

DECISION-MAKER:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:	SCRUTINY PANEL – AIR QUALITY INQUIRY FINAL REPORT		
DATE OF DECISION:	16 APRIL 2015		
REPORT OF:	CHAIR OF SCRUTINY PANEL		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY
None.

BRIEF SUMMARY

From July 2014 to March 2015 the Scrutiny Panel undertook an inquiry to develop understanding of the issues of air quality in Southampton. The final report of the Panel is attached as Appendix 1 for consideration and approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (i) to consider and approve the final report of the Scrutiny Panel, attached as Appendix 1, and forward it to the Executive for consideration and further action; and
- (ii) to delegate authority to the Chair of the Committee to approve any minor amendments arising from considerations raised at the Committee's meeting on 16 April 2015.

REASON FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In accordance with the Council's constitution, this Committee must approve the final report of a Scrutiny Inquiry and refer it to the Executive for consideration and further action.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2. None.

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

3. On 10th July 2014 the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee agreed the indicative terms of reference for an Inquiry to develop understanding of the issues of air quality in Southampton and to identify what additional steps could be taken, if necessary, to improve it. The set objectives of the Inquiry were:
 - To increase understanding of air quality issues within Southampton

- To examine the causes and impacts of air pollution
 - To understand the actions being taken to reduce air pollution in Southampton
 - Learning from best practice, to identify ways of improving air quality in the City now and for future generations.
4. Information was presented to the Panel over 7 meetings from July 2014 to March 2015. Over the course of the meetings the Panel received information from a wide variety of organisations. This included experts in public health, representatives from transport providers and key businesses in the city as well as Council officers.
 5. To ensure that resident's views were reflected in the discussions a survey canvassing views was undertaken for the inquiry. The survey received 298 responses from across the City. The number of responses received was in excess of expectations and gives a clear indication of the level of interest in air quality in Southampton.
 6. The final report contains 20 recommendations in total, summarised in Appendix 2, which if implemented the Panel believe will help improve air quality in Southampton.
 7. The recommendations are grouped under the following key themes:
 - Building on success – Ambition and vision
 - Leading by example
 - Traffic
 - Partnership Working
 - Communications
 8. A final report of the Inquiry is attached as Appendix 1. This Committee needs to consider whether the report adequately responds to the Inquiry objectives outlined in the Terms of Reference shown within the attached report.
 9. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee procedure rules within the Constitution require that within two months of the date of this committee approving a final inquiry report, the Executive will consider the report and submit a formal response to the recommendations contained within them. If this Committee is therefore minded to accept the final version of the report, then the document will be forwarded to the Executive on 21st April 2015 for further action.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

10. In practice any future resource implications arising from this review will be dependent upon whether, and how, each of the individual recommendations within the Inquiry report are progressed by the Executive. More detailed work will need to be undertaken by the Executive in considering its response to each of the recommendations set out in the Inquiry report.

Property/Other

11. None.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

12. The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.

Other Legal Implications:

13. None.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

14. The proposals contained within the appended report are in accordance with the Council's Policy Framework.

KEY DECISION? No

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None directly as a result of this report
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1.	Final Report – Air Quality Inquiry
2.	Summary of Recommendations

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None.
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Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.	
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Other Background Documents

Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)

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

1.	None.	
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