

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

10 April 2017

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

Yes

## Annual report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2016/17

<b>Final Decision-Maker</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
<b>Portfolio Holder(s)</b>	Leader of the Council, David Jukes
<b>Lead Director</b>	Director of Finance and Corporate Services, Lee Colyer
<b>Head of Service</b>	Head of Policy and Governance, Jane Clarke
<b>Lead Officer/Report Author</b>	Scrutiny and Performance Officer, Nick Peeters
<b>Classification</b>	Non-exempt
<b>Wards affected</b>	All Wards

### This report makes the following recommendations to the final decision-maker:

1. That Members endorse the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Annual report for consideration by Full Council.

### This report relates to the following Five Year Plan Key Objectives:

- A Prosperous Borough
- A Green Borough
- A Confident Borough

The work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee covers many of the borough-wide themes referred to in the Council's Five year Plan and can extend beyond the services that the Council provides itself. The Committee provides a forum for residents and stakeholders to highlight issues across all of the Council's services.

### Timetable

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	10 April 2017
Full Council	26 July 2017

# Annual report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2016/17

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Constitution requires the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to prepare an annual report for Full Council (part 3 - Responsibility for Functions and Scheme of Delegations 8.6).
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## 2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny functions provided by section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000, the Police and Justice Act 2006, the relevant provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Localism Act 2011 and associated rules and regulations are delivered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee deals with issues that affect the borough at all levels. The Committee's annual report provides a summary of its work over the previous year and highlights areas where the Committee has been able, through member-led work, to have a positive impact on a number of borough-wide issues. When looking at its work over the last year, the Committee has been mindful of its duty to:
- I. Consider any matter affecting the Borough of Tunbridge Wells or its inhabitants.
  - II. Make a contribution to the locality by in-depth analysis of policy issues.
  - III. liaise with external organisations operating in the locality, be they national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working.
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## 3. AVAILABLE OPTIONS

- 3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee could choose not to consider the report or endorse the recommendations. However, Part 3 of the Council's Constitution (Responsibility for Functions and Scheme of Delegations) 8.6 requires that the Committee reports annually to Full Council on its work over the previous year.
- 3.2 The Committee could choose to ask that further work be done on the report and for it to be returned to a later meeting for endorsement of the recommendation.
- 3.3 The Committee could choose to consider the report and endorse the recommendation for its consideration by Full Council.

#### 4. PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The draft Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report (attached at appendix A) provides a thorough summary of the Committee’s work throughout the last year. The preferred option is for Members of the Committee to consider the report and, subject to their views, endorse the draft for presentation to Full Council.

#### 5. NEXT STEPS: COMMUNICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

- 5.1 The Committee’s decision will be included in the published version of the minutes, which will also be available on the Council’s website.

#### 6. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off (name of officer and date)
<b>Legal</b> including Human Rights Act	There are no legal or human rights implications resulting from the recommendations in the report	Estelle Culligan, Interim Head of Mid-Kent Legal Partnership
<b>Finance</b> and other resources	There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendations in the report	Jane Fineman, Head of Finance and Procurement
<b>Staffing establishment</b>	There are no staffing implications resulting from the recommendations in the report	Nicky Carter, Human Resources Manager
<b>Equalities</b>	Decision-makers are reminded of the requirement under the Public Sector Equality Duty (s149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster good relations between people from different groups. The work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee assists the Council with having due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty. Over the last year the committee has focused on topics which could affect people with protected	Sarah Lavallie, Equalities Officer

	<p>characteristics. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Provision of bus services in rural areas</li> <li>– How the council is meeting its objectives under the Cultural Strategy which focuses on redevelopment of the Museum and Art Gallery and enhancement of the Assembly Hall Theatre to enable more people to have an opportunity to participate in culture.</li> <li>– Provision of Disabled Facilities Grants Meeting the needs of elderly residents when accessing services online which has been addressed within the production of a Digital Inclusion Plan.</li> </ul>	
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## 7. REPORT APPENDICES

The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report:

- Appendix A: Overview and Scrutiny Report 2016/17

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## 8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None