


Non-Executive Report of the: Council 27 July 2022	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Sharon Godman Director of Strategy, Improvement and Transformation	Classification: Unrestricted
Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021-22	

Originating Officer(s)	Afazul Hoque, Head of Corporate Strategy and Communities
Wards affected	Wards

Executive Summary

This report provides a summary of the work that Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC), its sub-committees and scrutiny leads delivered in 2021-22 municipal year

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Note the attached Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2021-22

1. **REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 The council's constitution requires that the OSC must report annually to the council on its work.

2. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 2.1 To take no action. This is not recommended as the council's constitution requires OSC to report annually to Full Council on its work

3. **DETAILS OF THE REPORT**

- 3.1 The council's constitution requires that OSC must report annually to Full Council, evidencing the committees activities during the past year and include the work of its sub-committees.
- 3.2 The appended report (appendix 1) provides a summary of the different activities and work that scrutiny carried out last municipal year. It includes the

oversight on the council's budget with recommendations, strategic delivery performance and budget monitoring (regular agenda items on scrutiny work programme). The Committee held spotlights on Liveable Streets Programme, Waste Services, Digital Inclusion Strategy, Cabinet Member spotlight on Housing, Community Safety spotlight with the Borough Commander.

- 3.3 The Committee also received regular monthly updates on COVID-19 from Public Health which provided context for some of the scrutiny issues that Members considered. The OSC also held two challenge sessions scrutinising swimming provision in the borough and the behaviour change challenge with the council's parking permit policy. Both of which made recommendations for the executive considerations.
- 3.4 The OSC also held a Mayor's spotlight and challenged the poor waste and recycling collection performance and lack of accountability of signatories to the Tower Hamlets Housing Covenant.
- 3.5 The work of OSC is divided into different scrutiny activities and this includes scrutiny review and challenge sessions, call-ins spotlights sessions focussing on council and partner services.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Reducing inequalities, promoting cohesion and building community leadership are key to the work of the OSC and its sub-committees. A number of reviews and challenges session incorporate the equality consideration such as closure of swimming pools impact on child obesity, pregnant women, people with disabilities. Also the impact on change for different groups public space users when it comes to parking provision.

5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 5.1. There are no direct financial implications from this annual report

6. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 6.1. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules set out at Paragraph 30 of Part B of the Council's Constitution provide that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee must report annually to Full Council on its work. This report complies with that requirement.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021-22

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- None

Officer contact details for documents:

Afazul Hoque

afazul.hoque@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Ext 4636