

Scrutiny Board

14 June 2016

Report title	Annual Scrutiny Report	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Cllr Milkinderpal Jaspal Governance and Performance	
Wards affected	All	
Accountable director	Kevin O'Keefe, Director of Governance	
Originating service	Democracy	
Accountable employee(s)	Deb Breedon Tel Email	Scrutiny Officer 01902 1250 Deborah.breedon@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	N/A	

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Scrutiny Board is recommended to:

1. Consider the draft Scrutiny Annual Report 2015-2016 and make any necessary amendments.
2. Authorise the Chair and Vice-chair of Scrutiny Board to make any further changes to the annual report.
3. Refer the Scrutiny Annual Report to full Council for its consideration.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The annual report highlights the key achievements of the scrutiny function for the 2015-16 municipal year. The report provides an overarching view of the progress and outcomes from the Scrutiny Board, panels and the reviews process.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Scrutiny is a vital component of good governance, and the work carried out by Councillors through scrutiny this year has been invaluable in influencing policy. This has been through reviewing the effectiveness of partnership working, representing the voice and concerns of the public and providing challenge to the Cabinet. The Board and all the panels undertook thorough scrutiny of the budget savings proposals.

3.0 Progress

- 3.1 Wolverhampton operates a model similar to that used by most unitary councils across England. The Scrutiny Board provides the overall co-ordination of the work programme with the six panels focussing on key areas of corporate priority. This is also supplemented by a series of reviews into key issues.
- 3.2 The Scrutiny Board and six panels have been involved in both pre-decision and post decision scrutiny throughout the year. Details of this can be found in the annual report attached as appendix A.
- 3.3 Scrutiny at Wolverhampton can also be divided into three broad categories: pre-decision scrutiny, post-decision scrutiny and call-ins.
- **Pre decision scrutiny** selectively examines the Council's draft proposals, objectives and programmes in order to help inform their development before they are enacted. In this way scrutiny can be used as a sounding board to ensure that all relevant options have been looked at and appropriate consultation undertaken. It is also a means of building a broader understanding and consensus as to why the proposal is being formulated in the way it is.
 - **Post decision scrutiny** selectively examines the implementation of Council policy and performance in terms of service delivery. It enables the Council to review the effectiveness of its decision making, helping it to recognise any unforeseen consequences and assisting it in revising its policy and practice accordingly.
 - **'Call in'** is a statutory right for Councillors to call in a decision of Cabinet or an individual Cabinet Member or Cabinet Members after it has been made but before it has been implemented.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations here as Councillors are being requested to review the annual scrutiny report and refer it to Council for consideration. Any financial implications associated with scrutiny processes through the year will have been incorporated in reports taken to the Scrutiny Board and panels.
[GE/26052016/J]

5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 This report and appendix A is a précis of the scrutiny which has taken place during 2015/6. For legal implications please refer to the reports taken to Scrutiny Board and panels during the year.
- 5.2 There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.
[TS/26052016/L]

6.0 Equalities implications

- 6.1 No equality analysis has been undertaken during the drafting of the report.
- 6.2 In scrutinising issues, the members of the Board, panel or group are required to consider the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different groups of people in order to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.
- 6.3 This report and appendix A is a précis of the scrutiny which has taken place during 2015/16. For equalities implications please refer to the reports taken to Scrutiny Board and panels during the year.

7.0 Environmental implications

- 7.1 This report and appendix A is a précis of the scrutiny which has taken place during 2015/16. For environmental implications please refer to the reports taken to Scrutiny Board and panels during the year.
- 7.2 There are no environmental implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

8.0 Human resources implications

- 8.1 This report and appendix A is a précis of the scrutiny which has taken place during 2015/16. For human resource implications please refer to the reports taken to Scrutiny Board and panels during the year.
- 8.2 There are no human resources implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

9.0 Corporate landlord implications

- 9.1 This report and appendix A is a précis of the scrutiny which has taken place during 2015/16. For corporate landlord implications please refer to the reports taken to Scrutiny Board and panels during the year.
- 9.2 There are no corporate landlord implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

10.0 Schedule of background papers

Scrutiny Board work programme reports

- 30 June 2015
- 21 July 2015
- 8 September 2015
- 3 November 2015
- 15 December 2015
- 19 January 2016
- 1 March 2016
- 26 April 2016