

East Herts Council Report

Council

Date of meeting: Wednesday 15 May 2024

Report by: Scrutiny Officer

Report title: Annual Scrutiny Report 2023/24

Ward(s) affected: All

Summary – This report introduces the Annual Scrutiny report for 2023/24 on behalf of the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It provides an overview of what the Overview and Scrutiny Committee scrutinised during the respective civic year.

RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL

(A) That the Annual Scrutiny Report covering the 2023/24 Civic Year be agreed and published on the council's website.

1.0 Proposal(s)

1.1 The Annual Report for 2023/24 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. This is also a requirement of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Localism Act 2011.

3.0 Reason(s)

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution Part 5 Chapter 5.5, paragraph 5.5.1 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"*

4.0 Options

- 4.1 There are no alternative options to consider.

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 has been consulted on this document. The Annual Scrutiny Report is a summary of what the committee have looked at and any recommendations made at their meetings in 2023/24.

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 LEAF Principles

Financial

None

Health and Safety

No

Human Resources

No

Human Rights

No

Legal

Yes – Overview and Scrutiny Committees are enshrined in law by virtual of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Localism Act 2011 and must report annually on its activities.

Specific Wards

No

7.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material

7.1 Appendix A – Annual Scrutiny Report 2023/24

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