

REPORT TO SCRUTINY COMMUNITY, ECONOMY, RESOURCES, AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE, EXECUTIVE

Date of Meeting: Community – 17 June 2014, Executive – 15 July 2014, Audit and Governance Committee - 25 June 2014, Economy - 26 June 2014, Resources - 2 July 2014

Report of: The Scrutiny Programme Officer
Title: Annual Scrutiny Report 2013/2014

Is this a Key Decision?

No

* One that affects finances over £1m or significantly affects two or more wards. If this is a key decision then the item must be on the appropriate forward plan of key decisions.

Is this an Executive or Council Function?

Executive Function

1. What is the report about?

An update on the progress and work of Scrutiny for the period 2013/2014 in direct relation to the appointment of the Scrutiny Programme Officer in July 2013, to include synopsis of Task and Finish Group investigations, review and proposal for Scrutiny system changes and timetabling/plans for 2014/2015.

2. Recommendations:

- (a) That Members of the Committee consider the content of the Annual Scrutiny Report and are invited to comment as to whether they are content with the progress and direction of Scrutiny over the past year together with the proposals on direction for the forthcoming year.**
- (b) That the Annual Scrutiny Report is approved for public circulation on the Council's website.**

3. Reasons for the recommendation:

- (i) To demonstrate to Members, Officers and the general public how the scrutiny process is working at Exeter City Council in order to provide accountability and transparency and further confidence in the democratic process.
- (ii) To enhance the profile of scrutiny at Exeter City Council.

4. What are the resource implications including non financial resources.

None.

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

Not applicable.

6. What are the legal aspects?

Not applicable.
7. **Monitoring Officer's comments:**

Not applicable.

8. **Report details:**

See attached document.

9. **How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan?**

- Ensuring a well run Council.
- To invoke public confidence that the Council is addressing economic, social and environmental challenges through effective scrutiny to improve the quality of life for Exeter residents (where possible) whilst working with partners to achieve this aim.
- To demonstrate that all Councillors and members of staff are committed to delivering high quality services and working for the benefit of the City.

10. **What risks are there and how can they be reduced?**

Not applicable.

11. **What is the impact of the decision on equality and diversity; health and wellbeing; safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults, community safety and the environment?**

None.

12. **Are there any other options?**

Not applicable.

Anne-Marie Hawley, Scrutiny Programme Officer

John Street, Corporate Manager, Democratic Services and Civic Support

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)

Background papers used in compiling this report:-

None

Contact for enquires: Democratic Services (Committees), Room 2.3, 01392 265275