

Council 15 July 2020

Report title: Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2019-20

Wards: All

Portfolio: Cabinet Member for Finance & Performance: Councillor Maria Kay

Report Authorised by: Director of Legal & Governance: Alison McKane

Contact for enquiries: Gary O'Key, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Legal & Governance; 020 7926 2183, gokey@lambeth.gov.uk

Report summary

Scrutiny is required to report annually to Full Council. The attached report sets out the activities of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee and scrutiny commissions during 2019–20.

Finance summary

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Recommendations

1. That the Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2019-20 be approved.

1. Context

- 1.1 The attached report provides an account of the activities of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee and scrutiny commissions in the 2019-20 municipal year.

2. Proposal and Reasons

- 2.1 Scrutiny is a key democratic mechanism for holding public service decision-makers and providers in Lambeth to account and facilitating the improvement of public services in the area. Working with citizens and professionals, scrutiny councillors undertake the following roles:
- a. monitor, question and investigate the performance of the Council's Cabinet, individual decision-makers and council services;
 - b. develop, review and make recommendations for the improvement of services and activities commissioned by the council;
 - c. hold the Cabinet and officers making decisions on behalf of the council to account in public; and,
 - d. scrutinise other public service providers' work and its impact on the local community.
- 2.2 Effective scrutiny enhances accountability, ensures transparency of decision-making, contributes to service improvement and acts as a 'check and balance' on decision-makers.
- 2.3 Scrutiny is required to report annually to Full Council on its activities. The attached report sets out the activities in the municipal year 2019-20.

3. Finance

- 3.1 There are no specific capital or revenue implications arising as a direct result of this report.

4. Legal and Democracy

- 4.1 The role and functions of Overview and Scrutiny are set out in Part 3, Section 6 of the Council's Constitution, which includes the requirement that Overview & Scrutiny Committee (and its Sub-Committee(s) and commissions) must report annually to full Council on their workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate.
- 4.2 There are no further comments from Democratic Services.

5. Consultation and co-production

- 5.1 As set out in the annual report.

6. Risk management

None.

7. Equalities impact assessment

None.

8. Community safety

None.

9. Organisational implications

None

10. Timetable for implementation

Not applicable.

Audit Trail

Consultation				
Name/Position	Lambeth directorate / department or partner	Date Sent	Date Received	Comments in paragraph:
Councillor Liz Atkins	Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Committee	25.06.20	01.07.20	
Councillor Lucy Caldicott	Chair, Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee	25.06.20	01.07.20	
Alison McKane, Director	Legal & Governance	25.06.20		
Wayne Chandai, Head of Chief Executive's Office & Democratic Services Manager	Legal & Governance	24.06.20	24.06.20	
Nisar Visram Assistant Director, Corporate Finance	Finance & Investment	25.06.20	25.06.20	3.1 and Finance Summary
Andrew Pavlou, Legal Services	Legal & Governance	25.06.20	29.06.20	4.1

Report History

Original discussion with Cabinet Member	N/A
Report deadline	
Date final report sent	
Part II Exempt from Disclosure/confidential accompanying report?	No
Key decision report	No
Date first appeared on forward plan	N/A
Key decision reasons	N/A
Background information	<p>Agenda and minutes of Overview and Scrutiny Committee https://moderngov.lambeth.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=113</p> <p>Agenda and minutes of Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee http://moderngov.lambeth.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=778</p>
Appendices	Appendix 1: Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2019/20