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**Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny  
Management Committee**

9 July 2018

Report of the Assistant Director – Legal & Governance

**Implementation of recommendations from previously completed  
Electoral Arrangements Scrutiny Review**

**Summary**

1. This report provides Members with their first update on the implementation of the approved recommendations arising from the previously completed Electoral Arrangements Scrutiny Review.
2. Members are asked to sign off all recommendations now considered to be fully implemented and are asked to agree whether they wish to receive a further update in 6 months' time on any outstanding recommendations.

**Background**

3. At a meeting of the former Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee (CSMC) in January 2016, Members requested a report on the electoral organisation in York and it was agreed that this be added to the work plan to be considered at a future meeting.
4. At a meeting of CSMC in late July 2016, Members considered an overview report on electoral organisation and while they acknowledged that overall the current arrangements in York were working effectively they expressed concern at the time taken for the count to be completed.
5. Members also considered whether more could be done to ensure that everyone who was eligible to vote was able to do so, although they noted that difficulties had arisen because of the new Individual Registration System.
6. A Task Group was formed to carry out a review on the Committee's behalf based on the following objectives:

- i. Ways of maximising the number of people eligible to vote, and
  - ii. Improving performance at the count whilst maintaining high standards of accuracy.
- 7. In November 2017 the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee endorsed the recommendations in the Task Group's Draft Final Report and added three further recommendations before a Final Report was sent to the Returning Officer.
- 8. The recommendations from the review, as endorsed by the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee, are listed in Annex A, along with update information provided by the Electoral Services Manager.

### **Options**

- 9. Members may choose to sign off any individual recommendation where implementation has now been completed and can
  - a. Request further updates and the attendance of the relevant officer at a further meeting to clarify any outstanding recommendations
  - b. Agree no further updates are required.

### **Council Plan**

- 10. This report is linked to the Focus on Frontline Services and A Council That Listens to Residents elements of the Council's Plan 2015-19.

### **Implications**

- 11. There are no known Financial, Human Resources, Equalities, Legal, ICT or other implications associated with the recommendations in this report. Implications arising from the scrutiny review are detailed in the Final Report.

### **Risk Management**

- 12. In Compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with this report. However, the administration of elections carries a very high degree of risk and evidence of these risks was provided in the Final Report.

## Recommendations

13. Members are asked to note the content of this report and:

- 1) Sign off any recommendations that have now been fully implemented
- 2) Agree whether a further update is required in 6 months' time

Reason: To raise awareness of those recommendations which are still to be fully implemented.

## Contact Details

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Report Approved ☒ Date 13/06/2018

Wards Affected:

All ☒

For further information please contact the author of the report

## Annexes

Annex A – Update on implementation of recommendations