

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
SUBJECT:	RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY INQUIRY INTO PROTECTING, PRESERVING & PROMOTING THE RIVER ITCHEN IN SOUTHAMPTON
DATE OF DECISION:	17 OCTOBER 2023
REPORT OF:	COUNCILLOR EAMONN KEOGH CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
NOT APPLICABLE	
BRIEF SUMMARY	
This report sets out the Executive's responses to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Inquiry Panel into protecting, preserving & promoting the River Itchen in Southampton.	
RECOMMENDATIONS:	
	(i) That the Cabinet approves the responses detailed in Appendix 1 for submission to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1.	The Council constitution provides that the Executive should respond to Scrutiny inquiry recommendations.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
2.	None
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
3.	In 2022/23 a Scrutiny Inquiry Panel was formed to identify opportunities to protect, preserve and promote the River Itchen in Southampton, In partnership with stakeholders.
4.	The objectives of the Inquiry were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To identify the various different users and uses of the River Itchen in Southampton and the challenges this presents. b. To understand existing plans and opportunities to address the identified challenges. c. To identify good practice being employed to protect, preserve and promote urban rivers elsewhere.

	d. To identify what initiatives and approaches could work well in Southampton to protect, preserve and promote the River Itchen.
5.	The Scrutiny Inquiry Panel made 20 recommendations in total, structured according to the following ambitions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Management & Partnership Working • A Healthy & Resilient River • A Vibrant River • A Connected River
6.	The Executive's response to each of these recommendations is detailed in Appendix 1.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

7.	All costs in the responses for which the Council would be responsible will be contained within existing budgets.
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Property/Other

8.	None.
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LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

9.	The powers to undertake scrutiny inquiries are set out in the Local Government Act 2000 and the Health and Social Care Act 2001.
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Other Legal Implications:

10.	None.
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RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

11.	None.
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POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

12.	None.
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KEY DECISION?	Yes
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Appendix 1: Response to scrutiny inquiry recommendations.

Documents In Members' Rooms

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
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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		
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.	