

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DATE: 26 April 2021

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WARDS: All

PART I **FOR COMMENT AND CONSIDERATION**

DRAFT ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2020/21

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the Draft Annual Scrutiny Report which will be submitted to Council.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The committee is requested to:

- a) endorse the report, subject to any amendments, before it is presented to council.
- b) consider what lessons can be learned from scrutiny this year, to enhance scrutiny in future years.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Five Year Plan

3.1 Overview & Scrutiny plays an important role in scrutinising the progress made in the delivery of all aspects of the SJWS.

3.2 Overview & Scrutiny is central to ensuring accountability in the delivery of all five priority outcomes of the Five Year Plan.

- Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful
- Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs
- Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay
- Our residents will live in good quality homes
- Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents

3.3 The Overview & Scrutiny Committee receives quarterly reports on the council's progress against the Key Performance Indicators identified against these priority outcomes.

4. **Other Implications**

(a) Financial

The work of the scrutiny function is included within existing SBC budgets.

(b) Risk Management

Recommendation	Risk/Threat/Opportunity	Mitigation(s)
Endorse that the report be presented to council.	The information and narrative is not agreed by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee	The report will accommodate any amendments by members.
Consider lessons that can be learned.	Scrutiny fails to	Producing a lessons learned summary, which can be included alongside the report.

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act implications. The work of scrutiny functions in local authorities is outlined in the Local Government Act 2000.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

There are no Equality Impact Assessments required as a result of this report.

5. **Supporting Information**

5.1 At the last meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee for each municipal year the committee receives the draft Annual Scrutiny Report.

5.2 Annual reports are an opportunity to review the scrutiny work programme for the past year and assess the impact scrutiny has had on influencing policy. Looking at an annual report can help us to understand the nature of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny and to assess its effectiveness. It also gives an opportunity to reflect on any lessons learned during the year to help guide future work.

5.3 The production of an annual report is a constitutional requirement and in addition the committee “must report annually to the full council on future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate.” The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is provided with a draft of the Annual Scrutiny Report which highlights some key achievements from the year where scrutiny has made a difference.

5.4 This year the structure of the report has been altered to try to focus on particular examples of effective scrutiny by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the three scrutiny panels. Further information has been included on the work of the scrutiny chairs via the joint working group.

6. **Conclusion**

- 6.1 The Local Authority, through its Overview and Scrutiny Function, has an influential, as well as statutory, role in scrutinising the activities and performance of the Cabinet and External Bodies (e.g. the Clinical Commissioning Group). The Annual Scrutiny Report provides an opportunity to communicate the work the committee and its panels have undertaken, challenges faced and the improvements made as a result of scrutiny.

6. **Appendices Attached**

A Draft Annual Scrutiny Report 2020/21

7. **Background Papers**

Local Government Act 2000 (Section 21)