

Committee	Date	Classification	Report No.	Agenda Item No.
Overview and Scrutiny	5 May 2009	Unrestricted		8.5
Report of: Assistant Chief Executive Originating Officer(s): Afazul Hoque, Acting Scrutiny Policy Manager		Title: Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2008/2009 Ward(s) affected: All		

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides a summary by Scrutiny Lead Members of their Overview and Scrutiny work during the civic year 2008/2009. It forms the basis of the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report that will be reported to full Council and circulated more widely early in the new municipal year.

2. Recommendations

Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- 2.1 Consider and comment on the draft annual scrutiny report to Council
- 2.2 The Service Head, Scrutiny and Equalities be authorised to agree the final report before its submission to Council, after consultation with the Chair and relevant Scrutiny Leads.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2000 (SECTION 97)

LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Background paper

Annual Scrutiny Report File in Scrutiny Policy Team

Name and telephone number of and address where open to inspection

Afazul Hoque
020 7364 4636

3 Report

- 3.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committee co-ordinates all of the scrutiny activity within the Council. As well as the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee, there are six Scrutiny Leads: one each for the five new Community Plan themes, with a further Lead for Excellent Public Services. Under the Council's Constitution, Overview and Scrutiny must submit an annual report of its work to Council. This is attached as a draft at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The Annual Report outlines the work both of the Committee and of the Scrutiny Leads and their working groups over the last year. This highlights the constructive policy development role that scrutiny undertakes through its reviews. It also outlines the ongoing progress that has been made in embedding overview and scrutiny within the Council. Pre-decision scrutiny of Cabinet reports continues to encourage greater debate around key issues, while call-ins have been debated in a robust and rigorous manner at Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The majority of the work programme agreed at the start of the year has been delivered.
- 3.3 The Annual Scrutiny report will be submitted to the first full meeting of Council in the new Municipal Year (15 July 2009). Following the report to Council, it will be circulated widely within the Council and across to its partners. A summary article will also be placed in Eastend Life.

4 Concurrent Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services)

- 4.1 Article 6.03 (d) of the Council's Constitution provides that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee must report annually to full Council on its work. The report submitted to Council following this consideration will fulfil that obligation.

5 Comments of the Chief Financial Officer

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

6 One Tower Hamlets Consideration

- 6.1 Equal opportunities are central to the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. A number of reports and reviews have specific equalities themes including End of Life Care, Child Poverty and Alcohol Misuse Amongst Young people.
- 6.2 Anti-poverty is central to some aspects of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee particularly the review undertaken by the Scrutiny Lead on Child Poverty and Affordable Homeownership looks at reducing inequalities and improving putcome for our local residents.

7 Sustainable Action for a Greener Environment

- 7.1 There are no direct implications.

8 Risk Management

- 8.1 There are no direct risk management implications arising from this report.

Appendix 1 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report to Council