



Report to the : Full Council

15 May 2025

Wards: ALL

Annual Scrutiny Report

Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

This item is not exempt
Therefore exempt reasons are not applicable

This is a non-key decision

1. **Purpose of the report and summary**

1.1 Hull City Council's five Overview and Scrutiny Commissions fulfil the Council's statutory responsibility to review and scrutinise decisions and actions taken by the Council's Executive, monitor performance of council services and contribute to policy development. Scrutiny also has various statutory functions in relation to crime and disorder, health and the environment, and works with partners to review and scrutinise these services.

1.2 This briefing brings together the individual reports presented to the Scrutiny Commissions which review the work, activity and performance of the Commissions during the past year in advance of the final report progressing to Annual Council following consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

2. **Recommendations**

2.1 That Council notes the content of the report.

3. **Reasons for Recommendations**

3.1 The report provides information on the activity of the function over the last municipal year and summarises any key

opportunities for the coming year. As the report is a factual statement of activity there is no decision to be made.

4. **Key Organisational Impacts**

4.1 **Impact on other Executive Committees (including Area Committees) and decision makers**

4.1.1 The report provides details on the activity and impacts that the Scrutiny function has had over the municipal year. The Scrutiny Commission have, throughout the year, made a number of recommendations to executive committees as detailed within the report.

4.2 **Contribution to the delivery of the Community Plan, the Council Plan and/or Area Plans:**

4.2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee have responsibility for scrutiny of the delivery of both plans and will continue to exercise this.

4.3 **Impact on other key strategies/business plans:**

4.3.1 The Scrutiny function has responsibility for oversight of key plans and where there have been specific impacts these are detailed within the report.

4.4 **Equalities impact information**

4.4.1 The report provides details on the activity and impacts that the Scrutiny function has had over the municipal year, there are therefore, no direct equalities impacts.

5. **Consultation**

5.1 Each Scrutiny Commission has considered the information provided in relation to their work and the content of this reports has been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee prior to submission to Council.

6. **Background**

6.1 Public scrutiny is an essential part of ensuring that local and national governance arrangements are effective and accountable. It offers a unique perspective (from the point of view of those receiving and using public services) on how well public services are being delivered locally and how they can be improved.

In summary Overview and Scrutiny has the following functions: -

- Policy Development and Review;
- Holding to account the Executive and the activities of some external organisations such as the NHS;
- Investigating issues of local concern, and
- Holding to account those people delivering Council services.

Overview and Scrutiny in Hull is organised in a non-party political and objective way. The overall co-ordination of Overview and Scrutiny activity in Hull is undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee. It is the role of this Committee to performance manage and monitor the work of Scrutiny, to minimise duplication of work and to ensure the best and most efficient use of resources, in addition to its responsibilities in relation to finance.

In addition to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee there are four Scrutiny Commissions, each with a specific remit. Each Scrutiny Commission has a work programme which identifies the planned key areas of work for Scrutiny during the year. In addition, Scrutiny Members undertake detailed research projects, known as 'Task & Finish Panels', ranging from issues of public concern to key strategic themes identified by the Council and its partners. Members of each Panel employ a variety of methods to obtain evidence from Cabinet Members, Council Officers, partner organisations, expert witnesses, service users and best practice from other local authorities to make effective and appropriate Scrutiny recommendations.

7. **Issues for Consideration**

The work of Overview and Scrutiny in Hull in 2023/4

7.1 Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

7.1.1 Introduction

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee has continued to take an overarching role of monitoring the delivery of the Council's Corporate Services generally, including emphasis on the Council's budgetary expenditure. Pre-decision scrutiny of areas that fall within the remit of the Committee has taken place or which have been cross-scrutiny.

7.1.2 Council Service Updates

On a monthly basis the Committee received a Director of Finance & Transformation update, where the Director advised the Committee of financial developments both locally and nationally, reflecting the impact of government policy. He has detailed the impact of national budget announcements on local government generally and on Hull specifically

and advised members what to expect within future financial monitoring reports going forward.

As a result of the change of government in July 2024 the Director has, where possible, advised of the resultant impact on local authority and residents' budgets within his updates, although many expected changes have yet to be confirmed.

Within the Revenue Monitoring report delivered to the Committee on a quarterly basis the Committee has been receiving updates on the financial position of the budget lines of Council service areas, including comments from the individual Scrutiny Commissions.

7.1.3 **Portfolio Holder Priorities**

The Commission has received reports on the priorities of the Leader, Deputy Leader, and the Portfolio Holder for Communications and Communities.

The Leader's priorities included:

- Devolution
- Cost of Living response
- Community Plan
- Place Building

The Deputy Leader's Priorities included:

- Medium Term Financial Plan and Best Value Framework.
- Council Plan and People Plan
- ERP – Workday
- Corporate Peer Challenge

The Portfolio Holder for Communications and Communities' priorities included:

- External Council Communications
- City-wide Council Engagement

The Commission's Work Programme has linked closely with the priorities of the Portfolio Holders, with items linking with the priorities featuring on meeting agenda.

7.1.4 **Work Carried Out by the Committee**

Budget Setting

The Committee held a meeting in February 2025 to consider the Council's budget for 2025-26 that was to be set by Full Council. The

proposed revenue budget, Capital Strategy, Housing Revenue Account, Medium Term Financial Plan, Treasury Management Strategy and Council Tax discounts for 2025-26 were delivered under an overview by the Leader. The Committee fully considered the reports and made recommendations to Council and Cabinet where appropriate.

Financial Monitoring

The Committee has received quarterly budget monitoring reports on the revenue budget and capital programme, the Medium Term Financial Plan and Treasury Management.

The revenue budget reports included appendices summarising the expenditure on budget lines that fell within the remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions. This supported the OSMC to carry out its function of monitoring the work of the Scrutiny Commissions. The monitoring highlighted financial pressures within service areas, and members considered mitigating action being taken.

The annual 2023/24 Provisional Financial Outturn, and Treasury Management - Annual Review Report 2023/24, enabled the Committee to consider the authority's financial movement and Treasury Management activity retrospectively.

Devolution

The devolution agenda has progressed throughout the year, with two decision-making reports presented to the Committee for pre-decision scrutiny. At the beginning of 2024/25 the Granting Consent for the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority Order report was considered by the Committee and recommendations and comments were made to Cabinet.

In February 2025 the Committee considered the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority Governance Arrangements report prior to it being submitted at the inaugural meeting of the Combined Authority. The Committee made many recommendations on how the governance should be changed or improved, and these fed into the report to the Combined Authority and contributed to shaping the arrangements.

