

# **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**9th June 2015**

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY TRAINING - OUTCOMES**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor John Fisher, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Management
Portfolio Holder Consulted	No
Relevant Head of Service	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities, and Democratic Services
Ward(s) Affected	No specific ward relevance.
Non-Key Decision	

### **1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

This report provides an overview of the outcomes from the Overview and Scrutiny training that took place on 28th May 2015. The report also provides Members with an opportunity to identify items, if any, that arose from the training that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and / or Task Groups and Short, Sharp Review groups could consider during the year.

### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Committee is asked to RESOLVE**

**1) to identify which of the items proposed during the Overview and Scrutiny training session on 28th May, if any, should be added to the committee's Work Programme for the year 2015/16; and**

**2) that the report be noted.**

### **3. KEY ISSUES**

#### **Background**

- 3.1 An Overview and Scrutiny training session was held on the evening of Thursday 28th May. All non-Executive Councillors were invited to attend. A total of 12 Councillors participated in the training.
- 3.2 The training consisted of a mixture of presentations and interactive workshop sessions. A key focus of the training was on the links between Overview and Scrutiny and the Council's strategic vision, particularly the strategic purposes.
- 3.3 During the interactive workshop sessions Members discussed the top five issues that had been brought to their attention by local residents. These issues were linked to the Council's strategic purposes. In groups Members subsequently discussed each issue in turn and the extent to which each topic was suitable for further scrutiny, either by the Committee or by a Task Group/Short, Sharp Review.

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- 3.4 A full list of the issues discussed during the interactive sessions and Members' conclusions regarding these issues is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.
- 3.5 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider this list of items and to determine which of these topics, if any, should be added to the Committee's Work Programme in 2015/16.

### **Financial Implications**

- 3.6 There are no direct financial implications directly relating to this report.

### **Legal Implications**

- 3.7 There are no legal implications directly relating to this report.

### **Service / Operational Implications**

- 3.8 The Committee is asked to note that in previous years it was agreed that there would only be two Task Group activities (including Short, Sharp Reviews) taking place at any one time. This agreement was reached following a reduction in capacity within the Democratic Services team.
- 3.9 Members discussed during the training the value of Overview and Scrutiny to focus on strategic issues and on budgetary matters during the year ahead. In this context Members may want to note that the majority of items suggested for scrutiny linked to the strategic purpose: "keep my place safe and looking good". By contrast no items were suggested which linked to the strategic purpose "help me to run a successful business".

### **Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 3.10 One of the key powers of the Overview and Scrutiny process is for Members to enable the voice and concerns of the public and local communities. It is therefore appropriate for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the importance of the items suggested to local residents when determining whether to include an item in the Committee's Work Programme.

## **4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

No risks have been identified.

## **5. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – List of items suggested for scrutiny during the Overview and Scrutiny training on 28th May.

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