

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 18 JULY 2017

REPORT BY CHAIRMEN OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES FOR 2016/17

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

WARD(S) AFFECTED:     None

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**Purpose/Summary of Report**

- This cover report is to introduce the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2016/17 on behalf of the Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees for that year.

<b><u>RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL:</u> That:</b>	
<b>(A)</b>	<b>the Annual Report on the work of the East Herts Scrutiny Committees during 2016/17 be received and approved for publication.</b>

1.0 Background

1.1 The Council's constitution states in Part 2 at paragraph 6.3 (c) 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."

1.2 To meet this requirement, an Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report is prepared each year and presented to council by the scrutiny chairmen. Reports from previous years are on the council's website <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/article/35671/Annual-Reports>

2.0 Report

2.1 The Annual Report for 2016/17 (attached as **Essential Reference Paper 'B'**) summarises the changes to scrutiny arrangements during the past year, highlights key recommendations and sets out some of the plans for the coming year.

- 2.2 The report is written for a wide range of interested groups: 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 2016/17 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 members of 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 reports and minutes of all scrutiny meetings held during 2016/17 – these are available via the council's website.

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