Agenda Item 6

Committee: Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Date: 25 January 2018

Wards: All

Subject: Scrutiny of the Business Plan 2018-2022: comments and

recommendations from the overview and scrutiny panels

Lead officer: Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services

Lead member: Councillor Peter Southgate, Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Contact officer: Julia Regan; Julia.regan@merton.gov.uk; 020 8545 3864

Recommendations:

A That in determining its response to Cabinet on the business plan 2018-22, the Overview and Scrutiny Commission considers and takes into account the comments and recommendations made by the overview and scrutiny panels.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report sets out the comments and recommendations of each of the overview and scrutiny panels following consideration of the business plan. The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is recommended to take these into account when determining its response to Cabinet.

2. DETAILS

- 2.1 On 11 December 2017, Cabinet agreed to forward a draft business plan for consideration by scrutiny, including draft revenue savings proposals, draft service plans, draft equalities assessments and latest amendments to the capital programme.
- 2.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission has a constitutional duty to coordinate the scrutiny responses on the business plan and budget formulation. The outcome of scrutiny by the panels (described in section 3 below) is presented to Commission for this purpose.
- 2.3 The substantive report on the Business Plan 2018-2022 is contained elsewhere on this agenda for the Commission's consideration.

3. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS

- 3.1 Appendix 1 contains comments and recommendations made by the scrutiny panels.
- 3.5 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is recommended to consider the comments and recommendations put forward by the scrutiny panels when determining its overall scrutiny response to Cabinet on the Business Plan 2018-22.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 The Constitution requires the Overview and Scrutiny Commission to consider the comments and recommendations put forward by the overview and scrutiny panels and to agree a joint overview and scrutiny response. Cabinet is then required under the terms of the Constitution to receive, consider and respond to references from overview and scrutiny.

5. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

The Constitution contains the requirements for consulting scrutiny on the budget and business plan. There is an initial phase of scrutiny in November each year, with the second round in January/February representing the formal consultation of scrutiny on the proposed Business Plan, Budget and Capital Programme.

6. TIMETABLE

- 6.1 Round one of scrutiny of the 2018-22 Business Plan was undertaken as follows:-
 - Children & Young People Overview & Scrutiny Panel: 8 November 2017
 - Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Panel: 2 November 2017
 - Healthier Communities & Older People Scrutiny Panel:7 November 2017
 - Overview and Scrutiny Commission: 15 November 2017
- 6.2 Round two of scrutiny of the Business Plan was undertaken as follows:-
 - Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Panel: 16 January 2018
 - Children & Young People Overview & Scrutiny Panel: 17 January 2018
 - Healthier Communities & Older People Scrutiny Panel:11 January 2018
 - Overview and Scrutiny Commission: 25 January 2018
- The responses from round two will be presented to Cabinet on 19 February 2018. A meeting of full Council will then take place on 28 February 2018.

7. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 These are detailed in the substantive reports elsewhere on this agenda and in the reports considered by Cabinet on 16 October and 11 December 2017.

8. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The process for developing the budget and business plan is set out in Part 4C of the Council's Constitution. The role of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and panels with regard to the development of the budget and business plan is set out in Part 4E of the Constitution.
- The legal and statutory implications relating to the Business Plan are contained in the reports elsewhere on this agenda.

9. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None directly relating to this report.

10. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 It is a fundamental aim of the scrutiny process to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engagement.

11. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 These implications are detailed in the reports elsewhere on this agenda.

12. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

Appendix 1: comments and recommendations made by the scrutiny panels in relation to the Business Plan 2018-22.

13. BACKGROUND PAPERS

13.1 Minutes of the meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Panels in January 2018

References/Comments from Scrutiny Panels to the Overview & Scrutiny Commission 25 January 2018

Scrutiny of the Business Plan 2018-2022

Healthier Communities and Older People O&S Panel: 11 January 2018

The Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel discussed the proposed savings and had no comments that they wished to draw to the attention of Cabinet.

Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel: 16 January 2018
To follow

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel: 17 January 2018To follow