

PART ONE

Barrow Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thursday 2 February, 2023

Draft Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2022/2023

Report from: Scrutiny and Democratic Services Team Leader

Report Author: Paula Westwood

Wards: (All Wards);

1.0 Summary and Conclusions

1.1 The report presents the draft Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2022/2023.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 **It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee approve the draft Annual Report for 2022/2023 attached at Appendix 1, for referral to Full Council, subject to any relevant updates following this meeting.**

3.0 Background and Proposals

3.1 Article 6.03 (d) – Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Council's Constitution states that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee must report annually to Council on its workings and make recommendations for the future work programme and amended working methods if appropriate

3.2 The Annual Report for 2022/2023 looks back at the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the previous 12 months, as well as assessing any ongoing work or working practices that need to be fed into Westmorland and Furness Council. For example, the working practice which has been embedded for Contract Management Assurance resulting from Statutory Recommendations made by External Audit. The Committee may also wish for the review of the anti-social behaviour strategy and action plan to continue through Westmorland and Furness Council.

3.3 Members are requested to note that there is a separate item on today's agenda concerning Local Housing Allowance and depending on what the Committee

resolve for that, the Discretionary Housing Payments review will be updated in the draft Annual Report after March's Executive Committee meeting.

- 3.4 It is anticipated that, subject to the approval of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Annual Report will be presented to Council at its meeting on 28th March, 2023.

4.0 Consultation

- 4.1 The Annual Report has been produced in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5.0 Alternative Options

- 5.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required by the Council's Constitution to produce an Annual Report. Members could choose to amend the content of the report prior to its consideration by Council on 28th March, 2023.

6.0 Contribution to Council Plan Priorities

- 6.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee seeks to exercise its function so as to consider, challenge and add value to the Council's approach to delivering the priorities and targets set out in the Council Plan.

7.0 Implications

7.1 Financial, Resources and Procurement

- 7.1.1 There are no financial or resource implications arising from this report. The work undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee needs to provide value for money and make the best use of available resources.

7.2 Legal

- 7.2.1 In order to ensure that the work of the Committee adds value to the work of the Council and underpins the Council Plan priorities, it is important that the Committee is effective in its role.

7.3 Local Government Reorganisation

- 7.3.1 Any outstanding work upon the dissolution of Barrow Borough Council on 31st March, 2023 will be fed through into Westmorland and Furness Council.

7.4 Equality and Diversity

- 7.4.1 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis?

No – The report has no direct equality and diversity implications.

Risk

Risk	Consequence	Controls required
An Annual Report is not produced.	Failure to maintain constitutional requirements. The opportunity to consider and promote the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is lost.	A comprehensive and timely Annual Report is produced.
Risk	Consequence	Controls required
The Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme does not address the Council's delivery of priorities and targets in the Council Plan.	Absence of challenge and overview of the Council progress in meeting the Council's priorities.	The Annual Report and Work Programme are utilised to focus the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Contact Officers

Paula Westwood Scrutiny and Democratic Services Team Leader
pwestwood@barrowbc.gov.uk

Appendices Attached to this Report – *If none, please state none or delete section*

Appendix No.	Name of Appendix
1	Draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2022/2023.

Background Documents Available

Name of Background document	Where it is available
N/A	N/A