

REPORT TO: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE: 1 SEPTEMBER 2020

TITLE: REVIEW OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – FAST-TRACK PROCESS

LEAD OFFICER: SIMON HILL, HEAD OF GOVERNANCE
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RECOMMENDED that:

- A** The amended Cabinet-Scrutiny Protocol attached as Appendix A to the report is adopted.

BACKGROUND

1. At Scrutiny Committee on 14 July, the Committee recommended to Full Council changes to the governance processes surrounding the Council's overview and scrutiny functions. Full Council approved these changes on 16 July.
2. On 14 July it was also agreed that any further changes would be sent to the Chair of the Committee, with a report being brought to this meeting setting out these potential changes.
3. As discussed at the meeting on 14 July, Councillor Charles has submitted changes which would amend the Cabinet-Scrutiny Protocol to include a fast track procedure for reviews.

ISSUES/PROPOSALS

4. The changes are included in the Protocol as paragraphs 4.3c i, and 4.3c ii. The changes enable the Committee to agree a priority process for particular reviews with shortened timeframes.
5. Fast-track reviews will be overseen by a Working Group of Councillors and Officers, with the outcome of the review being reported to the Committee for consideration.

IMPLICATIONS

Environment and Planning (Includes Sustainability)

None specific.

Author: Andrew Bramidge, Head of Environment and Planning

Finance (Includes ICT, and Property and Facilities)

None specific.

Author: Simon Freeman, Head of Finance and Deputy to the Chief Executive

Housing

None specific.

Author: Andrew Murray, Head of Housing

Community Wellbeing (Includes Equalities and Social Inclusion)

None specific.

Author: Jane Greer, Head of Community Wellbeing

Governance (Includes HR)

As contained within the report.

Author: Simon Hill, Head of Governance

Appendices

Appendix A – Cabinet-Scrutiny Protocol

Background Papers

Report to Scrutiny Committee on 14 July 2020 'Review of Overview and Scrutiny – Final Report'

<http://moderngov.harlow.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=119&MIId=1286&Ver=4>

Glossary of terms/abbreviations used

None.