

## Article 6 – Overview and Scrutiny Committee

### 6.01 Form and Composition

The Council will appoint a politically balanced Overview and Scrutiny Committee, comprising of 8 Members.

### 6.02 Main Purposes

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will:-

- (a) make reports and/or recommendations to Full Council, Policy Committee, ~~or~~ Area Meeting ~~or officer~~ in connection with the formulation of Policy and the discharge of any functions;
- (b) ~~consider~~ **make reports and/or recommendations to Full Council, Policy Committee, Area Meeting or officer** on any matter affecting the District or its inhabitants;
- (c) review and/or scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;
- (d) exercise the Call-In procedure in respect of decisions made but not yet implemented by any Policy Committee or Area Meeting; and
- ~~(e) oversee the best value process and report their findings to the relevant Policy Committee.~~
- (fe)** oversee the Council's use of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA).

### 6.03 Specific Functions

#### (a) Policy Development and Review

To carry out the main purposes listed in 6.02 (a) – (b) above, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may:-

- (i) assist the Council in the development of its Budget and Policy Framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues;
- (ii) conduct research and other consultation in the analysis of policy issues and possible options;
- (iii) consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options;
- (iv) question Members of Committees and Chief Officers about their views on issues and proposals affecting the District; and

- (v) liaise with other external organisations operating in the District, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working.

(b) **Scrutiny**

To carry out the main purposes listed in 6.02 (c) – (f) above, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may:-

- (i) review and scrutinise the decisions made by and the performance of Full Council and Policy Committees;
- (ii) review and scrutinise the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas;
- (iii) question Members of Committees, Chief Officers and Heads of Service about their decisions and performance, whether generally in comparison with service plans and targets, or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects;
- (iv) make recommendations to the appropriate Committee and/or Full Council arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process;
- (v) review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the District and all relevant partners in delivering the Local Area Agreement targets;
- (vi) question and gather evidence from any person (with their consent); and
- (vii) require the attendance of an officer or employee of the responsible authority or of a co-operating person or body in order to answer questions, when considering crime and disorder matters.
- (viii) review annually the Council's use of RIPA, set the Council's general surveillance policy and consider internal reports on the use of RIPA quarterly to ensure that it is being used as per the Council's policy.

**6.04 Finance**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee may exercise overall responsibility for any finances made available to it.

**6.05 Annual Report**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will report annually to Full Council on its workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods, if appropriate.

**6.06 Proceedings of Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

## **Appendix 1**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will conduct its proceedings in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.