

COUNCIL	DATE 18 September 2024
TITLE Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24	WARDS All
CHIEF OFFICER Scrutiny Manager	CABINET/LEAD MEMBER Cllr Edward Foley, Chair of the Commission
DECISION CLASSIFICATION Non exempt report	IS THE FINAL DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS REPORT TO BE MADE AT THIS MEETING? Yes

1. **Recommendations:**

- A. Council is invited to note and comment on the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report.

2. **Purpose of Report and Executive Summary**

- 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. The Commission has used the report as an opportunity to draw attention to some of the outcomes achieved during the year.

3. **Links to the Merton Priorities (Borough of Sport/Civic Pride/Sustainable Futures)**

- 3.1 This report relates to the Council's Strategic priorities as 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 engaging with local partners in scrutiny reviews. Furthermore, the outcomes of reviews are intended to benefit all sections of the local community.

4. **Introduction and Background**

- 4.1 The draft version of the report is in Appendix A.

5. **Available Options & Preferred Option**

- 5.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission would be in breach of the constitution if it did not produce an annual report and present it to Council.

6. **Preferred Option**

- 6.1 Approve the Annual Report.

7. **Consultation Results**

- 7.1 None.

8. **Next Steps & Timetable: Communication and Implementation of the Decision**

- 8.1 None.

9. **Report Appendices**

9.1 The following documents are to be published with and form part of the report:

- Appendix A: Draft Annual Scrutiny Report

10. **Background Papers**

None

11. **Cross-Cutting Issues and Implications and Sign-Off**

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	Under Part 2, Article 6, 6.3 (f) the Overview and Scrutiny commission must report annually to full Council on its workings and the workings of its panels, make recommendations for future work programs and amended working methods, if appropriate. Save for that there are no other specific legal implications arising out of this report.	Fabiola Hickson Head of Law, Procurement and Information Governance 9/9/2024
Finance and other resources	There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.	Gina James Service Financial Adviser 06/09/2024
Equalities	The decisions recommended through this report have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act 2010. There is no apparent equality impact on end users.	Rosie Mckeever Scrutiny Manager 19/08/24
Climate change	Whilst all meetings will have some environmental impact in terms of energy used within the buildings and transport to and from the meeting, meetings are predominantly paperless to reduce environmental impact, with all meeting documents available electronically and paper copies only provided where required for accessibility reasons.	Rosie Mckeever Scrutiny Manager 19/08/24
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