Council Plan and Community Plan

The Council Plan was presented to the Committee prior to it being approved by Cabinet. This Council Plan sets out Hull City Council's overall priorities and vision, showing how the Council and its services will contribute to the success of Hull's Community Plan: Together We Can. As the overarching scrutiny body, its delivery and reviews will be monitored by this Committee going forward. Following a request by the Committee officers also presented a Performance Framework,

demonstrating the Council Plan and the contribution it will make to not only the partnership led Hull Community Plan, but also to the wider Council priorities.

7.1.5 Pre-Decision Scrutiny

The Committee has carried out pre-decision scrutiny on the below decisions, formulating comments and recommendations for consideration as part of the decision-making process. The majority of reports supported decisions to be made by Cabinet, but others supported decisions to be taken via Decision Record, by the Executive Commissioning Committee, and by the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority. In addition, pre-decision scrutiny has been carried out on reports that were taken for decision to the Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership.

Many reports related to specific financial issues and procurement issues. Others related to cross-Scrutiny and City-wide decisions:

- Proposed Scheme for 52A to 54 Beverley Road
- Hull Lane Rental Scheme (LRS) – Proposal
- Household Support Fund 24-25
- Bus Service Improvement Plan
- Replacement of Mobile Phones and Tablet Devices
- Hull District Heat Network
- Salix Funding - Decarbonisation of Buildings
- Costello Track Replacement
- 2023/24 Provisional Financial Outturn
- Provision of a Downstream Postal Supplier
- Internal Audit Service Delivery Model Proposal
- Council Plan
- Household Support Fund 24/25 Update (part 2 - 1st October 2024 – 31st March 2025)
- MHCLG Community Recovery Fund – Leader’s Decision
- Procurement of Marketing Design Frameworks
- Tender for General Building Works, Improvements and Repairs to Council Owned Housing Stock
- Land and Property Disposals Programme 2024-27
- Car Park Investment Works – Leader’s Decision
- HEY In year Capital Projects – Hull and East Riding Unitary Leaders Board
- Council Tax Base Report 2024/25
- Centre for Learning (formerly Derek Crothall Building) Charlotte Street Mews
- Supply of Civil Engineering Products
- Corporate Maintenance Strategy
- Hull Culture and Leisure Ltd – 6 Month Update
- Hull Culture & Leisure (HCAL) Business Plan: 2025-30

- KWL – Business Plan
- Engineering & Regeneration Professional Services Framework. Re-Tender.
- Refurbishment of Treasury Building, Guildhall Road
- Better Care Fund Plan 2025-2026
- Community Growing Spaces (Right to Grow) T&F Final Report

7.1.6 **Additional Reporting**

Some reports and briefings did not fall within the pre-decision category. These included reports for information, which supported the monitoring of delivery or were useful for the information of residents via members:

- Procure To Pay (Accounts Payable)
- Household Support Fund – Quarterly Update on Distribution of Funds
- Outcomes of the Disability Equality Task and Finish

In addition, the Committee has received Referral Reports that have detailed referrals from Scrutiny Commissions, Area Committees and Full Council that included issues that the other Committees and Commissions wished to be considered within alternate fora. The Committee has made decisions on the best way for these referrals to be progressed to ensure that issues are suitably addressed. As a result, a series of informal meetings are to be held with a group of Councillors in relation to inequalities, and plans are in place for a request for a Mental Health Task and Finish Panel to be progressed in either a formal or informal format through the Health and Social Well-Being OSC once additional information has been sourced.

7.1.7 **Future Work Programme**

At the beginning of the new Municipal Year the Committee will start to shape and develop its work programme for 2025/26, focusing on priority areas. However, it is anticipated that the Committee will continue to receive the quarterly revenue, capital and MTFP monitoring reports that are taken to Cabinet. These regular updates inform the Commission of work taking place and the budgetary position, and information can be used to further populate the Work Programme. Similarly, the Committee will hold its annual budget meeting before the 2026/27 budget is agreed by Full Council.

It is anticipated that the Committee will consider a number of pre-decision reports as the remit of the Committee is far reaching, as well as being cross-Commission, so formal reports are often presented at its meetings in preference to the OSCs.

Items will be included on the future work programme that will enable the monitoring of the delivery of Council services and delivery partners.

Relevant Portfolio Holders will inform the Committee of their priorities, which will further help shape the Committee's work.

7.2 **Children, Young People, Families & Learning Overview and Scrutiny Commission**

7.2.1 **Introduction**

The Commission have continued to scrutinise areas of council services and those services delivered by partners within its remit during the municipal year including children's safeguarding; learning and skills; performance and quality; early help and prevention, and children & young people's health.

Alongside the regular monitoring reports, a continued focus has also been placed on the inspection of the local authorities' children's services for which Hull has now received a grading of requires improvement to be good following an Ofsted inspection undertaken November 2022. As inspections are undertaken every three years plus or minus 6 months, a further inspection is due.

Following the changes agreed at Council in May 2023 which provided the Commissions with additional flexibility in terms of holding formal meetings, the Commission have undertaken a total of five informal workshop sessions (detailed below). All ten of the Commission's meetings considered formal items.

7.2.2 **Directorate Updates**

The Corporate Director continues to provide regular updates to the Commission allowing for most recent and up to date information being shared with a particular focus on improvement activity and a snapshot of current initiatives. This provides an opportunity for the Commission to raise any issues of concern/queries with the Corporate Director on all aspects of service delivery and strategic direction. Requests for further in-depth reports/informal sessions are often a result of these briefings which in turn form some of the areas of focus as described below.

7.2.3 **Portfolio Holder Priorities**

The Commission received a report on the priorities of the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services and the Portfolio Holder for Youth Services for 2024-25.

Priorities of the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services included: child friendly city; a refreshed Children and Young People's Plan; Voice and Influence; Grant Funding; Children Looked After; Children's Homes; Care Leavers; Corporate Parenting; SEND; Education Provision; Attendance, Wraparound Childcare; Music Service; Workforce, and Partnerships.

Priorities of the Portfolio Holder for Youth Services were themed under the heading of Youth Services and Youth Justice and included actions to meet the city's duty to secure access to sufficient educational and recreational leisure time activities and twelve defined priorities linked to the refreshed Youth Justice Plan.

The Commission's Work programme has linked closely to the priorities of the Portfolio Holders with priorities featuring in discussion topics within the Commissions work programme

7.2.4 **Topic Areas**

Budget Monitoring

The Commission continues to receive regular budget updates as part of the Council's wider budget monitoring framework. The continued focus for the Commission had been around the costs associated with Home to School Transport and the overspend in Children's Homes. The Commission will continue to monitor work being undertaken to mitigate the increasing costs however also noted that the use of external placements was reducing which was positive in terms of keeping our children within the city.

