

# WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## FULL COUNCIL

14 December 2021

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### **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BIENNIAL REPORT 2019/20 AND 2020/21**

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**Head of Service:** Mr Robin Taylor, Head of Policy and Governance

**Key decision:** No

**Access:** Public

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#### **1. Purpose and summary**

- 1.1 To provide the Council and the Waverley community with an accurate picture of the activities of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees in the municipal years 2019/20 and 2020/21.

#### **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 To receive a Biennial report, set out at Annexe 1, on the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's work for the period 2019-2021.

#### **3. Reason for the recommendation**

- 3.1 To provide councillors with an opportunity to reflect on what aspects of the Scrutiny process worked well, where there are lessons to be drawn and where improvements could be made.

#### **4. Background**

- 4.1 Annual Scrutiny Reports were published for the municipal years 2017/18 and 2018/19. However, the additional pressure at the beginning of the pandemic prevented a report being produced for 2019/20. Therefore, this report covers both 2019/20 and 2020/21.

#### **5. Relationship to the Corporate Strategy and Service Plan**

- 5.1 Overview and scrutiny is an independent, Member led function that facilitates and achieves democratic accountability for public services. As such, it seeks to ensure that the work of the Council fully meets the Council's corporate priorities.

#### **6. Implications of decision**

##### **6.1 Resource (Finance, procurement, staffing, IT)**

There are no resource implications of this report.

## **6.2 Risk Management**

No risks arising from the recommendations of this report have been identified.

## **6.3 Legal**

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

## **6.4 Equality, diversity and inclusion**

There are no direct equality and diversity implications from this report.

## **6.5 Climate emergency declaration**

There are no direct climate change implications from this report.

## **7. Consultation and engagement**

7.1 Discussed in paragraph 9.1 and 9.2.

## **8. Other options considered**

8.1 The Council could decline to report on O&S's activities. However, this would deprive councillors and residents of a resource for understanding this aspect of the Council's activity.

## **9. Governance Journey**

9.1 An earlier draft of the Biennial Report for 2019/21 and 2020/21 was presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Board. This Board is comprised of the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees. They asked for modest changes. Subject to these being made, the Board unanimously endorsed the report.

9.2 The draft was considered by the Community Wellbeing, Environment, Housing and Value for Money & Customer Services Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Their comments were reviewed by the Co-ordinating Board and the final contents of the report were agreed.

## **Annexes:**

Annexe 1 – Overview and Scrutiny Biennial Report 2019/20 and 2020/21

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## **Background Papers**

There are no background papers, as defined by Section 100D (5) of the Local Government Act (1972)

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## **CONTACT OFFICER:**

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