Quality evaluation prompts and questions

	Better since changes made?	The same as before?	Worse than before?
Member involvement	*Prior to 2016, the council had up to 18 ad-hoc 'advisory groups' for which agendas and notes were not consistently available. The 2016 governance review set out to deliver better member involvement through a suite of 7 PDAGs, visible to all members and with published agendas and notes. The view of the PDAG would appear on Cabinet reports. Member participation in the earliest stage of policy development was desired and good attendance would be expected from members.*		
As a result of the introduction of PDAGs are you better informed about business?			
Is your own participation at the groups you are appointed to			
Is the advisory function itself			
Efficiency	*The 2016 governance review examined all forms of governance and unanimously supported the Cabinet and Leader model as it would continue to be the most efficient and visible way to make decisions. Forthcoming decisions would appear on the Forward Plan for all members to see and key decisions would only be made by Cabinet in a public meeting.*		
Is the visibility and efficiency of decision making			
Accountability	*The 2016 governance review introduced PDAGs so that backbench members would be able to engage directly with the Cabinet Member and officers in in the development of policy. The Cabinet and Leader model provided for an Overview and Scrutiny Committee which would be strong and take on the role of holding Cabinet Members to account for their portfolio of responsibilities*		
Is the Overview and Scrutiny Function			
Is the accountability of decision makers (officers and Members)			
Is the accountability of cabinet members to the overview and scrutiny committee			
Timely decision making	*The 2016 governance review aimed to increase the awareness of when decisions would be made by strengthening the visibility and use of the forward plan. New software called Modern.gov would improve notifications of meetings and 'key decisions'.*		
Is the notification by email, the Modern.gov app and publication of decisions on the website			
Is the visibility (on the website and at cabinet meetings) and use of the forward plan of forthcoming decisions			
Is your understanding of 'key decisions'			

Openness	The 2016 governance review aimed to increase the awareness of when decisions would be made by strengthening the visibility and use of the forward plan. A trial of software for broadcasting, recording and publishing decision making meetings took place and was been adopted. The council's meeting pages on the website have been transformed to publish attendance details, provide a much better calendar of meetings and storage of audio recordings. There is now a list of 'what's new' so that members, the public and officers benefit from greater openness and transparency		
Is your use and understanding of the forward plan			
Is having Audiominutes of decision making meetings			
Is the meetings part of the council's website (including the calendar of all meetings, the 'what's new' list and your attendance)			
Is accessing documents on the Modern.gov app on your ipad			

Comments and explanation of your views