
Meeting of the Housing and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee – 29th March, 2023

Report of the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer)

Annual Scrutiny Report 2022/23

Purpose

1. To consider the annual scrutiny report for 2022/23.

Recommendations

2. That the Committee receive and comment on the attached annual report.
3. That the Committee identify any items that need to be rolled-forward for inclusion in the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2023/24.

Background

4. The Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules, as set out in the Council's [Constitution](#), require that an annual overview and scrutiny report is submitted to the Council.
5. The Committee's annual report for 2022/23 is attached as an Appendix. Minutes and outcomes of all Scrutiny Committee meetings can be accessed online via the [Committee Management Information System](#). Subject to any amendments, the Annual Report will be presented to the Council on 17th April, 2023.
6. The Council has recognised the importance of retaining an annual review and report 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.



Draft Annual Scrutiny Programme 2023/24

7. Work to develop the Annual Scrutiny Programme at this stage needs to allow for flexibility given any potential changes arising from the annual meeting of the Council. All Scrutiny Committee Chairs/Vice-Chairs, Officers and others will be invited to contribute to the development of the Annual Scrutiny Programme.
8. The views of the Committee are invited on any items that need to be 'rolled forward' to the next municipal year or any items they would like to suggest for inclusion in the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2023/24.
9. A meeting of the Scrutiny Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs has been scheduled to take place on 30th March, 2023 to discuss the Annual Scrutiny Programme.

Finance

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

Law

11. 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.
12. 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.

Risk Management

13. The Council's scrutiny and governance arrangements are contained in the Council's Constitution which will ensure that the Council considers any ongoing material risks as part of the Council's Risk Management Framework.

Equality Impact

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

Human Resources/Organisational Development

15. Overview and Scrutiny work is primarily administered within the resources available to the Democratic Services Team with support from Directorates and other Officers as required. Any proposals to develop the Council's overview and scrutiny functions have to be set in the context of the resources available and the organisational capacity to support scrutiny work.

Commercial/Procurement

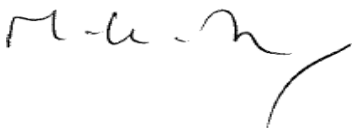
16. This report has no impact on the Council's potential to commercially trade. Individual items included in the Annual Scrutiny Programme may have commercial implications, which will be reported to the relevant Scrutiny Committee.

Environment/Climate Change

17. Individual items included in the Annual Scrutiny Programme and associated reports to Scrutiny Committees will consider any implications on the environment or the Council's work in addressing Climate Change and achieving Net Zero target by 2041.

Council Priorities and Projects

18. Items within the Annual Scrutiny Programme and the work undertaken by the Scrutiny Committees contribute to the delivery of key Council priorities including the Borough Vision, Council Plan and Future Council Programme.



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Appendix

Appendix 1 - Annual Report 2022/23

List of Background Documents

[The Council's Constitution](#) – Article 6 and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules

Scrutiny Reports and Minutes available on the [Committee Management Information System](#)