

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO COUNCIL

25 SEPTEMBER 2019

**REPORT OF EXECUTIVE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

COUNCIL INFORMATION ITEM

Leader of Council – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Bob Cook

SCRUTINY END-OF-TERM REPORT 2015-2019

SUMMARY

A Scrutiny End-of-Term Report has been produced for the period 2015-2019 and is attached for Council's information.

REASONS FOR PRODUCING THIS REPORT

The new Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities highlights the need to maintain a strong organisational culture, including regular engagement between the executive and scrutiny, and communication of scrutiny's role and purpose to the wider Authority.

DETAIL

1. A Scrutiny End-of-Term Report was produced for the period 2015-2019 and is attached at **Appendix 1**. The report highlights the work of the Council's Select Committees during the last four years, and contains infographics which summarise each year's work programme in detail. These infographics function as each year's Annual Report.
2. The End-of-Term report was considered by each Select Committee prior to the Local Government Elections, and was circulated to the Executive Scrutiny Committee.
3. It is important to note that review recommendations were made at a certain point in time, and naturally, as the report covers a four-year period, a number of the issues covered have since developed further.
4. Aside from those relating to a small number of more recently completed reviews, the majority of scrutiny recommendations from this period have been subject to monitoring by Select Committees and have been signed off as complete.
5. An additional paper, attached at **Appendix 2**, has since been devised to show the impact of some of these reviews, and supports comments from the Corporate Peer Review team (who visited SBC in early-September 2019) who felt that readers would benefit from a greater understanding of how the work of the overview and scrutiny function has led to real and positive changes in service provision across the Borough.

6. Production of the End-of-Term Report and consideration by Cabinet (12 September) and Council supports the aims of the Statutory Guidance. Consideration of the report by Council also fulfils the requirements of the Constitution.
7. Cabinet considered the matter at its meeting held on 12 September 2019 and a copy of the relevant minute extract is attached to this report at **Appendix 3**.

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