Principal Governance Officer  
Tel 01484 221000  
Email: sheila.dykes@kirklees.gov.uk
- 9. Background Papers and History of Decisions**  
None
- 10. Appendices**  
None
- 11. Service Director responsible**  
Samantha Lawton, Service Director, Legal, Governance and Commissioning