

To: **Executive**
Date of Meeting

**Overview and Scrutiny Panel Reviews –
Reports to Executive (Outstanding reports from 2022/23)
Executive Director of Delivery (Statutory Scrutiny Officer)**

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present to the Executive the findings of two reviews undertaken by the Environment and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Education, Skills and Growth Overview and Scrutiny Panel, which were undertaken in the last administrative term.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the reports and their recommendations be noted.**
- 2.2 **On the report from the Education, Skills and Growth Panel, on Child criminal exploitation to note the recommendations and refer the report to the Executive Member for Children, Young People and Learning.**
- 2.3 **On the report from the Environment and Communities Panel, on Enforcement Strategy to note the recommendations and refer the report to the Executive Member for Culture, Delivery and Public Protection**

3 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The presented scrutiny reviews were undertaken in the last administrative term but, weren't presented to the Executive, due to insufficient time in the municipal calendar.
- 3.2 However, these reports have now been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission in their new term and the Commission has endorsed the reviews recommendations and asked for these to be presented to the Executive.
- 3.3 The comments from the relevant Officers have been incorporated into the review reports and no concerns have been indicated with any of the proposed recommendations. The views of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer have also been incorporated at the Commission meeting of the 6 July 2023.

4 Alternative Options Considered

- 4.1 Alternative options have been incorporated into the recommendations for the Executive.

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Commission schedules reviews to encompass the full four year terms of the Commission. This review programme will therefore always have reviews that are completed in the term of a Commission, but will leave reviews completed but not presented to either the Commission, the Executive or both. The process to follow in these reviews is to present these to the next Commission for review. At this review meeting, the Commission's normal process

would be applied, in that the Commission could either endorse the recommendations of the review, ask for further work or close the review without further work being undertaken. These reviews have now been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, at its meeting held on the 6 July 2023.

- 5.2 At the Commission's meeting of the 6 July 2023, following a robust debate, the Overview and Scrutiny Commission resolved "... that Option 1 be followed and the Chairs of the relevant Panels present both reports and recommendations, in their entirety, to the Executive on 19 September 2023".
- 5.3 Subsequent discussions with the Chairs of the relevant Panels has resulted in the Chairs authorising the Statutory Scrutiny Officer to present these reports on their behalf to the Executive. This is because these reviews were completed by Panels in the 2022/23 municipal term, therefore the Chairman who conducted these reviews are now unable to present these reports. It was felt by the current Chairs that they could not add any additional insight to the details of these reports for the Executive and so, the proper process for presenting these to the Executive was through the Statutory Scrutiny Officer.
- 5.4 It should be noted by the Executive that for the Child Criminal Exploitation report, special representations were made by the Commission's Parent Governor representative advocating for the Child Criminal Exploitation Scrutiny Review Report to be received by the Executive at the September meeting. It was also noted in the debate "... The importance of the reviews going to the Executive as soon as possible so as not to delay any positive impact the recommendations would have on children".

6 Consultation and Other Considerations

Legal Advice

- 6.1 Enforcement Strategy – There are no specific legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.
- 6.2 Child Criminal Exploitation - There are no specific legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report. However, where personal data is being shared, it is vital to ensure the necessary data protection requirements are in place, such as a Data Protection Impact Assessment, information sharing agreement and that the Register of Processing Activity (ROPA) is updated. Further guidance on data protection matters is available on the intranet and can be obtained from the Data Protection Officer.

Financial Advice

- 6.3 Enforcement Strategy – These recommendations will mean additional responsibilities are to be added to existing employees' workloads. All costs (including training) will be contained within existing budgets but if they exceed these they will be highlighted as budget pressures and additional funding will be requested as part of the annual budget cycle. Some costs may well be offset through additional income gained by enforcement activity.
- 6.4 Child Criminal Exploitation - Any actions arising from the recommendations are expected to be delivered within existing budgets.

Other Consultation Responses

- 6.5 Enforcement Strategy – No additional comments.

- 6.6 Child Criminal Exploitation – No additional comments.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.7 Enforcement Strategy – The review scope, activities and recommendations were all considered in the initial equalities screening attached at Appendix B.
- 6.8 Child Criminal Exploitation - The review scope, activities and recommendations were all considered in the initial equalities screening attached at Appendix B.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.9 Enforcement Strategy – The implications of poor enforcement performance would be reputational damage for the Council as there would be a potential for increased levels of low level and anti-social crime, an inability to protect our highly valued green spaces and appearance of residential communities. At the same time this would undermine the basis of formal application and approvals processes described within the attached report.
- 6.10 Child Criminal Exploitation - There are no specific strategic risk management issues arising from the recommendations in this report.

Climate Change Implications

- 6.11 Enforcement Strategy – The recommendations in Section 2 and 5 above are expected to have no impact on emissions of CO2 because there is no suggested increase in activity or travel that would generate a change.
- 6.12 Child Criminal Exploitation - The recommendations in Section 2 and 5 above are expected to have no impact on emissions of CO2 because there is no suggested increase in activity or travel that would generate a change.

Health & Wellbeing Considerations

- 6.13 Enforcement Strategy – The Council is committed to actively protecting and enhancing the borough's environment to keep it clean and green through enforcement. This supports Bracknell Forest being one of the healthiest places to live. Residents will therefore experience better health, both physical and mental.
- 6.14 Child Criminal Exploitation - The Council is committed to improving and protecting the mental health of children and young people. These recommendations are designed to support this ongoing work by increasing awareness of CCE, including the use of cannabis on vulnerable children and the impact it can have on their wellbeing.

Background Papers

Contact for further information

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