

**South Lakeland District Council**  
**Council**  
**Wednesday, 19 May 2021**  
**Scrutiny Annual Report 2019-21**

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<b>Portfolio:</b>	Cllr Vicky Hughes, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
<b>Report from:</b>	Director of Strategy, Innovation and Resources
<b>Report Authors:</b>	Rachel Ireland – Trainee Solicitor Linda Fisher - Legal, Governance and Democracy Specialist (Monitoring Officer)
<b>Wards:</b>	N/A
<b>Forward Plan:</b>	N/A

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**1.0 Expected Outcome**

1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be able to demonstrate the work that it has undertaken during the 2019-21 municipal years and the value it has added. It will also be able to outline the work planned for the municipal year 2021/22.

**2.0 Recommendation**

2.1 **It is recommended that Council receives the Scrutiny Report 2019-21, as attached at Appendix 1.**

**3.0 Background and Proposals**

3.1 Article 6.04 (Overview and Scrutiny) of the Council's Constitution requires that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee must report annually to Council on its work, with recommendations for its future work programme and any amended working methods, if appropriate.

3.2 The Scrutiny Annual Report 2019-21 looks back at the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee over the past 24 months, as well as looking forward to the year ahead. The Scrutiny Annual Report would ordinarily look over the past 12 months but due to the impact of COVID-19 the Committee's 24 April 2020 meeting was cancelled, and in turn, the Scrutiny Annual Report 2019-20 was deferred. Therefore, the 2019-20 report has now been combined with the 2020-21 report, to cover the past 2 years. The report demonstrates that effective scrutiny is taking place, in line with good governance, but that more precise timetabling of reviews would be beneficial in

ensuring that resources can be allocated to ensure that the work programme can be completed on time.

**3.3** The Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorsed the report at its meeting on 23 April 2021. Following that meeting, the annual report has been finalised.

#### **4.0 Consultation**

4.1 The Scrutiny Report has been produced in consultation with the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the Draft Scrutiny Annual Report on Friday, 23 April 2021.

#### **5.0 Alternative Options**

5.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required by the Council's Constitution to produce an annual report.

#### **6.0 Links to Council 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**

##### **Financial, Resources and Procurement**

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

##### **Human Resources**

7.2 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report. However, it should be noted that items on the work programme, such as Task & Finish Groups and Workshops can have an impact upon staffing resources

##### **Legal**

7.3 There is a legal requirement for local authorities to operate an Overview and Scrutiny Committee. 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.

##### **Health, Social, Economic and Environmental**

7.4 Have you completed a Health, Social, Economic and Environmental Impact Assessment? No

7.5 If you have not completed an Impact Assessment, please explain your reasons: This is a look back at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's work undertaken over the past 24 months.

##### **Equality and Diversity**

7.7 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis? No

7.8 If you have not completed an Impact Assessment, please explain your reasons: This is a look back at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's work undertaken over the past 24 months.

## 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.
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 function

## Contact Officers

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## Appendices Attached to this Report

Appendix No.	Name of Appendix
1	Scrutiny Annual Report 2019-21

## Background Documents Available

None.

## Tracking Information

Signed off by	Date sent	Date Signed off
Legal Services	12/04/21	15/04/21
Section 151 Officer	12/04/21	15/04/21
Monitoring Officer	12/04/21	15/04/21

Circulated to	Date sent
Lead Specialist	N/A
Human Resources Lead Specialist	N/A
Communications Team	N/A
Leader	N/A
Committee Chairman	12/04/21
Portfolio Holder	N/A
Ward Councillor(s)	N/A
Committee	23/04/21
Executive (Cabinet)	N/A
Council	19/05/21