

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 14 March 2019

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19 (REP1960)**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2018/19, attached at Appendix A to this report, provides an overview of the work undertaken by the Committee over the past year for Members' approval, following which it will be made available on the Council's website.

Is the report Open or Exempt?	Open
Wards Affected:	No wards are directly affected in connection with this report, but individual scrutiny reviews could affect the whole District.
Lead Member:	Councillor Alison Cackett Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Supporting Officer:	Sarah Davis Democratic Services Officer (01502) 523614 Sarah.davis@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny is central to the decision-making process of the Council, and the Annual Scrutiny Report sets out the work of the Committee undertaken during 2018/19.

2 FINANCIAL AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 The establishment of Overview and Scrutiny Committees arose from the Local Government Act 2000. The Committee sets its own Work Programme via suggestions for scrutiny from individual Members, from the Cabinet or Full Council, or from issues of public interest. Any scrutiny activity needs to add value, and in considering suggestions for scrutiny the Committee will ascertain the reasons why the matter would benefit from scrutiny, and what positive outcomes might be generated from scrutiny activity.
- 2.2 The Committee exercises overall responsibility for the finances made available to it, which for 2018/19 was £4,000. The scrutiny budget may be used to engage specialist assistance, obtain evidence, carry out site visits, or to pay for meeting accommodation, training and development.

3 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 As the Annual Report is a factual account of the work of the Committee during the previous year, it was not necessary to consult with Members in advance of its completion. However, Members are asked to approve the report before its wider distribution.

4 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Members could choose not to publish an Annual Report, however, it is good practice to look back each year and consider what went well, and what lessons can be learned for the future.

5 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 To ensure Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are able to have an input into the Committee's Annual Report before its wider distribution.

RECOMMENDATION

That the 2018/19 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report be approved and published.

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018/19

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None