

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
9 JULY 2019

MINISTRY OF HOUSING, COMMUNITIES & LOCAL GOVERNMENT
STATUTORY GUIDANCE ON OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IN
LOCAL AND COMBINED AUTHORITIES

1. Summary

1.1 This report presents Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHC&LG) in May 2019.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the Statutory Guidance from the MHC&LG on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities (attached as Appendix A to this report) be noted.

3. Background and Discussion

3.1. On 7 May 2019, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHC&LG) published statutory guidance on the overview and scrutiny function in local and combined authorities in the areas of Culture, Resourcing and Power (to access information). The guidance is intended to ensure that local and combined authorities are aware of the purpose and benefits of effective overview and scrutiny and how to conduct it effectively.

3.2. The Scrutiny Committee's Protocol (June 2019) considered elsewhere in the agenda, addresses the issues highlighted in the MHC&LG statutory guidance attached as Appendix A to this report.

4. Relationship to the Corporate Plan

The overview and scrutiny process increases local democratic accountability and visibility of key local public services and partners.

5. Financial, legal, staffing and other administrative implications and risk assessments

Financial Implications	None
Legal Implications	None
Staffing Implications	None
Administrative Implications	None
Risk Assessment	No uncertainties and/or constraints

6. Details of Exempt Information Category

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Not applicable

7. Appendices

Appendix A: Statutory Guidance from MHCLG

BACKGROUND PAPERS

<u>Documents consulted</u>	<u>Date / File Ref</u>	<u>Report Author</u>	<u>Section and Directorate</u>	<u>Exempt Information Category</u>
	1 July 2019	David Hook (01322) 343276	Democratic Services / Strategic Director (Internal Services)	N/A