Performance Monitoring

The Commission receives quarterly performance reports to enable them to monitor progress in relation to a number of measures. Areas of performance challenged/noted by the Commission included housing for young people; school attendance; increases in Education Health Care Plans and Special Educational Needs caseloads; education, children and young people not in education employment or training including opportunities for care leavers.

SEND Partnership Improvement Plan

The Commission considered the Local Area Partnership SEND Improvement Plan which provided assurance of the greater oversight of the SEND Board and improvements made in terms of co-production.

Hull Youth Justice Pilot Inspection Outcomes

The Commission received an update detailing the outcomes from a pilot inspection undertaken within the Youth Justice Service. The pilot was undertaken as a consequence of HMIP introducing a new inspection framework. The members noted the positive outcomes.

SEND Self Evaluation Framework

The Commission received a report detailing the services SEND Evaluation Framework which set out an evaluation of services and how partners were delivering their statutory responsibilities.

ReFRESH Update

An update was delivered to the Commission in relation to developments in delivery of the ReFRESH service. Members focus was on preventative work and outreach into the community.

Youth Services in Hull

Update specifically requested by the commission provided an outline of current youth service provision. Further work will be undertaken on youth services in the coming municipal year in line with the forthcoming National Youth Strategy.

Young People's Disability Services

The update was identified by members as this service area had not featured on the Commission's work programme for some time. Important updates around service provision and the imminent move of premises from Bellfield House to Lil Bilocca House which provided the ability to increase access to a range of services for children with disabilities and their families. Members welcomed this development.

Grant Funding Update for Children's Services as part of the Council's budget setting.

There was uncertainty around grant funding due to the change in central government and the Commission requested a specific update to inform of progress alongside the Council's budget setting process. The majority of grant funding would continue however the Commission sought and gained assurance that for those grants which were due to come to an

end that service provision would continue by maintaining and incorporating the work throughout the wider team.

Bright Spots Survey Launch

An update was provided in relation to the launch of the Bright Spots Survey which is aimed at our children looked after between the age of 4 to 17 years. The survey asks children and young people what is important to them and help inform service delivery. The Commission will receive a further update on the findings in the new municipal year.

First 1001 Days & Infant Feeding Strategy

Progress in relation to the work being undertaken on the First 1001 Days and Infant Feeding Strategy was received, providing details of the multi-agency work taking place to support children and families at this critical stage in a child's development.

Thrive Model - Update on Progress

An update was provided on the work undertaken through the Thrive Hull Partnership against the six strategic priorities and the co-production of work with young people and their families. The Commission sought assurance of implementation of support within schools.

Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO) Complaint

The Commission will receive details of a specific action plan for its approach to members of families it is working with who are victims of domestic abuse. This was a direction from the LGSCO following their investigation into a complaint. As this will be delivered to the Commission's April meeting outcomes of discussions are unknown at the time of writing.

7.2.5 Pre-Decision Scrutiny

The Commission has carried out pre-decision scrutiny on the following executive decisions, formulating comments and recommendations for consideration as part of the decision-making process.

- Hull Youth Justice Plan
- Interim Tuition Framework
- Hull Music Service - Lead Partner for the New Humber Music Hub
- SEND Outreach Services
- Alternative Provision - Compass

7.2.6 Annual Reports

The Commission have considered the following annual reports:

- Hull Music Service
- Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) Update (Annual)
- Year 11 Destinations 2023
- Level 2&3 Achievements by age 19
- Complaints Annual Report
- Hull Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report
- Private Fostering Annual Report
- LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer Annual Report)
- Corporate Parenting Panel Annual Report

7.2.7 Informal Workshops/Visits

Over the municipal year the Commission have undertaken the following informal workshop sessions/visits designed to build knowledge and further understanding of operational service delivery:

- Work Programme Development Session. Commission considered and agreed the format and content for meetings within the municipal year.
- Performance and Budget Monitoring Combined (Annual Review). Commission reviewed content of performance and budget reports - increased understanding and highlighted priority areas for future reports/informal workshop sessions.
- VEMT (Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing & Trafficked). Review of current activity and data within the team and for the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Meetings.
- Home to School Transport. Application process, criteria and thresholds explained along with current demand and actions being undertaken to mitigate increasing costs.
- School Sufficiency Planning

7.2.8 Future Work Programme

The Commission will start to shape and develop its work programme for 2024/25 focusing on priority areas and standard items such as performance

and budget monitoring. The Commission have already identified Children and Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training as an area of focus due to the increasing numbers in the city.

7.3 **Young People's Scrutiny Engagement Group**

7.3.1 **Introduction**

To widen the engagement and reach of young people across council services and create further opportunities for young people to influence decision making, an informal group was established solely for young people to meet once a month, along with nominated elected members representing each of the scrutiny commissions to consider and scrutinise areas of interest selected by young people. The Young People Scrutiny Engagement Group has been operational since June 2024.

To further widen the reach, quarterly meetings were assigned solely for care leaver young people (Action 4 Us) which has been operational since February 2025.

A total of 9 meetings were held over the period June 2024 – April 2025.

7.3.2 **Topic Areas**

June 2024 – Introductory Meeting

June's meeting was held as an introductory meeting. The young people met to agree a terms of reference and discuss possible areas of interest for discussion at their meeting to be held in July. The young people also agreed that they would like to Chair their own meetings and elected a Chair and Deputy Chair.

July 2024 – Learning & Skills (Post-16, NEET & Attainment of Level 2 & 3)

The topics discussed at this meeting were around the Learning & Skills suite of reports in relation to Post-16 Attainment of Level 2 and Level 3 by the age of 19; the Target Period NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training), and Year 11 Destinations.

In relation to the Post-16 Attainment, the young people explored whether the service shared experiences with statistical neighbours to gain best practice and the reasons Hull were performing below comparators. The young people also sought clarification that young people's views, rather than statistics were also gathered to provide a feel for what young

people were telling us in terms of their needs. Attainment and support provided within school was also an area of exploration for the young people to further understand the reasons why some young people were not attaining post-16.

Young people were provided with examples of meetings with statistical neighbours, and considered the reasons why Hull were performing below statistical neighbours which was around the economic climate and areas of deprivation. Feedback from service users was showing that some young people were facing mental health challenges; the rolling programmes to start during the academic year and entry level 1 were limited; some were struggling financially or with housing and the careers guidance and advice needed to be better.

The Target Period NEET Report highlighted the concerns of young people in terms of the sufficiency and suitability of options available for young people when they leave school including support available within schools for pupils approaching post-16 and addressing stereotypes in the city to encourage ambition amongst young people.

