

# Title of report: Hoople Ltd

**Meeting:** Scrutiny Management Board

**Meeting date:** 19 March 2024

**Report by:** Democratic Services

## **Classification**

Open

## **Decision type**

Non-key

## **Wards affected**

All wards

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide Scrutiny Management Board with a presentation which sets out the arrangements between Herefordshire Council and Hoople Ltd.

## **Recommendations**

- a) That the presentation be noted.

## **Alternative options**

None proposed.

## **Key considerations**

At a work programme planning meeting of the Scrutiny Management Board in December 2023, the committee agreed to request an overview report on the council's arrangements with Hoople Ltd.

This report is included as Appendix 1 of this report.

## **Community Impact**

In accordance with the adopted code of corporate governance, the council is committed to promoting a positive working culture that accepts, and encourages constructive challenge,

and recognises that a culture and structure for scrutiny are key elements for accountable decision making, policy development and review. Topics selected for scrutiny should have regard to what matters to residents.

### **Environmental Impact**

There are no direct environmental impacts connected with this report or the outcomes it seeks to deliver. However if the committee makes any recommendations to Cabinet or elsewhere, any implementation of recommendations may have a resultant environmental impact.

### **Equality Duty**

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services

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Considering this report will not have an impact on our equality duty.

### **Resource Implications**

There are no direct resource implications in the production or consideration of this report.

### **Legal Implications**

This report has no specific legal implications.

### **Risk management**

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
There is a reputational risk to the council if the scrutiny function does not operate effectively.	The arrangements for the notification of recommendations from the scrutiny committees and agreement of an Executive Response should help mitigate this risk.

Cabinet is requested to provide an executive response within two months, at which stage, in considering its response, a full assessment of risk implications should be undertaken.

The executive will then need to assess the risks arising from any executive decisions made in respect of the scrutiny committee's recommendations.

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Hoople Ltd: a presentation to Scrutiny Management Board

### **Background papers**

None