**DRAFT Terms of Reference**

**North East Regional Scrutiny Officer/Members Network**

**Purpose of Network**

To provide a forum for overview and scrutiny members and officers to consider, discuss and exchange information on national and regional issues affecting local authorities/combined authorities in the North East region.

To work with the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny to share information on national policy developments.

**Aims and objectives**

Members of the network agree to share experiences and knowledge to work together to develop ideas and good practice to support and strengthen overview and scrutiny in the region.

To provide support and networking opportunities for elected members and officers involved in overview and scrutiny.

Members are encouraged to share information and knowledge gained from the network within their individual authorities.

**Membership**

Each local authority/combined authority to nominate up to four members to attend network meetings. Substitute members are entitled to attend when necessary.

Each local authority’s thematic chairs and vice chairs to attend network meetings when reports of interest are due to be considered.

**Appointment of Chair**

The chair of the network will be elected for a period of two years.

The vice chair of the network will be elected for a period of two years.

**Meetings**

The network will aim to meet quarterly.

Meetings will take place either in person or remotely.