The young people were advised of the Log On Move On website which promoted post-16 provision available for young people locally and there was a rich mix of provision in Hull. The service also agreed to produce and share more local case studies for future reports which the young people considered would aid understanding.

Young people focused their discussions on the data for Year 11 Destinations and understanding the reasons why the majority of young people were opting for sixth form education. Hull also had higher numbers of young people accessing apprenticeships compared with other areas in England.

September 2024 – Hull Food Strategy

The theme for the September meeting was the Hull Food Strategy.

The young people were provided with the opportunity to showcase their Food & Solutions App which they had developed to be available within all Hull Schools. The app mapped organisations and support available in Hull to alleviate food poverty and reduce isolation.

Discussions in relation to the Hull Food Strategy focused on education in schools and within communities in terms of health eating; provision of quality and nutritional foods within public provision such as schools and hospitals and opportunities for people to grow their own food.

The young people were advised that efforts were being made to influence policy changes at a national level in terms of school meals including concerns in relation to the influence of school meals on children and young people's relationship with food. There was also recognition of the work to do in relation to growing healthy and nutritious food to be included within school curriculum.

October 2024 – A Mentally Healthy Hull & ReFRESH

The topics chosen for the October meeting were A Mentally Healthy Hull Strategy and ReFRESH.

The young people questioned the goals set out within the Mentally Healthy Hull Strategy and how they would be achieved, also considering how the strategy would be promoted. Mental health support within schools was also a focus for the young people.

The young people heard that implementation of the strategy would be ongoing with regular reviews undertaken and there would also be an implementation plan taking a citywide partnership approach. Promotion of the strategy would include an article on the Council's website alongside social media and community groups would also form part of promotion. In relation to mental health support within schools, there were a number of initiatives currently being implemented to ensure a whole school approach was being undertaken to mental health and wellbeing. Details of the Thrive Directory (range of services to support mental health of children and young people) was also shared with the young people along with ambitions for Hull to become a Trauma informed city.

The young people raised queries around the ReFRESH service and engagement with primary schools and secondary schools, asking questions to better understand the services and support available through ReFRESH and also focusing on support to prevent the take up of vaping amongst children and young people.

Responses included more detail on the work was being undertaken within primary schools which would continue with the 0-19 service (school nurses) however providing direct service support to primary aged children would be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Peer-pressure was amongst the reasons for young people to take up vaping which was a topic covered in the sessions delivered by the service to schools and also included positive coping mechanisms and using motivational skills to promote change.

December 2024 – Youth Provision in Hull

The December meeting focused solely on youth provision in Hull.

Promotion of youth services, particularly within schools was a big concern for the young people and they suggested that it would be beneficial for young people to be involved in creating the publicity material. Schools were also suggested as the best place for advertising provision.

The young people were advised in relation to the current promotional tools being used and work to be undertaken with the Communications and Marketing Team to develop engagement with those young people not attending services. The young people's suggestion of advertising in schools would also be considered further.

January 2025 – Community Safety

The young people considered the topic of community safety for their January meeting. Discussions ranged from streetlights to Hate Crime campaigns and police responses/visibility with a large focus also placed on domestic abuse.

The young people were advised on the implementation of the Street Safe Application which would collate responses from residents in relation to how safe people feel their neighbourhoods and would enable actions to be directed to the areas people feel less safe.

Various campaigns being planned through the Community Safety Partnership which would also be delivered within schools were discussed and the young people provided advice on the use of social media to target young people.

In relation to the young people's query around police patrols, additional patrol funding had now been awarded which would increase visibility of foot patrols. In terms of updating the community on issues/incidents, the My Community App was shared with the young people.

Discussions also took place in relation to domestic abuse and the White Ribbon Campaign, how this was being promoted in schools and the support available for victims of domestic abuse. Work was now being undertaken with the young people to become White Ribbon Champions.

February 2025 – Introduction to YP Scrutiny Engagement Group (Action 4 Us) Care Leavers

February saw the introduction of the Young People Scrutiny Engagement Group for Care Leavers. Representatives of the Action 4 Us group met to consider activity within the YP Scrutiny Engagement

Group so far, agreeing their own terms of reference, and setting a work programme or future meetings.

The young people identified three areas of interest for their future meetings being Council Tax Exemption; Freedom Passes and Protected Characteristics.

March 2025 – Director of Public Health Annual Report

The Director of Public Health report focused on Women’s Health was the young people’s focus area for their March meeting.

The young people were keen to understand the data in relation to the Women in Numbers Section; how Hull compared with national data; actions being taken in terms of stigma for sex workers; access to support and poor mental health amongst teenage girls were the areas of focus for the young people.

Young people noted that menopause and menstruation did not feature in the report and whilst impacts were recognised the young people received feedback that the report was more focused on groups of women who were often hidden or excluded. Reducing stigma related to sex workers was also featured in the report to raise awareness and work was being undertaken with the lived experience group. Details of the Thrive Partnership were also shared in response to mental health support for young girls and the range of support available for women was also outlined.

The young people identified additional questions in relation to the report which would be revisited at a future meeting in more detail.

April 2025 – Looking Back and Forward Planning

The April meeting provided an opportunity for the young people to consider their achievements over the municipal year and begin to discuss and plan ahead for their next round of meetings.

7.3.3 Outcomes

The tangible outcomes of the meetings are summarised below. Where specific follow up actions had not been identified, outcomes can be defined as increasing knowledge and understanding amongst the young people.

Topic	Action	Outcome
	General Promotion - That the Communications and	TBC

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<p>Youth Services in Hull</p>	<p>Marketing Officer for the service work with young people to develop and design promotional material to further enhance awareness of youth services. Consideration could also be given to targeted promotion to be undertaken for those activities which were not as well attended.</p>	
	<p>Calendar of Events/Activities for Promotion within Schools –To be taken forward in consultation with the schools. The use of screens in schools was suggested and supported as a good idea by the young people. The use of a QR code was supported however the young people raised the issue that a lot of schools did not allow mobile phones, and this may be a potential barrier. Schools providing information to parents was suggested as a good method of promotion.</p>	<p>TBC</p>
	<p>Posters for display at Bus Stops – This is to be taken forward as part of the promotional plan (see general promotion).</p>	<p>TBC</p>
<p>Community Safety</p>	<p>That consideration be given to providing a link to a website for the Street Safe application to increase accessibility and that young people champion use of the Streetsafe App to spread awareness.</p>	<p>We are currently looking at street signs with a weblink and a QR code. This is a piece of work for roll out next financial year with support from the OPCC</p>
	<p>That feedback from young people be used to</p>	<p>Once the next years safer hull</p>

