

Council

Date of meeting: 13 July 2016

Report title: Scrutiny Annual Report 2015-16

Wards: All

Report Authorised by: Strategic Director, Corporate Resources: Jackie Belton

Portfolio: Leader of the Council: Councillor Lib Peck

Contact for enquiries: Gary O'Key, Lead Scrutiny Officer, 020 7926 2183,
gokey@lambeth.gov.uk

Report summary

The attached report sets out the activities of the council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its commissions during 2015-16.

Finance summary

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Recommendations

- (1) That the Scrutiny Annual Report 2015-16 be approved.

1. Context

- 1.1 The attached report provides an account of the activities of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and its scrutiny commissions in the 2015-16 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 taking into account the Cooperative Council Principles;
- 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 2015-16.

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, paragraph 5 of the Council's Constitution, which includes the requirement that Overview & Scrutiny Committee and its 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

- 6.1 None.

7. Equalities impact assessment

- 7.1 None.

8. Community safety

- 8.1 None.

9. Organisational implications

9.1 Environmental
None.

9.2 Staffing and accommodation
None.

9.3 Procurement
None.

9.4 Health
None.

10. Timetable for implementation

10.1 Not applicable.

Audit trail				
Consultation				
Name/Position	Lambeth cluster/division or partner	Date Sent	Date Received	Comments in para:
Alison McKane	Head of Legal Services; on behalf of Strategic Director, Corporate Resources	24.06.16	29.06.16	
Wayne Chandai	Democratic Services & Scrutiny Manager, Corporate Resources	24.06.16	27.06.16	
Martin Crump	Finance Business Partners, Corporate Resources	24.06.16	27.06.16	3
Andrew Pavlou	Principal Lawyer, Governance - Corporate Resources	24.06.16	29.06.16	
David Rose	Democratic Services, Corporate Resources	24.06.16	24.06.16	4.2
Councillor Ed Davie	Chair, Overview & Scrutiny Committee	24.06.16	27.06.16	

Report history	
Original discussion with Cabinet Member	N/A
Report deadline	01.07.16
Date final report sent	01.07.16
Report no.	16-17/274
Part II Exempt from Disclosure/confidential accompanying report?	No
Key decision report	No
Key decision reasons	N/A
Background information	2015-16: Agendas and minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Appendices	Appendix 1: Scrutiny Annual Report 2015/16