

COUNCIL
10TH JULY 2025

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

TITLE OF REPORT: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2024-25

REPORT OF: CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2024-25

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: NOT APPLICABLE

COUNCIL PRIORITY: THRIVING COMMUNITIES / ACCESSIBLE SERVICES / RESPONSIBLE GROWTH / SUSTAINABILITY

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To consider the Annual report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the 2024/2025 Civic Year.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2024/2025 as attached at Appendix A be noted.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1. To enable Council to consider and comment on the report of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the work of the Committee in the 2024/2025 Civic Year.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1. None

5. CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT MEMBERS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

- 5.1. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee have had the opportunity to consider and comment on the report prior to this meeting.
- 5.2. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered and commented on the report prior to consideration by Council, at the meeting of the Committee on 10th June 2025.

6. FORWARD PLAN

- 6.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

7. BACKGROUND

- 7.1. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee reports each year to Annual Council giving a brief overview of the work undertaken by that Committee in the previous Civic Year.

8. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1. The report at Appendix A sets out the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee during the Civic Year 2024/2025.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. The Local Government Act 2000 establishes that a Council should have an Overview and Scrutiny Committee to scrutinise the decisions and policies of the executive. This obligation is reflected in Section 6 of the Council's Constitution.
- 9.2. Section 6.2.6 of the Constitution states that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee must report annually to the Full Council on their workings with recommendations for its future work programme and amended working methods if appropriate.
- 9.3. Section 4.4.1 (ee) of the Constitution states that only the Full Council will receive Annual reports from the Overview & Scrutiny, Finance, Audit and Risk and Standards Committees.
- 9.4. Full Council has therefore routinely received an Annual Report from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for review. This Annual Report is in accordance with precedent, the Council's Constitution and the Council's statutory requirement.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. There are no capital or revenue implications arising from the content of this report.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1. Good Risk Management supports and enhances the decision-making process, increasing the likelihood of the Council meeting its objectives and enabling it to respond quickly and effectively to change. When taking decisions, risks and opportunities must be considered.
- 11.2. There are no direct risk implications arising from this report.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1. In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 12.2. There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1. The Social Value Act and “go local” requirements do not apply to this report.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1. There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to the Annual O&S Report to Council 2024-25.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 There are no direct Human Resource Implications arising from this report.
- 15.2 The Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager, Scrutiny Officer and Committee Member and Scrutiny Officers support the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

16. APPENDICES

- 16.1 Appendix A – Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2024/2025.

17. CONTACT OFFICERS

- 17.1 Jeevan Mann
Scrutiny Officer
Jeevan.mann@north-herts.gov.uk
01462 474295
- 17.2 James Lovegrove
Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager
James.lovegrove@north-herts.gov.uk
01462 474204
- 17.3 Melanie Stimpson
Democratic Services Manager
Melanie.stimpson@north-herts.gov.uk
01462 474208

18. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 18.1 Reports to and Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee during the Civic Year 2024/2025.

[Browse meetings - Overview and Scrutiny Committee | North Herts Council](#)