

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 29 JULY 2015

REPORT BY CHAIRMEN OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES for 2014/15

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

WARD(S) AFFECTED: All

Purpose/Summary of Report

- This cover report is to introduce the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2014/15 on behalf of the Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees for that year.

<u>RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL: that:</u>	
(A)	the Annual Report on the work of the East Herts Scrutiny Committees (and Health and Wellbeing Panel) during 2014/15 be received and approved for publication.

1.0 Background

1.1 An Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report is prepared each year and presented to council by the scrutiny chairmen. Reports from previous years can be accessed through the council's website <http://www.eastherts.gov.uk/scrutinyannualreport>

2.0 Report

2.1 The Annual Report for 2014/15 (attached as **Essential Reference Paper B**) summarises the activities of all scrutiny committees during the past year, details the outcome of the evaluation exercise and sets out some of the plans for the coming year.

2.2 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).

- 2.3 It is also hoped that external speakers and our partners who contributed to the scrutiny process during 2014/15 will know that their involvement is appreciated by Members.
- 2.4 Once agreed by Council, the report will be published on the Council's website and notification of its 'e-location' will be made available to partner organisations in the East Herts Strategic Partnership and to other relevant agencies. Interested community groups and residents are also welcome to comment on the process and the report.
- 2.5 As in previous years, the Annual Report will also be uploaded into the library section of the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) website. <http://www.cfps.org.uk/library>
- 3.0 Implications/Consultations
- 3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'** which follows.

Background Papers

This report is based on the minutes of all the scrutiny (and HWP) meetings held during 2014/15 – these are available via the council's website.

Contact Members:

Councillor Diane Hollebon: Chairman 2014/15, Community Scrutiny
diane.hollebon@eastherts.gov.uk

Councillor Gary Jones: Chairman 2014/15, Corporate Business Scrutiny
gary.jones@eastherts.gov.uk

Councillor Mark Pope: Chairman 2014/15, Environment Scrutiny
mark.pope@eastherts.gov.uk

Councillor Norma Symonds: Chairman 2014/15, Health and Wellbeing Panel
norma.symonds@eastherts.gov.uk

Contact Officer: Jeff Hughes: Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services – Extn 2170, jeff.hughes@eastherts.gov.uk

Report Author: Marian Langley, Scrutiny Officer – Extn 1612, marian.langley@eastherts.gov.uk