

REPORT OF THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE POLICY AND CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**COUNCILLORS: Jim Shorrock
Kevin Connor**

**LEAD CHIEF OFFICER:
Denise Park**

Municipal year and Annual Review

We have reached the end of a very successful municipal cycle for Scrutiny. This year has seen Scrutiny continue to utilise pre-decision scrutiny and a more collaborative and appreciative approach by each Committee. This has ensured that the Corporate Plan is delivered and the Executive held to account to ensure best use of resources in challenging circumstances.

The progressive work of Scrutiny Members over the last few years throughout a period of unprecedented austerity has ensured that the Council has been able to focus on key lessons learned to assist with the delivery of its services whilst ensuring value and best practice in everything it does.

As Members will be aware, the Annual Review of Scrutiny was to be held on the 12th April 2017, has been moved. A new date will be announced shortly and I hope as many Members as possible are able to attend. To allow Members to contribute to the review of the Scrutiny year and consider future challenges facing the Council and the Borough. I will present the outcomes of the annual review at the June Council Forum meeting

Policy and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee;

Since the last meeting of Council, the Committee has held a meeting to monitor and challenge the Council's workforce review/saving targets. The Committee received a detailed presentation on how the Council was progressing on its savings targets, continued challenges and difficult decisions that are having to be made, Members will continue to work with the Executive Member over the coming months looking at options open to the Council.

At the last meeting of the Committee, Members also received an update on the Council's budget position, and how departments were progressing against identified saving targets and an update on universal credit.

Health and Adults Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Since the last meeting of Council, the Committee received detailed briefings on the Sustainability and Transformation Plan, Local Development Plan from Public Health leaders and Programme Leaders for these plans, and on Collaborative Approaches to Integrated Volunteering Pathways from the Director of Adult Commissioning and Personalisation and the Director of Prevention and Localities both in Committee and by way of task and finish groups, and on the back of this information, felt that it was very important that

these two key areas of work are followed throughout the next municipal year as part of an ongoing work programme.

The Health & Adults Overview and Scrutiny Committee has now completed its work programme for this Municipal Year, with Members agreeing a series of Recommendations at their final meeting on the 13th March, which will be distributed to the relevant Executive Member accordingly.

Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee;

The work of the Committee has now been concluded after a busy year, at the last meeting Members considered the progress of the Council's growth agenda and growing the Boroughs economy.

The Committee considered the challenges Council faced in trying to achieve its income targets through the growth agenda and what strategies were available to Officers. The Committee also looked at potential future developments and potential developments (investment plans) for the Borough and the Impact of government legislation on business rates.

Children & Young People's OSC

At its final meeting, the Children & Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee met some of the Youth MP candidates, and agreed that the new Youth MP and their shadow cabinet have their own item on the Committee's agenda throughout the new Municipal year, through which they can bring to Members attention key areas of concern from the perspective of young people.

The Committee has completed its work programme, and a series of Recommendations has been sent to the relevant Executive Members and partner organisations. Each portfolio will be invited back in the new Municipal year to report back progress made. Members also felt that there was some key issues that would continue to affect young people, and agreed that mental health would remain as an ongoing work programme area for the new Municipal year.