

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Council
Date of Meeting:	15 May 2018
Subject:	Annual Overview and Scrutiny Report 2017/18
Report of:	Graeme Simpson, Head of Corporate Services
Corporate Lead:	Mike Dawson, Chief Executive
Lead Member:	Lead Member for Organisational Development
Number of Appendices:	One

Executive Summary:

The role of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to ensure that the Council's work is transparent, that it is held accountable for its decision-making, and that the needs of the community are considered. Reporting the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee through an annual report provides an opportunity for both the Council and the public to view the work of the Committee. The draft report was considered and approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 1 May 2018.

Recommendation:

To consider the contents of the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2017/18.

Reasons for Recommendation:

It is important to ensure that the activities of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are promoted both internally and publicly to reinforce transparency and accountability in the democratic process. It is also a requirement of the Council's Constitution that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee must report annually to the Council on its workings.

Resource Implications:

None.

Legal Implications:

None.

Risk Management Implications:

None.

Performance Management Follow-up:

Annual review of the work of the Committee provides transparency and accountability and helps the Overview and Scrutiny Committee prepare its work programme. The Committee's work programme is a standard agenda item for consideration each Committee meeting.

Environmental Implications:

None.

1.0 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny function must deliver the work required of it as set out in the Council's Constitution. The Committee has a formal work programme for the year and it ensures the volume of work does not compromise the depth of examination required, does not duplicate the work of other Committees and adds value.

2.0 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

2.1 Not only is it a requirement of the Council's Constitution to report the activities of the Committee on an annual basis but it is good practice. The annual report demonstrates the broad coverage of activities the Committee has scrutinised and reviewed during the year. This coverage has been undertaken through a combination of the following:

- progress reports from Officers on the delivery of key strategies and policies;
- quarterly performance management reporting;
- Working Groups to review specific areas of interest;
- presentations from Officers and external organisations; and
- review of new strategies, policies or plans.

2.2 Particular attention should be drawn to the work of the Committee in scrutinising the events and subsequent lessons to be learnt from the water outage incident in December 2017. This had a significant impact on communities within the Tewkesbury area. The scrutiny work itself was undertaken by the whole Committee, was detailed in its nature and received both face to face and written feedback from those affected. This culminated in a public hearing that was attended by all agencies involved within the emergency response.

2.3 Overall, the activity of the Committee underlines the value it contributes to the Council's policy and assurance framework. As always, officers will work closely with the Committee during 2018/19 to continue to maximise its value. The 2017/18 annual report can be found in Appendix 1. The report was considered and approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 1 May 2018.

3.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

3.1 None.

4.0 CONSULTATION

4.1 None.

- 5.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES**
- 5.1 None.
- 6.0 RELEVANT GOVERNMENT POLICIES**
- 6.1 None.
- 7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (Human/Property)**
- 7.1 None.
- 8.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social/Community Safety/Cultural/ Economic/ Environment)**
- 8.1 None.
- 9.0 IMPACT UPON (Value For Money/Equalities/E-Government/Human Rights/Health And Safety)**
- 9.1 None.
- 10.0 RELATED DECISIONS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTS**
- 10.1 None.

Background Papers: None.

Contact Officer: Graeme Simpson, Head of Corporate Services.
Tel: 01684 272002 Email: graeme.simpson@teWKesbury.gov.uk

Appendices: 1 – Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2017/18