

Committee: Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Date: 7 April 2014

Agenda item:

Wards: All

Subject: Draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013/14

Lead officer: Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services

Lead member: Councillor Peter Southgate, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission

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Recommendations:

- A. That, subject to any changes agreed by the Commission at its meeting on 7 April, the Commission approves the Annual Report to be presented to Council at its meeting on 9 July 2014.
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Members are invited to consider and agree any changes it wishes to make to the draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013/14.

2. DETAILS

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is required to produce an Annual Report outlining the work of the Overview and Scrutiny function over the course of the municipal year.

- 2.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is asked to consider the draft report, identify any changes it wishes to make and approve the Annual Report to be presented to Council at its meeting on 9 July 2014 in order to update all Members on the delivery and outcomes of the scrutiny annual work programme for 2013/14.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is required to produce an annual report outlining the work of the Overview and Scrutiny function over the course of the municipal year to present to the full Council. The Commission would be in breach of the constitution if it did not do this.

4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

- 4.1 The Chairs of each of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels have been consulted on the draft text relating to the undertaken by that Panel.

5. TIMETABLE

- 5.1 Any additions/amendments as agreed by the Commission at its meeting on 7 April 2014 will be included in the final version of the Annual Report to be presented to full Council at its meeting on 9 July 2014.

6. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are none specific to this report. Scrutiny work involves consideration of the financial, resource and property implications of any recommendations to Cabinet, including specific financial, resource and property implications.

7. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Overview and Scrutiny operates within the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, Health and Social Care Act 2001 and Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- 7.2 Scrutiny work involves consideration of the legal and statutory implications of any recommendations to Cabinet, including specific legal and statutory implications.
- 7.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is legally required to produce an Annual Report outlining the work of Overview and Scrutiny during the municipal year. Overview and Scrutiny would be in breach of the constitution if it did not do this.

8. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 It is a fundamental aim of Overview and Scrutiny to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engagement.
- 8.2 The reviews involve work to consult local residents, community and voluntary sector groups; businesses, hard to reach groups etc and the views and evidence gathered are fed into the review.
- 8.3 Scrutiny work involves the consideration of the human rights, equalities and community cohesion issues relating to the topic being scrutinised. Scrutiny work also needs to assess the implications of any recommendations made to Cabinet, including specific human rights, equalities and community cohesion implications.

9. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 In line with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Police and Justice Act 2006, all Council departments must have regard to the impact of services on crime, including anti-social behaviour and drugs. Scrutiny review reports will therefore highlight any implications arising from the reviews relating to crime and disorder as necessary.

10. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Scrutiny work involves the consideration of the risk management and health and safety implications relating to the topic being scrutinised. Scrutiny work also needs to assess the implications of any recommendations made to Cabinet, including specific risk management and health and safety implications.

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

11.1 Appendix 1 - draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013/14

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1 None

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