

<b>MEETING</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>8 MARCH 2013</b>
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>ANNUAL REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (DECOMMISSIONED 15/10/12)</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP:</b>	<p><b>A SELDON (CHAIRMAN), JW MILLAR (VICE-CHAIR), AM ATKINSON, PL BETTINGTON, WLS BOWEN, MJK COOPER, PGH CUTTER, EPJ HARVERY, MAF HUBBARD, RC HUNT, TM JAMES, BRIG P JONES CBE, JLV KENYON, R PREECE, SJ ROBERTSON, P RONE, PJ WATTS.</b></p> <p><b>STATUTORY CO-OPTees – MR P BURBIDGE (ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH), MISS E LOWENSTEIN (SECONDARY SCHOOL PARENT GOVERNOR), MR T PLUMER (PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT GOVERNOR), MR P SELL (CHURCH OF ENGLAND)</b></p>

**1. Classification**

Open

**2. Key Decision**

This is not an executive decision

**3. Wards Affected**

County-wide

**4. Purpose**

To inform Council of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny Committee from May 2012 to October 2012.

**5. Recommendation**

**THAT: The report be noted.**

## 6. Key Points Summary

- The scrutiny function is a statutory requirement by virtue of Part 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 and subsequently the Localism Act 2011.
- From May 2012 to October 2012 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee discharged this function.
- On 28 September 2012 Council approved a new scrutiny structure that decommissioned the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and replaced this with two separate committees, namely: Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee and General Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- The Overview and Scrutiny Committee was decommissioned on 15 October 2012.

## 7. Alternative Options

7.1 There are no Alternative Options as the report is for information purposes only.

## 8. Reasons for Recommendations

8.1 To comply with the requirements of the Council's Constitution.

## 9. Introduction and Background

9.1 2011-2012 has been a difficult transitional period for overview and scrutiny. The newly structured committee was approved in May 2011. Elections were held in the same month and as such the work programme was not set until July 2011. Work was not commenced on scrutiny topics until September 2011 and there was a change of Chairmanship on 18 November 2011. On 28 September 2012 Council approved a new scrutiny structure that consisted of two separate Overview and Scrutiny Committees, one for general scrutiny and one for health and social care scrutiny.

9.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee consisted of one politically proportionate Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the power to set up task and finish groups with six Vice-Chairmen each responsible for a particular themed area.

9.3 Councillor A Seldon was elected as Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny committee with Councillor JW Millar being appointed as Vice-Chairman.

9.4 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee operated on a monthly cycle and held seven meetings between 18 May 2012 and 12 October 2012. The only exception to this cycle was an extra meeting held on 3 October 2012.

9.5 A summary of the work undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is set below.

### **Summary of Work Undertaken By Overview and Scrutiny**

#### 9.6 Scrutiny Reviews

The following in-depth scrutiny reviews have been completed this year by Task and Finish Groups:

- Review of West Mercia Ambulance Service integrated pathways and 'Make Ready' scheme.
- Review of Wye Valley Trust (Stroke and Trauma Reviews)

9.7 The following in-depth scrutiny review is in progress

- Housing Allocations Policy

### **Pre-Decision Scrutiny**

9.7 The following matters were subject to pre-decision scrutiny:

- Youth Services Review
- Scrutiny Structure Review
- Strategic Plan for Transforming Adult Services 2012/15
- Adult Social Care Fees and Charges 'Fairer Charging' Policy
- Consultation on the Local Development Framework and Local Transport Plan
- Root and Branch Review for Older People; Customer Services; Housing Economy and Regulatory Services; Streetscene

### **9.8 Performance Reports**

The Committee received performance reports and updates from the following bodies:

- Herefordshire Clinical Commissioning Group
- Wye Valley Trust
- 2gether
- West Midlands Ambulance Service

### **Scrutiny of Partners**

9.9 The Committee has scrutinised the work of the following partners:

- Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership: The Committee has a statutory role in scrutinising this partnership. The Committee has considered current issues and priorities for the partnership and the refreshed Community Safety Partnership 2011-2014.

### **Reviews and Consultations**

9.10 The Committee has responded to a number of consultations. Namely:

- NHS Midlands and East Stroke Services Review
- Consultation on Local Authority Health Scrutiny

### **Other Matters**

9.11 The Committee has also received the Executive responses to five task and finish groups on: Adult Safeguarding in Herefordshire; Planning System Review; Council Procurement Policy; Income and Charging and Tourist and Temporary Event Signage. Receiving the Executive responses is an imperative element to scrutiny as it allows Members of the

Committee to see whether the recommendations that they have made have been taken forward by the Cabinet.

- 9.12 The Committee reviewed the Streetscene Root and Branch and Strategic Service Delivery Partnership Reprocurement Process.
- 9.13 The Committee had an agenda item on the overview of healthcare in Herefordshire and invited the attendance of Wye Valley Trust, Clinical Commissioning Group and the West Mercia Cluster. This agenda item was of considerable interest as the Health Care system within the UK is in a time of extreme transitional change. This meeting encompassed the notion of obtaining input from the relevant bodies on where they were in the transition period and any problems that they envisioned going forward.
- 9.14 The Committee received three updates. Updates are diarised into the work programme after recommendations or plans have been made or alternatively, if the Committee sought clarification on specific issues. The updates were on:
- Agresso/Framework I
  - Hereford Futures Structure and Governance
  - Locality Working

#### **Public Participation**

- 9.15 Public speaking is considered a key part of scrutiny. A number of questions were put to the scrutiny committee regarding the Local Development Framework and Local Transport Plan. One question was received regarding the relationship between Hereford Futures and the Local Transport Plan and Local Development Framework.

Scrutiny also received three suggestions for future scrutiny from members of the public.

## **10. Background Papers**

- 10.1 None identified.