

Report of the Chairman on the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

This report gives an overview of the issues considered at the 16 January 2018 meeting.

1. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

- 1.1 Councillor S.C. Mooney was elected as Chairman and Councillor J.G. Kavanagh as Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2017/2018.

2. Management of The River Thames

- 2.1 The Committee noted the presentation by the Environment Agency (EA) on their management of the River Thames and flood risk.
- 2.2 The presentation, and resultant debate, identified topics of interest and concern with direct relevance to the Borough and its residents, for further progression. The EA agreed to provide additional information to the Committee following the meeting.

3. Business Rates Avoidance and Evasion

- 3.1 The Committee noted the report, and I commended the fraud partnership with Reigate and Banstead Borough Council as a worthwhile initiative which should be further utilised so as to benefit from additional opportunities.

4. The Council's Property Investment Strategy

- 4.1 The Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor Howard Williams and the Chief Finance Officer jointly gave a presentation to the Committee on the Council's approach to risk management with respect to its commercial property acquisitions.
- 4.2 The Committee noted the presentation.

5. Treasury Management: Half-yearly Report

- 5.1 The Committee noted the Treasury position achieved during the first 6 months of 2017/2018 and the financial environment in global markets.

6. Update on Leader's Task Group for Economic Development

- 6.1 The Committee noted the update on the Leader's Task Group for Economic Development (EDEG) and the progress highlighted by Councillor Patel, the Chairman of the EDEG.

7. Work Programme

- 7.1 The Committee noted the Work Programme for the remainder of 2017/2018.

Councillor Sinead Mooney

Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

22 February 2018