	inform conversations about how better these events and campaigns could be promoted with the use of appropriate social media which would be accessed by young people. This would make content more interesting and attractive to young people to encourage their views and engagement.	communications plan has been agreed we would like to bring this back to young person's scrutiny to seek ideas and guidance around the most appropriate SM platforms.
	That feedback in terms of visibility of Police Community Support Officers in schools to be provided to the Neighbourhood Policing Teams and that young people be encouraged to find out who their officers are for their schools to build relationships.	This has been communicated to Humberside Police. The current safer schools offer is under revision and the comments made by the young person's scrutiny panel will feed into this.
	That feedback from young people in relation to promotion of the 'My Community Alert' be taken on board and that young people be encouraged to sign up to the 'My Community Alert' which provided information from one trusted source.	This has been communicated to Humberside Police. The current safer schools offer is under revision and the comments made by the young person's scrutiny panel will feed into this.
	That the young people be encouraged to become White Ribbon Champions and further promote the Campaign within their schools to increase engagement.	Meetings are taking place to discuss opportunities for young people to become White Ribbon Champions.

7.3.4 Future Meetings

Meetings of the Young People Scrutiny Engagement Group will follow the same monthly meeting schedule as the Council's Scrutiny Commissions. Quarterly meetings will be dedicated to the Young People Scrutiny Engagement Group (Action 4 Us) Care Leavers.

7.4 Communities Overview and Scrutiny Commission

7.4.1 **Introduction**

The Commission have continued to scrutinise areas of council services and those services delivered by partners within its remit during the municipal year including Neighbourhoods & Housing; Community Safety & Community Cohesion; Integrated Offender Management; Streetscene; Public Protection; Customer Services, and Leisure Services & Libraries.

During the year the Commission have undertaken a total of four informal workshop sessions (detailed below), one workshop session was combined with a formal meeting and three sessions were standalone workshops outside of the meeting schedule.

7.4.2 **Directorate Updates**

The Assistant Directors (Neighbourhoods & Housing; Streetscene, and Citysafe), and the Head of Customer Services and Head of Public Protection continue to provide updates to the Commission allowing for most recent and up to date information being shared with a particular focus on improvement activity and a snapshot of current initiatives. This provides an opportunity for the Commission to raise any issues of concern/queries with the Assistant Directors/Head of Service on all aspects of service delivery and strategic direction. Requests for further in-depth reports/informal sessions are often a result of these briefings which in turn form some of the areas of focus as described below.

7.4.3 **Portfolio Holder Priorities**

The Commission received reports on the priorities of the Portfolio Holder for Culture & Leisure; the Portfolio Holder for Environment; the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration & Housing and the Portfolio Holder for Communications and Communities, and the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety.

The Portfolio Holder for Culture & Leisure priorities included: Libraries (increasing footfall and electronic engagement); Engaging people of Hull in physical activity; Leisure Facilities, and Diversity.

The Portfolio Holder for Regeneration & Housing priorities included: Focus on addressing issues of self-referral to the Social Housing Regulator; oversee a new and more cost-effective way to provide temporary housing; build more council houses, and lobby for more appropriate government funding settlement for social housing.

The Portfolio Holder for Environment priorities included: Greener neighbourhoods; cleaner neighbourhoods; improving recycling in Hull and tackling illicit tobacco in Hull.

The Portfolio Holder for Communications and Communities priorities included: making Area Committees a good strategic decision making body; supporting the implementation of community schemes; tackling the challenges within communities; reducing call centre waiting times; development of a community based face to face provision; increasing the partnership working with the third sector and understand local needs; supporting the Legacy victims and the city's response; to protect income for registration and bereavement services, and promotion of more choice for bereaved residents.

The Portfolio Holder for Community Safety priorities included: Domestic Abuse; Anti-social behaviour; organised crime; hate crime and encouraging use of the Crime Prevention Fund.

The Commission's Work programme has linked closely to the priorities of the Portfolio Holders with many of the priorities featuring within the Commissions work programme.

7.4.4 **Topic Areas**

Budget Monitoring

The Commission continues to receive regular budget updates for Legal Services & Partnerships General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account as part of the Council's wider budget monitoring framework.

Performance Monitoring

Performance Monitoring is included within the Assistant Director/Head of Service updates.

- The Neighbourhoods and Housing updates were delivered quarterly and detail was themed around: Progress against the Business Plan and compliance; focussing on customer experience; putting residents first and meeting their needs; addressing the challenges of safety, sustainability and climate change; the role in strengthening Hull's neighbourhoods and communities; investing in modernisation and organisational development; regulatory compliance; preparedness for forthcoming legislative changes; overall financial health, and management of strategic risks.

- The Streetscene annual update included: the Streetscene Management Structure from February 2025 onwards, and strategic direction in terms of the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs; the Department for Transport and the Community Plan and Council Plan.
- Customer Service annual update included: Contact Centre performance; digital inclusion; delivering advice in the community through the Community Hubs and other advice initiatives. An update on bereavement services was covered within a separate paper (see paragraph 4.9).
- Public Protection annual update included key achievements covering each of the regulatory areas being Licensing' Environmental Regulation, Food and Health and Safety, and Trading Standards.

Food Service Plan

The Annual Food Service Plan was presented to the Commission as part of the requirements as set out by the Foods Standards Agency. The report covered key achievements against the targets for food safety. The Commission recognised the positive work being undertaken within the service and focused their discussions on work being undertaken to address capacity.

Hull Culture & Leisure (HCAL) Annual Report.

The Commission received the HCAL Annual Report which provided details of the range of services provided by HCAL during 2023/2024. The breadth of services provided were appreciated by members with promotion of services and activities being the focus of discussions.

Construction Hours & Noise Nuisance

A briefing in relation to construction hours and noise nuisance was requested by the Commission due to concerns raised in relation to noise nuisance from construction works during unsociable hours. The report set out current practice in relation to construction control and potential next steps. The Commission referred the issue to the Planning Committee for further consideration with a view to implementing a standard 8am start time.

As a result, the Planning Committee subsequently agreed the following:

That the standard condition for Construction Management Plans is amended in line with Option 4 detailed in the report, so that it reads:

“No development shall commence until a Construction Management Plan giving details of demolition and construction methods (including the methods and hours of piling), and measures to minimise the emission of noise, vibration and dust from the site have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and shall be carried out in accordance with those approved details. Demolition/Construction works that are audible at the boundary of the site shall not take place outside [(a) 07.30 (b) 08.00] to 19.30 hours on Monday to Fridays, 08.00 to 12.30 hours on Saturdays nor at any time on Sundays or Bank and National Holidays, unless agreed in advance by the LPA in writing. No open burning of any waste material shall be permitted within the site, except for the burning solely for the control of dry rot, for which prior permission from the Environmental Regulation department is required. A precommencement condition is required in the interests of amenity and to comply with Local Plan policies 47 and 49.”

