

## **Divisions Affected – All**

# **OXFORDSHIRE JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**08 JUNE 2023**

## **HOSC Annual Report 2022/23**

### **Report by Director of Law and Governance**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. **The Committee is RECOMMENDED to: -**
  - 1.1 Note the requirement for the Committee to produce an annual report.
  - 1.2 Agree the wording of the draft report, subject to any required amendments
  - 1.3 Delegate to the Scrutiny Manager responsibility for the design of the final publication, and to make minor updates or amendments as required.

#### **Executive Summary**

2. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is under a constitutional duty to prepare an annual report. This report is overdue. The paper seeks to obtain agreement from the Committee on practical steps to allow its publication as quickly as possible.

#### **Background**

3. Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, Regulation 28(1) of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 the Council has a duty to “review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health services in its area”.
4. As part of this overarching duty it has a duty, enshrined in the Council's Constitution, to report on its activity over the preceding year. The Council complies with it by producing an annual report on its activity over the preceding year

5. The Constitution specifies in Part 6.1B s 23 that this report is to be produced in April each year. With the handover between Scrutiny Officers this for the year 2022/23 this has not happened, meaning that the report is currently overdue.
6. As this is a Constitutional requirement to report on the activity of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee it is important that a report is published as soon as possible. If the Committee were to wait until its next meeting to sign off a draft, it would mean a delay until late September 2023. Instead, it is proposed that the Committee agree to sign off the text of the draft report and delegate the final design to the Scrutiny Manager prior to publication of the annual report in July to the County Council and made available to partners thereafter.

## **Corporate Priorities**

7. Improving health and wellbeing of residents and reducing health inequalities are stated ambitions within the Council's Strategic Plan.

## **Financial Implications**

8. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Comments checked by: Kathy Wilcox

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## **Legal Implications**

9. Part 6.1B, s. 23 of the Council's constitution states that:

The Committee shall produce in April each year a report for the Appointing Authorities on its activities during the preceding year. That report shall also be published to health bodies and the public.

The Committee is currently not compliant with this requirement and should take steps to publish its Annual Report as soon as practicable.

Comments checked by: Anita Bradley

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## **Staff Implications**

10. None arising from this report.

## **Equality & Inclusion Implications**

11. None arising from this report.

## **Sustainability Implications**

12. None arising from this report.

## **Risk Management**

13. If Members do not agree to sign off the report electronically, the draft will have to be considered at the next HOSC meeting, meaning further delay to its publication.

Anita Bradley  
Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

Annex: 1. Draft Text for Annual Report

Background papers: None

Other Documents: None

Contact Officer: Tom Hudson, Scrutiny Manager

May 2023