

ASSEMBLY

24 JULY 2019

Title: Annual Scrutiny Report 2018/19	
Report of the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Chair of Health Scrutiny Committee	
Open Report	For Information
Wards Affected: None	Key Decision: No
Report Authors: Masuma Ahmed, Democratic Services Officer Leanna McPherson, Democratic Services Officer	Contact Details: Tel: 020 8227 2756 / 020 8227 2852 E-mail: masuma.ahmed@lbbd.gov.uk / leanna.mcpherson@lbbd.gov.uk
Accountable Strategic Leadership Director: Fiona Taylor, Director of Law and Governance	
Summary The four principles of good public scrutiny as described by the Centre for Public Scrutiny are: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Providing a "critical friend" challenge;2. Reflecting the voice and concerns of the public;3. Taking the lead and owning the scrutiny process; and4. Making an impact on the delivery of public services. This report outlines the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Appendix A) and Health Scrutiny Committee (Appendix B) in 2018/19 and how they have endeavoured to achieve these outcomes.	
Recommendation(s) The Assembly is recommended to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">(i) Endorse the 2018/19 Annual Reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Health Scrutiny Committee at Appendices A and B respectively to the report; and(ii) Note that the Director of Policy and Participation acts as the Council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer.	
Reason(s) It is good practice for the Assembly to be made aware of the work of the Scrutiny Committees during the last municipal year.	

1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Following a review of the Council's governance arrangements in 2018 (Minute 56 refers), the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Health Scrutiny Committee have been successfully operating for one year.
- 1.2 The two Committees have looked at various issues throughout the municipal year and each have undertaken or are in the process of undertaking an in-depth review, which is referred to in the Appendices.
- 1.3 There have been no referrals, valid Call- In's, Councillor Call for Action or petitions to either Committee over the past year.

2. Statutory Scrutiny Officer

- 2.1 The role of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer is to promote scrutiny across the organisation.
- 2.2 The Statutory Scrutiny Officer role is assigned to the Director of Policy and Participation under the Council's Scheme of Delegation.

. Financial Implications

Implications completed by: David Folorunso – Finance Business Partner

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implication attached to this report.

4. Legal Implications

Implications completed by: Dr Paul Feild Senior Governance Solicitor

- 4.1 As the content of the report explains there is a legal requirement for councils which establish executive governance (this includes Leader and Cabinet, our model) to establish scrutiny and overview committees under the Local Government Act 2000. The precise arrangements are a matter for local determination and an amendment to the Act to require the appointment of a statutory scrutiny officer has given that role a specific duty to promote the scrutiny and overview function and provide support for the committee(s) and members.
- 4.2 The Council's arrangements are to operate an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and a Health Scrutiny Committee. The division of responsibility is that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is the lead Scrutiny Committee except for health matters.
- 4.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is a committee established under Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000, as amended by the Localism Act 2011. Its functions are set out by law and also determined locally. It is responsible for addressing any Call-in/Councillor Call For Action that is received, except where the subject primarily relates to health matters in which case it will be dealt with by the Health Scrutiny Committee.

- 4.4 The Health Scrutiny Committee carries out health scrutiny in accordance with Section 244 (and Regulations under that section) of the National Health Services Act 2006 as amended by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 relating to local health service matters. Where a proposal to substantially vary a health service relates to more than one local authority area, it must be considered by a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee appointed by each of the local authorities in question.
- 4.5 The Statutory Scrutiny Officer role was originally introduced by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, the requirement for English councils to designate a “statutory” scrutiny officer can now be found at S9FB of the Local Government Act 2000 (the legislative framework having been altered by the Localism Act 2011).

Public Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report: None

List of appendices:

- Appendix A: Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2018/19
- Appendix B: Health Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2018/19