

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

ANNUAL COUNCIL – 16 MAY 2007

REPORT BY SCRUTINY CHAIRMEN

9. ANNUAL REPORT

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

'D' RECOMMENDATION: that the Annual Report of the Scrutiny Committee Chairmen be noted.

1.0 Purpose/Summary of Report

1.1 This is a cover report to introduce the annual report for 2006/07 of the scrutiny committees.

2.0 Contribution to the Council's Corporate Objectives

2.1 An effective scrutiny function contributes to the process that ensures the Council is meeting all of its corporate objectives. It also contributes to the Council's ongoing aim to embrace best practice.

3.0 Report

3.1 The Annual Report of 2006/07 (attached as a separate document) summarises the activities of both scrutiny committees during the past year and sets out their plans for the coming year.

3.2 The report is written for many audiences: those Members involved in scrutiny, those who might wish to be, and Members of the Executive, to whom the scrutiny committees act as a critical friend.

3.3 It is also hoped that partners and members of the public will use the report to understand some of the ways in which policy and performance issues can be challenged and improved, and the Executive is held to account.

3.4 Once agreed by the Council, the report will be copied to partner organisations in the Local Strategic Partnership and published on the Council's website.

4.0 Consultation

4.1 The Annual Report has been drafted following consultation with all Members involved in Scrutiny.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 The Council's constitution states in Part 2 at paragraph 6.03 (d) that -

“Scrutiny committees must report annually to full Council on their workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate.”

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 The cost of circulating the report to LSP members can be met within existing budgets.

7.0 Human Resource Implications

7.1 None.

8.0 Risk Management Implications

8.1 None.

Contact Members: Councillor Diane Hollebon, Chairman Performance Scrutiny Committee
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