



Full Council

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2022-23

Date: 22 November 2023

Key decision: No

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: Relevant to all

Contributors: Director of Law and Corporate Governance (Head of Scrutiny and Policy)

Outline and recommendations

Appendix A to this report contains the Council's Overview and Scrutiny function's annual report to full Council for the municipal year 2022/23.

Full Council is recommended to note the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23.

Timeline of engagement and decision-making

The 2022/23 Chair of Overview & Scrutiny has been consulted on and contributed to, and the 2022/23 Select Committee Chairs sighted of, the report.

1. Summary

- 1.1. The report at Appendix A provides an overview of the work of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its Select Committees and task and finish groups in 2022/23.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Full Council is recommended to note the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23 at Appendix A.

3. Policy Context

- 3.1 Scrutiny's work programme has regard to the corporate strategy¹ which sets out the Council's values, priorities and focus for 2022-2026. These are categorised under the following headings:

- Cleaner and Greener
- Strong Local Economy
- Quality Housing
- Children and Young People
- Safer Communities
- Open Lewisham
- Health and Wellbeing

4. Background

- 4.1. This report provides an overview of the work of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its Select Committees and task and finish groups in 2022/23. It is customary for the overview and scrutiny function to provide such a report annually.

5. Financial implications

- 5.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

6. Legal implications

- 6.1. The Council is required by law to establish at least one overview and scrutiny committee and appoint a crime and disorder scrutiny committee to discharge prescribed functions. The Council also has statutory health scrutiny functions.
- 6.2. The Council's scrutiny functions are discharged by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and, by delegation, the select committees and task and finish groups it establishes.

7. Equalities implications

- 8.1. The Equality Act 2010 brought together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act included a new public sector equality duty, replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

¹ [Lewisham Council - Corporate strategy](#)

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- 8.2. The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

8. Climate change and environmental implications

- 8.1. There are no direct climate change or environmental implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

9. Crime and disorder implications

- 9.1. There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

10. Health and wellbeing implications

- 10.1. There are no direct health and wellbeing implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

11. Report author and contact

- 11.1. Charlotte Dale, charlotte.dale@lewisham.gov.uk, 020 8314 8286 (ext. 48286)
- 11.2. Benjamin Awkal, benjamin.awkal@lewisham.gov.uk, 020 8314 6000 (ext. 46147)

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