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| DECISION-MAKER: | SCRUTINY INQUIRY PANEL |
| SUBJECT: | PROTECTING, PRESERVING AND PROMOTING THE RIVER ITCHEN IN SOUTHAMPTON – INTRODUCTION, CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND |
| DATE OF DECISION: | 6 OCTOBER 2022 |
| REPORT OF: | DIRECTOR – LEGAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES |

| <u>CONTACT DETAILS</u> | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--|---------------------------|
| Executive Director | Title | Director of Legal and Business Services | |
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| STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY |
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None

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| BRIEF SUMMARY |
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In accordance with the inquiry plan, for the opening meeting of the ‘Protecting, Preserving and Promoting the River Itchen in Southampton Inquiry’ the Panel will be considering the following issues:

- Ownership and responsibilities in relation to the river
- Legislation and guidelines governing the river
- Feedback from community surveys about the River Itchen in Southampton

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| RECOMMENDATIONS: |
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| (i) | The Panel is recommended to consider the comments made by the invited guests and use the information provided as evidence in the review. |
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| REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS |
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| 1. | To enable the Panel to compile a file of evidence in order to formulate findings and recommendations at the end of the review process. |
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| ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED |
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| 2. | None. |
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| DETAIL (Including consultation carried out) |
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| 3. | For the opening meeting of the inquiry Cllr Keogh, Cabinet Member for Transport and District Regeneration, has been invited to launch the inquiry by outlining the importance of the inquiry for the city of Southampton. |
| 4. | This will be followed by a presentation from Dr David Rumble, Chief Executive Officer at Wessex Rivers Trust, an environmental charity dedicated to the |

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| | conservation of chalk streams and rivers in Wessex, working towards healthy rivers for wildlife and people. Dr Rumble will be outlining the importance of the River Itchen to Southampton. |
| 5. | Reflecting the complex nature of the ownership and oversight of the River Itchen, Sam Foulds, Flood Risk Management Team Leader at Southampton City Council, and Cara Brims, Flood Risk Officer at Southampton City Council, will outline for the Panel the relevant legislation governing the river, the environmental designations associated with the river and the organisations who are responsible for various aspects related to the management of the River Itchen in Southampton. |
| 6. | To help inform the inquiry moving forward, the final presentation will outline for the Panel findings from community surveys about the river. Rose Nicole, co-founder of Respect the River campaign and co-ordinator of Friends of Chessel Bay Nature Reserve, will provide feedback from the recent surveys undertaken by the Respect the River Campaign. This will be followed by an overview of the initial findings from the River Itchen Inquiry Survey (southampton.gov.uk) delivered by Southampton City Council's Scrutiny Manager. |
| 7. | The invited guests will take questions from the Panel relating to the evidence provided. Copies of any presentations will be made available to the Panel. |

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue/Property/Other

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| 8. | None |
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LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

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| 9. | The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000. |
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Other Legal Implications:

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| 10. | None |
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RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

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| 11. | None |
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POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

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| 12. | None |
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| KEY DECISION? | No |
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| WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED: | None |
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

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| 1. | None |
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Documents In Members' Rooms

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| 1. | None |
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| Equality Impact Assessment | | |
| Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out? | | No |
| Data Protection Impact Assessment | | |
| Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out? | | No |
| 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 | |