

DECISION-MAKER:	COUNCIL		
SUBJECT:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2008/09		
DATE OF DECISION:	13 MAY 2009		
REPORT OF:	ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (STRATEGY)		
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

None.

SUMMARY

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee is required to submit a report summarising scrutiny activities over the past twelve months to Full Council each year. The document attached at Appendix 1 is therefore submitted for information in accordance with paragraph 2.2.7 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules within the Council's current constitution.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) That the report be noted.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The report is submitted for information in line with the requirements of the constitution.

CONSULTATION

2. The report has been developed in consultation with members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

3. None, since the production of this report is a requirement set out in the Council's constitution.

DETAIL

4. The Council's Overview and Scrutiny procedure rules require an annual report to be made to the Council on Overview and Scrutiny activities. Attached at Appendix 1 is the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report covering the 2008/09 municipal year. It aims to provide a succinct summary of the main scrutiny activities and inquiries undertaken during the course of the year and outlines the significant developments for 2009/10.
5. The following examples from the 2008/9 work programme highlight the positive contribution that the work of scrutiny has made over the past twelve months in helping to improve the overall quality of life of city residents:
 - In July 2008, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

(OSMC) authorised the Healthy City Scrutiny Panel to undertake an inquiry into the South Central Strategic Health Authority's proposals to fluoridate the water supply in parts of Southampton and South West Hampshire. The detailed work and subsequent recommendation of the Scrutiny Panel to support water fluoridisation within Southampton was taken into account when Full Council determined the authority's overall response to this proposal. While there continues to be a difference of opinion on the merits of water fluoridisation, the majority view of the Scrutiny Panel was that it will have a beneficial effect on the overall health of residents, as recommended by the Director of Public Health. The implementation of this proposal should therefore have a positive impact on the dental health of residents in the city over the medium to long term.

- Scrutiny's recommendations to improve the quality and speed of Housing Adaptations that are carried out for disabled people in the city were accepted in full by the Cabinet.
- The issue of Fuel Poverty which affects substantial numbers of Southampton's residents was also the subject of a scrutiny inquiry in 2008/9. The Executive accepted the majority of the recommendations formulated by scrutiny which should have a genuine effect on the problems caused by this issue on city residents.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital

6. None.

Revenue

7. None.

Property

8. None.

Other

9. None.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

10. The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

Other Legal Implications:

11. None.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

12. None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

Non-confidential appendices are in the Members' Rooms and can be accessed on-line

1.	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2008/09

Documents In Members' Rooms

	None.

Background Documents

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

	None.	

Background documents available for inspection at: Not applicable

FORWARD PLAN No: None

KEY DECISION?

No

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None directly as a result of this year-end report.
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