

Bolsover District Council

Meeting of the Council on 11th October 2023

Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23

Report of the Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees

Classification	This report is Public
Contact Officer	Jim Fieldsend, Director of Governance and Legal Services & Monitoring Officer

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

- To provide Members of the Council with an annual overview of the work programme of the Committees during 2022/23, in accordance with functional responsibilities of Scrutiny as detailed in Part 2, Article 6.3(2) and Part 3.6.1(10) of the Council's Constitution.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

1.1 The main purpose of the report is to allow Members to review the summary of Scrutiny's activities during 2022/23.

1.2 The report provides an overview on the core activity for each of the Committee's and details some of the impacts.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

2.1 Part 2, Article 6.1 of the constitution requires the Council to appoint four Scrutiny Committees to discharge the functions conferred by Part 1A, s9F of the Local Government Act 2000.

- 2.2 Within the Terms of Reference (Part 2, Article 6.2), the four Scrutiny Committees have delivered the following functions:
- i. review and/or scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;
 - ii. make reports and/or recommendations to the Council and/or the Executive in connection with the discharge of any functions;
 - iii. consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants;
 - iv. exercise the right to call-in, for reconsideration, decisions made but not yet implemented by the Executive; and
 - v. assist the Council and the Executive with the development of future policies and strategies.
- 2.3 Each of the four Scrutiny Committees have conducted their proceedings in accordance with the Terms of Reference at Part 3.6.1 and the Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The attached provides an overview of the work completed by Members of the Scrutiny Committees during 2022/23, and reviews the impact of work completed.
- 3.2 Members are asked to note the report as required by Article 6.3(2) of the Council's Constitution.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 This report and the appendix have been prepared on behalf of the Scrutiny Committees with a view to informing Council of the Committee's undertaking of their statutory responsibilities.
- 4.2 There are no alternative options as Members are required to report to Council on an annual basis as determined in the Constitution.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That Members review the attached Annual Report of the Scrutiny Committee's activities in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

IMPLICATIONS:

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

There are no financial implications arising from this report but Members should note that from the start of the 2023 municipal year, it was approved that the Audit Function should be split out of the Audit and Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee. The scrutiny Committee will now be known as the Finance and Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee and there will now be a standalone Audit Committee.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details:

The Scrutiny Committee function is a statutory requirement pursuant to Part 1A, s9F of the Local Government Act 2000.

In carrying out scrutiny reviews the Council is exercising its scrutiny powers as laid out in Part 1A, s9F(2) of the Local Government Act 2000.

Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act requires every local authority to have a Crime and Disorder Committee with the power to review or scrutinise decisions made or other action taken in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions. (Responsible authorities are effectively the statutory partners within a community safety partnership i.e. Police, local authorities (county and district), Fire and Rescue Authority, Probation Trusts and Clinical Commissioning Groups.)

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Environment:

Please identify (if applicable) how this proposal/report will help the Authority meet its carbon neutral target or enhance the environment.

Details:

The Scrutiny structure of the Council ensures there is a dedicated group of Members to consider all service aspects related to the environment and climate change.

The Review being monitored by Climate Change & Communities Scrutiny Committee – Review of Council’s Policy on Fireworks – aims to ensure the Council increases its ability to enforce against misuse of fireworks and improving regulation of local firework displays.

The Review of Council Policy on Sky Lanterns and Helium Balloons aims to assist the Council in limiting the impact of local use of sky lanterns and helium balloons.

The Review of Council’s Approach to Carbon Reduction aims to enable the Council to clarify immediate priorities for action, as well as longer term plan to ensure the Council and District is net zero by 2050.

Staffing: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Details: None from this report.	On behalf of the Head of Paid Service
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DECISION INFORMATION

Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: Revenue - £75,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £150,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i>	No
District Wards Significantly Affected	N/A
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input type="checkbox"/> SLT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes Details: Committee Members

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy and Environment.
Scrutiny evaluates delivery against all Corporate Ambitions and Priorities

DOCUMENT INFORMATION	
Appendix No	Title
1.	Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23

Background Papers <i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive you must provide copies of the background papers).</i>
Committee minutes 2022/23 Review work