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| <b>27 June 2018</b>   |                                 | <b>ITEM: 10</b> |
| <b>Council</b>  |                                 |                 |
| <b>Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2017/18</b>  |                                 |                 |
| <b>Wards and communities affected:</b><br>All   | <b>Key Decision:</b><br>Non-Key |                 |
| <b>Report of:</b> David Lawson, Assistant Director of Law and Governance                      |                                 |                 |
| <b>Accountable Assistant Director:</b> David Lawson, Assistant Director of Law and Governance |                                 |                 |
| <b>Accountable Director:</b> Sean Clark, Corporate Director of Finance and IT                 |                                 |                 |
| <b>This report is public</b>  |                                 |                 |

## **Executive Summary**

This report introduces the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report which in accordance with the Council's Constitution, should be presented to the Council.

### **1. Recommendation(s)**

**1.1 That the contents of the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2017/18 be noted.**

### **2. Introduction and Background**

2.1 Each year an Annual Report is produced detailing the work of the six Overview and Scrutiny committees and their main achievements for that municipal year. The report is designed to inform residents of this work in an accessible and engaging format.

2.2 The last municipal year has seen Overview and Scrutiny tackle a wide range of topics, with Members leading on issues that have come to the fore both through their own research but also by understanding the issues that have arisen in the community and those that are the Council's priorities or are subject to Cabinet decisions.

### **3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options**

3.1 It is hoped that the format of the Annual Report will highlight to residents how the Overview and Scrutiny committees have picked relevant community issues and how Members undertook work to form recommendations that positively affected these issues.

3.2 The report will be published on the Council's website and key community groups and participants from last year's work will be made aware of its publication directly.

#### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

4.1 The report outlines the positive work that has been undertaken during 2017/18 and is being referred to Council for review in order for Members to comment on the overall Overview and Scrutiny function of Thurrock Council.

#### **5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

5.1 In accordance with Chapter 4, Part 1, Rule 7.1 of the Constitution, the annual report is submitted to Council for their consideration and comment.

5.2 Overview and Scrutiny Chairs and Members have been consulted on the contents of the report.

#### **6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact**

6.1 The positive impact of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny committees for 2017/18, in allowing residents to participate in decision making and tackling key issues of local concern, is clearly documented in the annual report.

#### **7. Implications**

##### **7.1 Financial**

Implications verified by: **Dammy Adewole**  
**Management Accountant, Central Services**

There are no direct financial implications arising out of this report. If any recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees for adoption by the Council have financial implications they are identified separately in each report.

##### **7.2 Legal**

Implications verified by: **David Lawson**  
**Assistant Director for Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer**

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report but it is good practice to produce an annual report reviewing Overview and Scrutiny activity.

### 7.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren**  
**Strategic Lead, Community Development & Equalities**

The Overview and Scrutiny function recognises the importance and role of diversity and equality issues. All work in 2017/18 sought to include sections of the community relevant to the issues being investigated. Members made every effort to engage and consult Thurrock residents when required.

### 7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

- None.

### 8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- Agenda, Reports and Minutes of meetings of Overview and Scrutiny Committees and Task and Finish Reviews, available from:

<http://democracy.thurrock.gov.uk/thurrock/>

### 9. **Appendices to the report**

- Appendix 1: Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2017/18

#### **Report Author:**

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