

## COUNCIL

5 September 2022

# A GUIDE TO STRATEGIC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

## Report of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Strategic Aim:	All	
Exempt Information	No	
Cabinet Member(s) Responsible:	N/A	
Contact Officer(s):	Angela Wakefield, Director of Legal and Governance	01572 758220 awakefield@rutland.gov.uk
	Tom Delaney, Governance Manager	01572 720993 tdelaney@rutland.gov.uk
	Jane Narey, Scrutiny Officer	01572 722577 jnarey@rutland.gov.uk
Ward Councillors	N/A	

### DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:

1. Notes the Guide to Strategic Overview and Scrutiny and approves its publication.

## 1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To present the recently prepared Guide to Strategic Overview and Scrutiny to Council to approve for publication.

## 2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 At the meeting of Council on 11 April 2022 it was agreed to move away from the previous model of three Committees to a single Strategic Committee with a greater emphasis on small Task and Finish Groups and Evidence Panels.
- 2.2 In order to assist in embedding the new function it was considered appropriate to produce a new guide to Scrutiny for sharing with the public where required.
- 2.3 The guide explains how overview and scrutiny works at Rutland County Council. It aims to help members of the public better understand the process and explain how they can be involved with it.

### **3 CONSULTATION**

- 3.1 The guide was prepared in consultation with the Chair of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.2 The Guide was then presented to the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its inaugural meeting on 9 June 2022 and the version presented to Council reflects the changes requested by the Committee.
- 3.3 The Guide was also presented to an informal session of the Constitution Commission on 7 July 2022 and the Commission had no additional changes to those of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

### **4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 4.1 Council may wish to request further changes prior to publication, however a number of Members have already reviewed the Guide through the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Constitution Commission.

### **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising from the report.

### **6 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1 Statutory guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities issued in 2019 sets out the Council's responsibility to communicate scrutiny's role to the public and the publication of this guide will assist in this.

### **7 DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) has not been completed because no personal information has been processed in the preparation of the report.

### **8 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has not been completed because there are no service, policy or organisational changes being proposed.

### **9 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 There are no community safety implications arising from the report.

### **10 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from the report.

### **11 ORGANISATIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 There are no organisational implications.

### **12 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 12.1 The Guide explains how overview and scrutiny works at Rutland County Council

and aims to help members of the public better understand the process and explain how they can be involved with it. The Guide is therefore recommended for approval and publication.

### **13 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 13.1 Agendas and minutes of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 6 June and the informal session of the Constitution Commission on 7 July 2022.

### **14 APPENDICES**

- 14.1 Appendix A – A Guide to Strategic Overview and Scrutiny

**A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.**