Neighbourhood Policing

Superintendent Andrews of Humberside Police provided an update to members in relation to Neighbourhood Policing covering the four geographical areas in the city. discussions were focused on the increase in Police Community Support Officers; activity to encourage members of the community to report crimes/anti-social behaviour and the recent city centre disorder.

Violent Crime

Superintendent Weeks of Humberside Police provided an update on Violence Crime in the city, accompanied by the Violence Prevention Officer. Statistics in relation to violent crime were shared with the Commission with reductions noted. Resulting discussions focused on the Pubwatch and the Ask4Angela scheme and how businesses were encouraged to sign up and the work being undertaken in relation to street drinkers/beggars.

Private Housing Enforcement Activity and Support Provided to Private Tenants

A specific update was requested by the Commission in relation to private housing enforcement activity. The Commission focused discussions on support provided to refugees and asylum seekers and students living in private rented accommodation. There was also a focus on the potential reinvigoration of the Landlords Accreditation Scheme. The Commission agreed to receive a further update at a future meeting.

Bereavement Services

This standalone update was requested by the Commission considering the budget pressures related to bereavement services. Members discussed potential income generating measures such as green and pet cremations and a cafeteria space at the crematorium. There would also be an increased marketing campaign for bereavement services.

Modern Slavery (Adults)

The Commission receive an annual update in relation to Modern Slavery which provided details of the multi-agency work being undertaken, the National Referral Mechanism and the Humber Strategy. Members would be consulted on the Modern Slavery Statement being developed.

Probation Service Update and MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) Annual Report

The Head of Probation Service provided the Commission with the MAPPA Annual Report and a general update on the Probation Service. The Commission focused their discussions on concerns in relation to accommodation provision for those being released from prison.

Allotments (provision within the city and any future development)

An update on allotment provision was specifically requested by the Commission. The update included details of the locations of allotments in the city, and ward location and numbers of the waiting lists. The Commission also heard that a new allotment provision was being developed for Kingswood. The allotment tenancy agreement was also being revised, and the Commission supported the restrictions being placed on plots for 2 x ½ plots per person which would help to alleviate excess demand.

Open Space Strategy

Progress in terms of implantation of the Open Space Strategy was provided to the Commission which was now progressing through to Cabinet for endorsement following consultation with Area Committees. Additions in relation to the Council's Right to Grow Scheme and the ecological assessments for key open space within the city centre to meet biodiversity net gain requirements were also discussed.

Purchase of Affordable Rented Homes & Housing Growth Plan

A review item was placed on the agenda in relation to the purchase of affordable homes through the provision of delegations as a result of approval of the Housing Growth Plan following a request from members. The Commission received assurances that the purchases offered value for money. Members also considered policies in terms of right to buy and allocations for these newly acquired properties.

Humberside Fire & Rescue Service - Community Risk Management Plan

The Commission will hear from the Humberside Fire & Rescue Service for the first time at their meeting in April to report on the Community Risk Management Plan.

7.4.5 Pre-Decision Scrutiny

The Commission has carried out pre-decision scrutiny on the following executive decisions, formulating comments and recommendations for consideration as part of the decision-making process.

- Tenancy Policy for Larger Properties
- Office of Product Safety and Standards Grant
- Housing Strategy
- Temporary Accommodation Acquisitions Programme
- Beverley Road Calders Stock Appraisal: Consultation Results and Next Steps
- Cumulative Impact Assessment
- Procurement of Cloud Software as a Service Solution for the Council's Planning, Development and Building Control, Property Gazeteer and Land Charges Requirements
- Boiler, Servicing and Maintenance Repairs - High Rise Blocks
- Controlled Entry Maintenance & Repairs - High Rise Blocks

- Thornton Court Concierge
- Housing Growth Plan
- Warm Homes: Local Grant and procurement of energy efficiency retrofit works to private sector properties
- Contaminated Land Policy
- Community Navigation and Citizens Advice Generalist Advice Services
- Public Spaces Protection Order - North/South/West
- Appointment of Supplier for Visual Stock Condition Surveys
- Rossett House Properties Proposals
- Waste Collection Options
- Temporary Accommodation Purchase

7.4.6 Informal Workshop Sessions

There has been a total of four informal workshop sessions held as follows:

- Work Programme Development
- Housing Strategy/Performance Monitoring
- Domestic Abuse
- Community Safety

7.4.7 Stakeholder Engagement

Meetings of the Commission are attended by the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Tenants' Forum to update the Commission on a quarterly basis in terms of the work of the Tenants' Forum and wider involvement. The reporting process also provides an opportunity for the Tenants' Forum to highlight any areas of concern which the Commission may wish to consider further as part of their future work programme.

7.4.8 Future Work Programme

The Commission will start to shape and develop its work programme for 2025/26 focusing on priority areas.

7.5 Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Commission

7.5.1 Introduction

Where possible, the Commission has sought to theme its meetings around key topic areas, with a view to taking a holistic approach to the scrutiny process. While there is the facility to hold informal workshops

(rather than formal meetings), the regular flow of key decisions means the Commission has continued to meet on a formal basis, combining pre-decision scrutiny with themed agenda items.

7.5.2 **Portfolio Holder Priorities**

The Commission received updates from the following Portfolio Holders:

1. The Leader of the Council
2. The Portfolio Holder for Environment
3. The Portfolio Holder for Transportation, Roads and Highways
4. The Portfolio Holder for Culture and Leisure
5. The Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Housing

7.5.3 **Topic Areas**

The Commission focused on a range of topic areas during the course of the Municipal year. They included:

- City Centre and Visitor Economy
- Climate Change and Sustainability
- Young Entrepreneurs and Youth Enterprise
- Bus Transport and Bus Services Improvement Plan

Climate Change and Sustainability - University of Hull

As part of the focus on climate change and sustainability the University of Hull kindly hosted a meeting on campus. The Portfolio Holder for the Environment outlined his priorities for the year ahead, and the Commission received an update on the research the University was undertaking in regard to sustainable drainage systems. It included a tour of the campus to see where systems had been installed, how they operated, performance to date, and how they might be utilised in an urban environment to help combat the impact of climate change. An update on the work of the Living with Water Partnership is planned for summer 2025.

Culture, Place and City Centre Annual Review

Responsibility for scrutinising culture transferred to the Commission in 2024/25. As part of that process the Commission received the first incarnation of the Culture, Place and City Centre Annual Review, with a view to scrutinising performance and forward planning at a strategic level. Key cultural partners (Hull Truck, Freedom, Absolutely Cultured, Back to Ours, Middle Child) attended the meeting and outlined the work they had undertaken over the last 12 months and their plans for the future. The Commission outlined its desire to see more support for community based events, and a report is due to come back to the Commission in April 2025.

