



## REPORT of OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORKING GROUP

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to  
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
20 JANUARY 2022

### REVIEW OF RECENT SCRUTINY REQUESTS BY MEMBERS

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Committee on recent Working Group meetings and recommend courses of action on recent Member requests for scrutiny items.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) That the Committee reviews the detailed forms attached as **APPENDIX B** and is assured that the Working Group process is happening effectively;
- (ii) That the Committee approves the recommended courses of action suggested by the Working Group as set out in section 3.3 below.

#### 3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Working Group met on 29 November and 10 December 2021 to review four Member form submissions that have been received since the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The receipt of a fifth was reported to the second meeting.
- 3.2 The Working Group had regard to the adopted principles of scrutiny items, see **APPENDIX A** as agreed by the Committee in October 2020 in reviewing the items and recommending a course of action.
- 3.3 A pro-forma for each of these requested items together with brief Officer comments by way of background explanation and context is set out in **APPENDIX B** to this report, and the Committee is asked to adopt the recommended approach as set out for each item. In summary, this is as follows:

**Accuracy of Self-Build Register (No. 11)** - No actual area of scrutiny has been defined for an item to be included in the Committee's workplan.

**Park Team Culture and Health and Safety concerns (No. 13)** – the potential scoping activity provides a good level of assurance with a range of work in progress. The need for further scrutiny work is not required at this stage, and on the basis of the information now presented the Working Group keeps the matter under review and seeks a further report in six months.

**Learning from a recent Employment Tribunal decision (No. 12)** - a learning outcomes review led by Human Resources has been endorsed by the Corporate Leadership Team. This response is received by way of assurance as to learning outcomes and no further report or scrutiny is required.

**Planning Enforcement – lack of action, backlog of unresolved items (No. 14) –** there is little or no merit in scrutinising this process while steps are being taken to increase the resourcing of Planning Enforcement in line with a Policy review undertaken last year.

**Following up/checking compliance with planning conditions (No. 15) –** this request is brought forward as an adjunct to the above item as it was received too late for a preliminary response to be prepared for the Working Group. It has been treated as a request for information/clarification to which a response was provided. This request insofar as it relates to following up planning conditions can continue to be included as part of the wider subject request on planning enforcement (no. 14).

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 In line with the agreed process for review of possible Overview and Scrutiny workplan items, the feedback and recommendations from the recent Working Group meetings are presented for the Committee's consideration.

#### **5. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES**

- 5.1 Robust overview and scrutiny work and learning from what comes out of it contributes to the performance and value theme of the Corporate Plan.

#### **6. IMPLICATIONS**

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – None
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – Items outlined in Appendix B are linked to Corporate Risk
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – Matters arising may have resource implications
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – Matters arising may have resource implications
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – None
- (vii) **Impact on Strengthening Communities** – None

Enquiries to: Cheryl Hughes, Programmes, Performance and Governance Manager.