

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

AGENDA ITEM: 10

DATE OF MEETING: 27th August 2014

REPORT AUTHOR: Lisa Jerome

(Democracy and Scrutiny Team Leader)

SUBJECT: Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013-14

PURPOSE:

1. To report the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Board for 2013 - 14.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2. That the Board:
 - (i) Agrees the content of the Annual Overview and Scrutiny Board report, 2013-14 as set out at Appendix A, for recommendation to Council.
 - (ii) Delegates authority to the Democracy and Scrutiny Team Leader to make any minor amendments deemed necessary before publication.

REPORT:

3. The Council's Constitution under Article 6, section 6.2.6, requires the Overview and Scrutiny Board to make an annual report to Full Council, on the workings of the Overview and Scrutiny process.

Luton Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013-14

- 4. The scrutiny arrangements comprise an Overview and Scrutiny Board, which oversees the scrutiny process and is the primary body for accountability and strategy development. It also establishes time limited Task and Finish Groups for detailed review
- 5. The Board has power to establish individual Task and Finish Groups to carry out reviews into issues identified by the Board as requiring detailed examination. Whilst the Board will set the total number of Members to sit on a Task and Finish Group and the timescale for the review, the membership is sought on an 'expressions of

interest' basis, to encourage those Members most engaged and interested in the topic to put their names forward to become members of the Task and Finish Group.

- 7. One Task and Finish review is currently underway relating to Domestic Violence.
- 8. Given the importance of both financial scrutiny and the scrutiny of health related issues, a Finance Review Group and a Health & Social Care Review Group have been established by the Overview and Scrutiny Board which are not time limited and continue across Municipal years.
- 6. The activities of the OSB are driven by a work programme, developed and agreed by the Board itself, that is constantly evolving and regularly updated.
- 7. The Chair of the Board in 2013-14 was Councillor Doris Hinkley (Liberal Democrat) and the Vice Chairs were Councillors Michael Garrett (Conservative) and Councillor Amy O'Callaghan (Labour).

APPENDIX:

Draft Annual Report