

Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny 2022/2023

Report by the Scrutiny Board Chairman, Councillor Ray Gooding

Enquiries to Joanna Boaler, Head of Democracy and Transparency and Statutory Scrutiny Officer by email to joanna.boaler@essex.gov.uk

1. Purpose of the Report

To present the annual report of Overview and Scrutiny to the County Council, providing a summary of the work of the function over the period.

Alongside the annual report are two documents that have been previously agreed by the Scrutiny Board.

- Revised Procedure for dealing with Call-ins
- Revised Cabinet-Scrutiny Protocol; and

The change to the Procedure for dealing with Call-ins relates to Charing arrangements should a Call-in move from the 'informal' to 'formal' stage and is intended to prevent any potential conflict of interest, or the appearance of a conflict, in this circumstance.

With regard to the Cabinet-Scrutiny protocol the Statutory Guidance (2019) suggests that authorities give consideration to how such a protocol, or amendments to it, are adopted. The Scrutiny Board have approved the changes to the document, designed to provide clarity in respect of communication methods between Cabinet Members and Scrutiny Chairmen, and have requested that it is submitted to Full Council for awareness.

In both cases, tracked changes have been retained in the documents so that the amendments can be easily identified.

2. Recommendation

To note the attached report and documents.