
Scrutiny Management Committee

26 June 2006

Report of the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

**Report on progress with Scrutiny Annual Review
2005/6**

Summary

1. To inform Members of progress with preparing the Scrutiny Annual Review for 2005/6 and to make arrangements for its completion.

Background

2. Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) has responsibility for the production of an annual review and report to Council. The purpose of the report is to “summarise progress in delivering the annual scrutiny plan, highlight key achievements, learning points and the key issues to be addressed in the coming year”. The Scrutiny Annual Review for 2005/6 will this year be in a format that includes a report from the Chair of SMC and each former scrutiny board.

Consultation

3. The former Scrutiny Manager and the Chair of SMC contacted all Chairs of the former Scrutiny Boards to ask them to prepare a contribution from their board to form part of the Annual Review. This was requested for 7 April. This was to give Chairs the opportunity to circulate it to board members for their input. At the time of writing 2 reports have been received from Chairs. The scrutiny team intend to collate the contributions and a draft final version of the review will be brought to the next meeting of SMC in July.

Options

4. The Constitution as recently approved by Council requires the production and publication of an Annual Scrutiny Report, for approval by Council itself. As such, no option is available to Members of this Committee other to ensure such a report is produced in accordance with its role and constitutional requirement.

Analysis

5. The proposed format of the Annual Review is as follows:-
 - Introduction by the Chair of SMC
 - Reports from Chair of SMC and each scrutiny board (approx 800 words each) including updates on progress with implementing scrutiny recommendations from previous years
 - List of reports published in 2005/6
 - Reports awaiting publication and ongoing reviews
 - List of all scrutiny members and co-optees

6. At the time of compiling this update report, many contributions from Chairs of former Scrutiny Boards etc were still awaited. Deadlines have been set for receipt of those to enable the final draft of the Annual Report to be prepared and brought back to the next meeting of SMC.

Corporate Priorities

7. The Council is currently reviewing its Council Plan which, once approved, will identify new Council priorities. However, the aims in publishing an Annual Scrutiny Report are entirely consistently with the Council's practice to open and transparent about its decision making and scrutiny processes.

Implications

8. There are no known Financial, HR, Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder, IT or other implications at this stage.

Risk Management

9. In compliance with the Councils risk management strategy. There are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

Recommendations

10. Members are asked to note this report and to delegate to the Chair and Vice-Chair of this Committee the responsibility of approving the content of 2005/6 Annual Scrutiny Report.

Reason: in order to meet the constitutional requirement on SMC to provide an annual report to Full Council.

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Report Approved



Date 16.0606

Specialist Implications Officer(s) *List information for all*

Implication ie Financial

Name

Title

Tel No.

Implication ie Legal

Name

Title

Tel No.

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

None

Background Papers

None