

## **Council**

**17 July 2025**

### **Report on Overview and Scrutiny Activity**

Report from: Richard Hicks, Chief Executive

Author: Wayne Hemingway, Head of Democratic Services

#### **Summary**

This report provides a summary of the agenda items considered by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees since the last report to Council on 24 April 2025 and the more significant outcomes arising from their deliberations. The comprehensive minutes (not attached) provide greater detail of the work undertaken by each of the committees.

#### **1. Recommendation**

- 1.1. It is recommended that Council notes the report in relation to Overview and Scrutiny activity.

#### **2. Budget and policy framework**

- 2.1. The Council's Constitution provides for the activities of Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committees to be reported to Council meetings. The following is a high-level summary of business conducted. For further detail please refer to the minutes of each Committee which are published on the Council's website using the web links at the end of the report.

#### **3. Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 11 June 2025**

##### **3.1. Reports considered at Committee:**

- a. Medway's Children and Families placed in Temporary Accommodation
- b. Care Leavers Accommodation
- c. Children's Commissioning Quality Assurance Processes of Children's Places and Young Inspectors
- d. Medway Youth Council Conference Report 2025
- e. Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Strategic Risk Summary - Quarter 4 2024/25

f. Work Programme

3.2. Key meeting outcomes:

- a. Medway Youth Council Conference Report 2025 – The Medway Youth Council to seek responses in relation to the recommendations made in their Annual report and present feedback to the Committee.
- b. Work Programme – Democratic services to work with Members and the Integrated Care Board in relation to the Public Health themed October 2025 meeting. This would include exploring how better health could support schools with the pressures of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), mental health and wellbeing of young people, what could be done to address the systemic barriers in supporting young people, including the crucial transition period to young adulthood. Additionally, how young people from various projects such as the Young Mayor programme, could support this work.

4. Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 12 June 2025

4.1. Reports considered at Committee:

- a. Members' Item – Southern Water
- b. Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Business Management
- c. Climate Change Action Plan 2025 - 2028
- d. Medway Air Quality Action Plan 2025 - 2030
- e. Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Strategic Risk Summary - Quarter 4 2024/25
- f. Petitions Report
- g. Work programme

4.2. Key meeting outcomes:

- a. Members' Item – Southern Water were requested to provide further information in response to Member queries, including meeting with officers regarding the Pentagon Centre flooding, low water pressure at Allhallows, Reed Street pumping station, supply for new homes, the percentage of investment in Medway and employment opportunities and apprenticeships.
- b. Climate Change Action Plan 2025 – 2028 – Officers were requested to provide further information on Electric Vehicle charging points implementation timelines and funding.

- c. Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Strategic Risk Summary - Quarter 4 2024/25 – Officers were requested to provide information on action being taken to increase employment for young people aged 18 to 24.

## 5. Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 17 June 2025

### 5.1. Reports considered at Committee:

- a. Leadership Arrangements and Care Quality Commission Inspection at Medway NHS Foundation Trust
- b. Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board Community Services Engagement Update
- c. Addressing Adult Social Care (ASC) Waiting List Backlogs
- d. Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Strategic Risk Summary - Quarter 4 2024/25
- e. Work Programme

### 5.2. Key meeting outcomes:

- a. Addressing Adult Social Care (ASC) Waiting List Backlogs – The Committee noted the report and requested a briefing note covering social work vacancies, Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and the transition from Children to Adult services.
- b. Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Strategic Risk Summary - Quarter 4 2024/25 – The Committee requested that officers be provided with feedback about the report structure and to explore the possibility of training for Members in how to use the reports to maximise effective scrutiny.
- c. Work Programme – The Committee requested a briefing, at the appropriate time, on the impact of Local Government Reform on Health and Adult Social Care services.

## 6. Business Support and Digital Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 19 June 2025

### 6.1. Reports considered at Committee:

- a. Taxi Tariff Review Policy
- b. Climate Change Action Plan 2025 - 2028
- c. Compliment and Complaints Report, Business Support Department 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025

- d. CIPFA Assurance Report
- e. Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Strategic Risk Summary - Quarter 4 2024/25
- f. Capital and Revenue Outturn and Annual Debt Write Off Report 2024/25
- g. Annual Review of the Council's Petitions Scheme
- h. Work Programme

## 6.2. Key meeting outcomes:

- a. Taxi Tariff Review Policy – Briefing note to be provided to the Committee to outline how the policy would align with wider Council goals to promote sustainable, accessible and affordable travel.
- b. Climate Change Action Plan 2025-2028 – The Committee requested a briefing note on how the Council could further green policies across the Council in policy development, such as additional car idling car signage and in consideration planning applications.
- c. Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Strategic Risk Summary - Quarter 4 2024/25 – The Committee requested further training for Members in relation to monitoring performance and risk.
- d. Capital and Revenue Outturn and Annual Debt Write Off Report 2024/25 – The Head of Revenue Accounts to discuss with colleagues and provide further information to the Committee regarding the causes of the rise in Penalty Charge Notice related debt.

## Contact for further details

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## Appendices

None

## Links to minutes

Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Date
<a href="#">Children and Young People</a>	11.06.25
<a href="#">Regeneration, Culture and Environment</a>	12.06.25
<a href="#">Health and Adult Social Care</a>	17.06.25
<a href="#">Business Support and Digital</a>	19.06.25

Background papers

None