

## **East Herts Council Report**

### **Council**

**Date of meeting:** 11 May 2022

**Report by:** Scrutiny Officer

**Report title:** Annual Scrutiny Report 2021/22

**Ward(s) affected:** All Wards

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### **Summary**

- This report introduces the Annual Scrutiny report for 2021/22 on behalf of the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee with introductory commentary by the Leader. It provides an overview of what the Overview and Scrutiny Committee scrutinised during the respective civic year.
- Covid-19 continues to affect lives, but the council continues to work with its partners to provide services and support during these continuing challenging times in developing progressive, forward thinking and innovative policies aimed at enhancing the lives and well-being of residents in the context of the council's Corporate Plan. The Council strives to do this with the support of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee which, through its work, which is set out in detail in Appendix A, acts as an independent source of challenge in reviewing the Council's ambitious and forward thinking policies.

### **RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL:**

- a) **That the Annual Scrutiny Reports covering the 2021/22 Civic Year be agreed and published on the council's website.**

## **1.0 Proposal(s)**

- 1.1 The Annual Report for 2021/22 is attached at Appendix A and summarises the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee during the respective period.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 An Annual Scrutiny Report is prepared each year and presented to Council as required by the Constitution. Once agreed by Council, the report will be published on the Council's website.

## **3.0 Reason(s)**

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution at Part 2g Chapter 7, paragraph 7.4 states that Scrutiny Committee *"must report annually to the council on their workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate"* action.

## **4.0 Options**

- 4.1 No alternatives have been considered

## **5.0 Risks**

- 5.1 Publication of an Annual Scrutiny Report provides a summary of what issues have been reviewed in the preceding year, which can be assessed against the council's priorities in terms of the Corporate Plan.

## **6.0 Implications/Consultations**

- 6.1 The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Leader have both been consulted on this document. The

Annual Scrutiny Report is a summary of what individual report authors have to respective meetings of committee(s).

**Community Safety**

No

**Data Protection**

No

**Equalities**

No

**Environmental Sustainability**

Yes - Integral to the council's Corporate Plan is the issue of environmental sustainability in terms of the SEED Principles.

**Financial**

None

**Health and Safety**

No

**Human Resources**

No

**Human Rights**

No

**Legal**

Yes - Overview and Scrutiny committees are enshrined in law by virtue of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Localism Act 2011.

**Specific Wards**

No

## **Background papers, appendices and other relevant material**

Appendix A – Annual Scrutiny Report 2021/22

Reports to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the civic year 2021/22

Reports to the Executive for the Civic Year 2021/2022

Reports to Council for the Civic year 2021/22

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