Traffic Warden beat review and virtual permits

The Commission requested an update on the traffic warden beat review and virtual permits on the back of a referral from full Council. The Commission raised some concerns in response to the proposed changes, particularly in relation to the virtual permit scheme, and recommended that the information be shared with all Members through the Area Committee system. The Commission also asked for a 12 month performance update to ensure the changes to the traffic warden beats, and the virtual permit scheme, are delivering the expected improvements, and any challenges presented by the new system are being addressed.

7.5.4 Directorate Updates

The Commission continued to receive Assistant Director Updates over the course of the year. The presentations update Members on the latest economic outlook and provide updates on key workstreams.

7.5.5 Pre-Decision Scrutiny

The Commission carried out pre-decision scrutiny on the following executive decisions, formulating comments and recommendations for consideration by the Executive and the Combined Authority.

1. Middlesex Road Highway Improvement Scheme
2. Key Route Network (Combined Authority)
3. Culture and Heritage Strategy 2025-2030
4. Drypool Bridge
5. Local Plan Review
6. East Bank Acquisitions
7. Albion Square Development
8. Bus Service Improvement Bus Grant 2025-26
9. Skills Bootcamp Wave 6 (New)

7.5.6 Future Work Programme

The Commission has already started to shape its work programme for 2024/25, focusing on priority areas, while fulfilling its duties in regard to pre-decision scrutiny and budget monitoring. Proposed items include:

- Hull Climate Change and Nature Strategy
- Humber Freeport Investment Plan
- Rail Services Update
- Living with Water

- City Centre Car Parking Strategy Development
- National Highways Update
- Albion Square Development
- Hull Culture and Heritage Strategy 2025-2030 – Annual Performance and Partnership Update
- Traffic Warden Beats and Virtual Permits - Performance Update
- City Centre and Visitor Destination Annual Update
- Skills Bootcamps - Wave 6 Performance Update
- The Student Offer and Local Economy

7.6 **Health and Social Well Being Overview and Scrutiny Commission**

7.6.1 **Introduction**

The Overview and Scrutiny Commission has continued to scrutinise areas of council services, and those services delivered by partners within its remit during the municipal year. The Commission has monitored delivery by the council's own Adult Social Care and Public Health service areas, as well as that of the Integrated Care Board, NHS partners, and independent partners, such as the Yorkshire Ambulance Service. The Commission has fed into local consultation and has received in-depth updates on commissioned services such as mental health support in the City. In addition, the Commission has monitored the financing of health services in the City, and specifically the financial position of the Council's services.

7.6.2 **Council Service and Partner Updates**

The Scrutiny Commission received monthly updates from the Council's own services and from those of partners. The Integrated Care Board and System, the Council's Adult Social Care service and the Council's Public Health service have delivered presentations to update the Commission on any key policy, strategy, commissioning, performance or service delivery issues that fell within the remit of the Commission. As a result of these updates Commission members requested that additional items be included on future agenda.

7.6.3 **Portfolio Holder Priorities**

In October 2024 the Commission received a report on the priorities of Councillor Chambers, the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services and Public Health.

The Portfolio Holder advised that her priorities had not changed from those of 2023/24, although these had been progressed in the intervening year and new strategies would tie in with the Community Plan:

- 1) Learning Disability and Autism
- 2) Carers and People Needing Care

- 3) Co-production
- 4) Mental Health
- 5) Reducing Tobacco Harm
- 6) Physical Activity

The Commission's Work Programme has linked closely with the priorities of the Portfolio Holder, with the priorities featuring on meeting agenda within the partner quarterly updates as stand-alone items.

7.6.4 Work Carried Out by the Commission

Financial Monitoring

The Commission continues to receive quarterly budget updates as part of the Council's wider revenue budget monitoring framework. The Public Health budget is presented to the Commission prior to it being included in the Revenue Budget Report that is presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee for pre-decision scrutiny before being taken to Cabinet. Historically the Adult Social Care budget has demonstrated pressures, and this has not changed at the end of 2024-25. However, this budget monitoring enables the Commission members to ask questions and understand the issues impacting on the budget, such as increased demand and the need for more complex therapies.

It is also acknowledged that pressures on the budget are a national issue, influenced by government funding constraints and the introduction of new fiscal policy, the impact of which is still to be fully felt. This includes increased National Insurance payments and an increased national wage. Whilst the Council has introduced a system that will defer the impact of National Insurance increases until financial year 26/27 the challenges will have to be addressed after that year. This will impact directly on the Council as an employer, but also on commissioned deliverers and the Council will have to deal with the fall out of that such as the closure of care homes, this will be monitored by this Commission.

In addition to the financial monitoring of internal budgets, the Commission receives information on external bodies, in particular the Integrated Care System and shared or commissioned budgets with the Health Service.

Internal Service and Stakeholder Engagement

The Commission monitors internal services on a regular basis via the quarterly service and partner updates. Senior staff advise the Commission of developments within their service areas, inviting the Commission to request further information and items to be included in the future work programme. The Hull Place Director also delivers a quarterly update, providing information on developments within the Integrated Care Board.

The updates inform the members of the Commission of work taking place in the City, and resultant items are requested, and delivery monitored by the Commission.

Members of the Commission have also requested items to be included on the agenda to inform of activity carried out by both internal services and external partners. As a result, the Commission has held a Mental Health themed meeting and a Children's Health themed meeting, both delivered by internal officers and external representatives.

7.6.5 **Pre-Decision Scrutiny**

The Commission has carried out pre-decision scrutiny on executive decisions, formulating comments and recommendations for consideration as part of the decision-making process. The decisions related to these reports have been taken by HCC's Cabinet, by Leader Decision or by the Health and Care Partnership. Decisions have included:

- Better Care Fund Outturn for 2023/24
- Better Care Plan 2024/25
- Better Care and Aligned Funds 2024/25
- Local Stop Smoking Services and Support Grant 2024-2025
- Provision of Interim Residential Beds
- Endorsement of the Food Strategy
- Sport England Place Based Expansion Grant

7.6.6 **Additional Reporting**

Some reports and briefings did not fall within the previous categories. These included reports for consultation purposes, such as Proposed Changes to the Eligibility Criteria for the NHS Podiatry Service in Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire from 2025. The Community Integration team from the NHS requested that they bring that report to the Commission for member feed in.

