

TO: COUNCIL
30 APRIL 2014

**2013/14 ANNUAL REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
Chairman of The Overview And Scrutiny Commission**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Council's Constitution requires the Overview and Scrutiny Commission to submit an annual report to the Council on overview and scrutiny activities and their outcomes. The attached report informs Members of progress made in respect of the operation and development of overview and scrutiny in Bracknell Forest during 2013/14 and outlines proposed future activities. The Commission recommends that Council adopts the report.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the 2013/14 Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission be adopted; and**
- 2.2 **That the commitment, role and value of the overview and scrutiny function be acknowledged and that non-executive Members continue to be supported in their role.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To meet the requirements of the Constitution.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Structure of Overview and Scrutiny

- 5.1 The structure of Overview and Scrutiny was unchanged in 2013/14.

Activities

- 5.2 The activities of Overview and Scrutiny in 2013/14 are summarised in the Annual Report. The Commission and the four Panels have all met regularly. Much of the detailed Overview and Scrutiny work was conducted in Working Groups.

Outcomes

- 5.3 The main outcomes in 2013/14 are summarised in the Annual Report and have covered a wide range of reviews, leading to recommendations to the Executive, contributing to policy development and performance improvement. In addition, the Commission and Panels have maintained a rolling coverage of various matters including budget scrutiny and rigorously monitoring the performance of all Council Departments.

Future Developments

- 5.4 The Annual Report includes a programme of Overview and Scrutiny work for the 2014/15 municipal year, which has been the subject of consultation with the Corporate Management Team and the Executive.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Statutory Scrutiny Officer

- 6.1 The Annual Report demonstrates the depth and breadth of the work of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Commission and Panels and highlights the outcomes of this work. Overview and Scrutiny has exercised its functions in order to improve services the Council and its partners provide and to benefit local communities.

Borough Solicitor

- 6.2 Nothing to add to the report.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.3 There are no additional financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report. The finally agreed work programme will need to be managed within the existing resources.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.4 This report has no impact on equalities issues.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.5 This report has no impact on strategic risk management issues.

Other Officers

- 6.6 Not applicable.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 Overview and Scrutiny Commission, Executive and Corporate Management Team.

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 Through correspondence and at meetings to consider the draft report.

Representations Received

- 7.3 None.

Background Papers

Unrestricted

Agendas, Minutes and papers of meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, and Panels in 2013/14.

Contact for further information

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