Scrutiny Annual Report 2024-25

Date of meeting: Overview Select Committee – 9 July 2025

> Lead Director: Kamal Adatia City Barrister and Head of Standards

Useful information

■ Ward(s) affected: All

■ Report authors: Ed Brown, Katie Jordan, Kirsty Wooton - Senior Governance Officers

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1. Summary

- 1.1. This report provides a summary of the Scrutiny Annual Report 2024-25.
- 1.2. The Chair of the Overview Select Committee has developed a report that details the activity performed by the City Council's scrutiny bodies during 2024/25. The report also references ongoing and proposed scrutiny activity.

2. Recommended actions/decision

- 2.1 Full Council is asked to note the report and endorse the work of scrutiny during 2024-25.
- 2.2 The Overview Select Committee is asked to review the report and provide any comments/recommendations ahead of consideration by Full Council.

3. Scrutiny / stakeholder engagement

- 3.1 The report details a summary of work and outcomes from scrutiny across OSC and the six scrutiny commissions during 2024-25.
- 3.2 Although it is a decision of Full Council to approve the scrutiny annual report, given that it covers the work and operation of scrutiny, it is appropriate for it to be subject to consideration by the Overview Select Commission ahead of its submission to Full Council.

4. Background and options with supporting evidence

- 4.1 The main report begins with an introduction by Councillor Ted Cassidy, Chair of the Overview and Select Committee for 2024/25.
- 4.2 It then provides general detail of the scrutiny structure, format and operation during the previous year.
- 4.3 The report includes a separate section for each of the seven scrutiny bodies during 2024-25, setting out the key achievements and highlights for each committee/commission and also refers to some of the ongoing and proposed work.
- 4.4 The report is designed to serve as a summary of activity. Full detail of the activity of each scrutiny body can be found via <u>https://bit.ly/3P7AOEh</u>

5. Detailed report

The full 'Scrutiny Annual Report 2024-2025' is included on the subsequent pages.

6. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications

6.1 Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Mohammed Irfan, Head of Finance 30 June 2025

6.2 Legal implications

There are no direct legal implications arising.

Kevin Carter, Head of Law 30 June 2025

6.3 Equalities implications

The report provides a summary on the Scrutiny Annual Report 2024-25, this includes an overview of work and outcomes from scrutiny across OSC and the six scrutiny commissions, as well as referencing ongoing and proposed scrutiny activity.

Under the Equality Act 2010, public authorities have a Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which means that, in carrying out their functions, they have a statutory duty to pay due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and characteristic and those who don't.

Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

We need to ensure that we are meeting our statutory responsibilities under the Equality Act and paying due regard to the PSED when carrying out our functions, this includes ensuring we are embedding equality considerations in our work, and where appropriate carrying out Equality Impact Assessments (EIAS) and where negative impacts are identified, putting in place mitigating actions to address these as appropriate. EIAS have been undertaken across a range of areas cited in the SAR report to ensure equality impacts are being identified and addressed appropriately.

Sukhi Biring, Equalities Officer 1 July 2025

There are no climate emergency implications arising directly from this report.

Phil Ball, Sustainability Officer 30 June 2024

<u>6.5 Other implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)</u>

N/A

7. Background information and other papers:

None

8. Summary of appendices:

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9. Is this a private report (If so, please indicate the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)?

No

10. Is this a "key decision"? If so, why?

No