

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board – 27th March, 2018

Joint Report of the Lead for Law and Governance and the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board 2017/18

Purpose

1. To consider the annual report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board for 2017/18.

Recommendations

2. That the annual report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board for 2017/18 be referred to the Council at its meeting on 9th April, 2018.
3. That the Lead for Law and Governance, following consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, be authorised to make any necessary amendments to update the annual report prior to its submission to Council.
4. That the Board identify any provisional items to be considered for inclusion in the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2018/19.

Background

5. The terms of reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, as set out in the Constitution, require an annual report to be submitted to the Council. It is a function of the Board to make reports and recommendations to the Council and/or the Cabinet in connection with the discharge of overview and scrutiny functions.
6. The Board is responsible for approving work programmes and any additional topics that might arise during the year for Scrutiny Committees. In carrying out their individual work programmes, Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs have the freedom to adapt their approaches to carry out the scrutiny reviews allocated to them. Examples have been informal meetings, visits and working groups.
7. The Council has recognised the importance of retaining an annual review process. This is to ensure that the arrangements continue to align themselves to the needs of the Council and that the scrutiny arrangements remain adaptable and flexible to changes in circumstances.

Key Scrutiny Activities in 2017/18

8. Attached in Appendix 1 is a summary of the items considered by Scrutiny Committees during the 2017/18 municipal year. Minutes and outcomes of those meetings can be accessed online via the [Committee Management Information System](#)
9. The Council's Overview and Scrutiny arrangements will continue to be monitored, with a focus on a review taking place during the 2018/19 municipal year.

Draft Annual Scrutiny Programme 2018/19

10. Work has already commenced to develop the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2018/19. This is to ensure continuity. Members and Officers are, however, mindful of the need for flexibility given potential changes to memberships arising from the annual meeting of the Council. All Scrutiny Committee Chairs/Vice-Chairs and Lead Officers will be invited to make a contribution to the development of the 2018/19 Annual Scrutiny Programme.
11. The views of the Board are invited on any items that need to be 'rolled forward' to the next municipal year or any new items they would like to suggest at this stage for inclusion in the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2018/19. The Programme will be finalised by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in June, 2018.

Finance

12. The costs of operating the Council's scrutiny arrangements are being contained within existing budgetary allocations.

Law

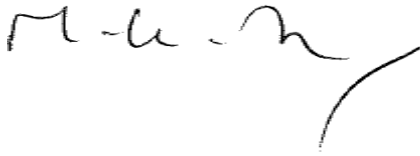
13. Scrutiny Committees are established in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and the requirements of the Council's Constitution, which was adopted under the Local Government Act 2000, subsequent legislation and associated Regulations and Guidance.
14. Scrutiny powers relating to health are included in the Health and Social Care Acts 2001 and 2012, and associated Regulations and statutory guidance. The Police and Justice Act 2006 gives the Council powers to scrutinise the work of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 enables local authorities to scrutinise other partners. Much of this legislation is consolidated in the Localism Act 2011.
15. The Council's scrutiny arrangements are set out in Article 6 of the Constitution (Scrutiny Committees) and the associated Scrutiny Procedure Rules and Protocols.

Equality Impact

16. Provision exists within the scrutiny arrangements for overview and scrutiny to be undertaken of the Council's policies on equality and diversity.

Human Resources/Transformation

17. The human resources/transformation issues are referred to in individual reports on the items concerned.



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List of Background Papers

The Council's Constitution – Article 6, Scrutiny Procedure Rules and Protocols

Reports and Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

Minutes of Scrutiny Committees