

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Council
Date of Meeting:	16 April 2024
Subject:	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24
Report of:	Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Head of Service/Director:	Director: Corporate Resources
Lead Member:	Leader of the Council
Number of Appendices:	1

Executive Summary:

The role of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to assure that the Council's work is transparent, that the Council 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. It is also a requirement of the Council's Constitution that the Committee reports annually to Council.

Recommendation:

To CONSIDER the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24.

Financial Implications:

None directly associated with this report.

Legal Implications:

None directly associated with this report.

Environmental and Sustainability Implications:

None directly associated with this report.

Resource Implications (including impact on equalities):

None directly associated with this report.

Safeguarding Implications:

None directly associated with this report.

Impact on the Customer:

Performance monitoring provides our residents with a good oversight on the subjects discussed at Overview and Scrutiny Committee throughout the year.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

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.

2.2 This year's annual report includes a brief summary of the role and responsibilities of Overview and Scrutiny, the work undertaken over the past year and the various outcomes.

2.3 In summary, the work has been undertaken through a combination of the following:

- Progress reports from Officers on the delivery of key strategies and policies. For example, the Committee receives update reports on key strategies and policies such as the Communications Strategy, Workforce Development Strategy and Housing and Homelessness Strategy.
- Quarterly performance management reporting – The Committee receives a quarterly performance tracker report on the progress of delivering Council Plan actions, Key Performance Indicators and financial outturn performance.
- Working Groups to review specific areas of interest – the Depot Services Working Group continued to be a lens in relation to all things Ubico.
- Presentations from Officers and external organisations - presentations were received during the year from organisations such as 'Active Gloucestershire- We can Move', Gloucestershire Constabulary - Aston Project, Places for People Leisure providing an update on how Tewkesbury Leisure Centre is coping with the cost of living crisis and energy pressures.
- Other general scrutiny reviews - the Committee receives updates from the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee, Gloucestershire Police and Crime Panel and Gloucestershire County Council Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2.4 The report was considered and approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 26 March 2024. In general discussion at the meeting, it was acknowledged that looking forward to 2024/25 was potentially an exciting time. The Committee's Work Programme will be reviewed during April and May with the focus of work being concentrated on the strategic themes emerging from the new Council Plan. The Committee can therefore be pivotal in contributing to the successful delivery of that plan.

3.0 CONSULTATION

3.1 None.

4.0 ASSOCIATED RISKS

4.1 None.

5.0 MONITORING

5.1 None.

6.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES/COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES

6.1 None.

Background Papers: None.

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Appendices: Appendix 1 – Annual Overview and Scrutiny Committee Report
2023/24.