Other briefings received for information included:

- Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service Update
- Mentally Healthy Hull Strategy
- Suicide Prevention
- Trauma Informed
- Child Injury Prevention & Safer Sleep Team
- Health Inequalities for Babies, Children and Young People in Hull
- Performance of Public Health Services for CYP in Hull

- Dentistry and Oral Health
- ASC Peer Challenge Feedback

Formal non-decision making reports have also been delivered, including:

- Director of Public Health Annual Report
- ASC Local Account
- ASC Annual Feedback Report 2023-2024
- Update on the Local Air Quality Strategy 2024

7.6.7 The Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Commission

The Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Commission was established as a Commission to enable the consultation of the five regional local authorities on Health issues affecting the residents of the region. Representatives of the authorities (Hull City Council, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Lincolnshire County Council, North East Lincolnshire Council and North Lincolnshire Council) were sought to independently respond to consultation from the NHS via the respective Integrated Care Boards.

The initial round of consultation related to changes at Grimsby and Scunthorpe hospitals so there was minimal impact on the services in Hull. Therefore, the H&SWB OSC did not include formal discussion of the consultation on its agenda.

There have not been any proposed changes during 2024-25 that would impact on Hull, so no consultation has taken place. However, the Joint Commission is still in existence should the need for cross-authority consultation arise.

7.6.8 Future Work Programme

At the start of the new Municipal Year the Commission will start to shape and develop its work programme for 2025/26, focusing on priority areas. Some of the Commission's priorities will be dictated by the Portfolio Holder's priorities.

However, it is anticipated that the Commission will continue to receive the regular updates from Adult Social Care, Public Health and the Integrated Care Board, along with the quarterly revenue monitoring reports. These regular updates inform the Commission of work taking place and the budgetary position, and information can be used to further populate the Work Programme.

In addition, there are some items that have already been requested as a result of the work of the Commission in 2024-25. These include:

- Portfolio Holder Priorities 2025-26
- Healthwatch Hull Update (Expected April 2025)
- Eating Disorders
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service
- Update to the Adaptations Process Improvement Plan
- NHS Health Checks Update
- Autism Strategy
- Trauma Informed Hull
- Public Health Peer Review
- Hull Teaching Hospitals Performance Update

Following a motion agreed by Full Council a referral was made to the Commission to address the request for the establishing of a Mental Health Task and Finish. An informal meeting of members of the Commission plus other members will be held once the Commission has received a Trauma Informed Hull update. The Trauma Informed paper will support a discussion about whether a formal Task and Finish is necessary, and what form an alternative piece of work could take.

8. **Options and Risk Assessment**

8.1 **This is the recommended option.**

That Council note the content of this report.

The report is a factual account of the activity of the Scrutiny Commissions over the last municipal year. In respect of future work this can and will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and there is facility for elected members to input into this process. There are therefore no inherent risks.

8.2 That Council do not note the content of this report.

The Council is required to consider an Annual Report on scrutiny activity. The report is a factual account of the activity of the Scrutiny Commissions over the last municipal year. In respect of future work this can and will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and there is facility for elected members to input into this process. There would be limited value in not noting the content of the report.

9. **Comments of the Monitoring Officer (Assistant Director of Legal and Governance)**

9.1 The scope of activity of the Scrutiny Commissions over the course of the year is noted. Both Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and Economy and Environment Scrutiny Commission have contributed to both the development of the governance and the Key Route Transport Network for Hull and East Yorkshire on behalf of the Combined Authority over recent months. Going forward the role of Scrutiny of the Combined Authority will be fulfilled by Scrutiny representatives of the Council on the Combined Authority. It will be important for effective arrangements to be developed to link the work of Council representatives on the Executive Board and Scrutiny and Audit Committees of the Combined Authority to the operation of Scrutiny within the City Council to ensure congruence. It is acknowledged that the Constitution presently provides

for questions to be put at Full Council to “ A member of Council ...appointed by the Council to any .. other body, or to hold any position or office”, however, Scrutiny may wish to review the role it may exercise as the Combined Authority develops. [IA]

10. **Comments of the Section 151 Officer (Director of Finance and Transformation)**

10.1 The Director of Finance and Transformation notes the contents and recommendations within this report (TP)

11. **Comments of the Assistant Director OD & HR and compliance with the Equality Duty**

11.1 The content of the report is noted by the Assistant Director OD & HR. (SH)

12. **Comments of Overview and Scrutiny**

12.1 This report was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee at its meeting of Friday 25 April 2025. The Committee made the following comments:

- a. The Opposition members wished to have their concerns noted at the continued reduced number of Scrutiny Commissions, and their belief that there was a need for a separate Housing Commission and Finance and Value for Money Commission to enable focus on those very important areas of work, for all members and their residents.
- b. Concerns were raised at the large number of reports that were deferred to future meetings, as it was felt it was important that officers kept to deadlines and served the Administration and other members in a more timely manner to enable full consideration of decisions.
- c. That Portfolio Holders should deliver their priorities to Commissions earlier in the next Municipal year, with a recommendation that all Portfolio Holders deliver their 25-26 priorities to all Commissions in June 2025 to enable Scrutiny to focus their work programmes on those priorities.
(Ref. Sc8749 (FH))

Alex Holgate
Statutory Scrutiny Officer

Officer Interests: None

Background Documents: - A list of background documents must be included. These documents are then available (if not exempt) for public inspection.

Implications Matrix

This section must be completed and you must ensure that you have fully considered all potential implications

This matrix provides a simple check list for the things you need to have considered within your report

If there are no implications please state

I have informed and sought advice from HR, Legal, Finance, Overview and Scrutiny and the Climate Change Advisor and any other key stakeholders i.e. Portfolio Holder, relevant Ward Members etc prior to submitting this report for official comments	Yes
I have considered whether this report requests a decision that is outside the Budget and Policy Framework approved by Council	Yes
Value for money considerations have been accounted for within the report	Yes
The report is approved by the relevant City Manager	Yes
I have included any procurement/commercial issues/implications within the report	Yes
I have considered the potential media interest in this report and liaised with the Media Team to ensure that they are briefed to respond to media interest.	Yes
I have included any equalities and diversity implications within the report and where necessary I have completed an Equalities Impact Assessment and the outcomes are included within the report	Yes
Any Health and Safety implications are included within the report	Yes
Any human rights implications are included within the report	Yes
I have included any community safety implications and paid regard to Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act within the report	Yes
I have liaised with the Climate Change Advisor and any environmental and climate	Yes

change issues/sustainability implications are included within the report	
I have included information about how this report contributes to the City Plan/ Area priorities within the report	Yes
I have considered the impact on air quality, carried out an appropriate assessment and included any resulting actions or opportunities necessary to improve air quality in the report.	Yes