

# Birmingham City Council

## Report to City Corporate and Finance Overview and Scrutiny Committee

27 September 2024



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| <b>Title:</b>  | <b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY DEVELOPMENT PLAN</b>  |
| <b>Lead Cabinet Portfolio:</b>   | Not applicable   |
| <b>Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee:</b>                               | Not Applicable   |
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| <b>Authorised by:</b>  | Marie Rosenthal, City Solicitor<br>Legal and Governance  |
| <b>Is this a Key Decision?</b>   | Not Applicable   |
| <b>If this is a Key Decision, is this decision listed on the Forward Plan?</b> | Not Applicable   |
| <b>Reason(s) why not included on the Forward Plan:</b>                         | Not Applicable   |
| <b>Is this a Late Report?</b>  | No   |
| <b>Reason(s) why Late:</b>   | Not Applicable   |
| <b>Is this decision eligible for 'call in?'</b>                                | Not Applicable   |
| <b>If not eligible, please provide reason(s):</b>                              | Not Applicable   |
| <b>Wards:</b>  | All  |

**Does this report contain exempt or confidential information?**

No

**Has this decision been included on the Notification of Intention to consider Matters in Private?**

Not Applicable

**Reasons why not included on the Notification:**

Not Applicable

## **1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny is a key governance function within the Council. Overview and Scrutiny Development Plan, attached as Appendix 1, sets out how the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees will continue to contribute to the Council's improvement journey.

## **2 COMMISSIONERS' REVIEW**

- 2.1 Commissioners support the recommendations.

## **3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That the Committee agrees the Overview and Scrutiny Development Plan attached as Appendix 1.

## **4 KEY INFORMATION**

### **Context**

- 4.1 The Improvement and Recovery Plan, agreed by Cabinet in April 2024, [BCC Improvement and Recovery Plan \(IRP\) \(cmis.uk.com\)](https://www.bcc.gov.uk/development-and-improvement/development-plans/improvement-and-recovery-plan) sets out how the Council will become a financially stable, well-run council that delivers good services to citizens. The Overview and Scrutiny Development Plan sets out the objectives and activities that will underpin the work of the Council's 7 Overview and Scrutiny Committees to contribute to the Council's improvement journey.

## **5 RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 5.1 As part of the Audit and Scrutiny Memorandum of Understanding a process is being developed to ensure potential risks identified by Overview and Scrutiny Committees informs the Council risk management arrangements.

## **6 CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Development Plan built on the work carried out by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny during 2023/24 which included a number of workshops with members and discussions with officers. A draft development plan was considered by the Corporate and Finance O&S Committee on 26 July 2024, the Corporate Leadership Team on 20 August 2024 and Informal Cabinet on 2 September 2024. Feedback from these discussions informed the final document.

## **7 IMPACT AND IMPLICATIONS**

### **Finance**

- 7.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committees will continue to scrutinise the delivery of savings as a critical component of the Council's financial recovery. The Overview

and Scrutiny Development Plan will be within existing resources and budget available.

### **Legal**

- 7.2 Overview and scrutiny committees have a statutory function and statutory guidance published in April 2024 sets out the purpose of overview and scrutiny and how to conduct it effectively. The development plan seeks to develop overview and scrutiny to ensure the committee can respond effectively to the challenges the Council faces as set out in the Council's Improvement and Recovery Plan. This will facilitate compliance with statutory duties.

### **Equalities**

- 7.3 The Development Plan sets out that one of the criteria Overview and Scrutiny Committee's will consider when agreeing the work programmes is 'Equity Issues Arising from the Budget.'

### **Procurement**

- 7.4 There are no procurement implications resulting from the recommendations in this report.

### **People Services**

- 7.5 There are not people services recommendations resulting from the recommendations in this report.

### **Corporate Parenting**

- 7.6 There are no direct Corporate Parenting implications resulting from the recommendations in this report. Overview and Scrutiny Committees will continue to consider Corporate Parenting issues relevant to the work programme.

## **8 APPENDICES**

- 8.1 Appendix 1: Overview and Scrutiny Development Plan September 2024

## **9 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 9.1 Governance Stabilisation Plan [CMIS > Meetings](#)  
9.2 Scrutiny Blueprint