

## **REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY COMMISSION**

### **A. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19**

#### **Introduction**

1. The Constitution requires that the Scrutiny Commission and Overview and Scrutiny Committees submit an Annual Report to the Council (or the Scrutiny Commission in a single report on their behalf) on their workings. The report may make recommendations about future work programmes and changes in working methods.

#### **Annual Report**

2. Attached as Appendix 1 to this report is a copy of the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018/19. It is intended as a public facing summary of the key highlights of scrutiny activity undertaken during the year and serves to draw out the work undertaken at committee level, including review panels, and how this has had an impact.
3. The Annual Report sums up a varied and busy year for Overview and Scrutiny; the Committees have scrutinised issues across the whole range of services provided by the County Council. The level of public interest in Overview and Scrutiny has also been positive, with petitions being received and representations heard from members of the public on a number of occasions.

#### **Conclusions**

4. The work of Overview and Scrutiny remains critical in ensuring that the Council's budget and performance is closely monitored, that services are delivered effectively and efficiently and that they meet the needs of local people. Service transformation and redesign has been a key theme of scrutiny reports during the last year and all Committees have played a role in making sure that changes are implemented in a high quality and cost effective manner.
5. Scrutiny resources will need to be focused on areas that matter the most to the public, such as protecting the most vulnerable in our society, and areas in which it feels it can support the Council to work smarter and more efficiently.
6. Looking forward to 2019/20, the report highlights the need for Overview and Scrutiny to consider the environmental implications of all policies put forward, in the light of the Climate Emergency declared by the County Council at its annual meeting.

**(Motion to be moved:**

**That the information contained in the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018/19, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, on its activities, be noted.)**

**Mr. S. J. Galton CC  
Chairman of the Scrutiny Commission**