

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - INTERVENTIONS REPORT

Item OS 21/20 referred from Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 7 October 2021

The joint report of the Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Transformation and the Director of Central Services and Monitoring Officer summarised the key issues arising from the Commissioners' Interventions Report at the former Northamptonshire County Council. Members were asked to review the issues raised and to consider whether TMBC was adequately equipped to avoid these issues occurring. Members were also asked to consider what role the Overview and Scrutiny Committee could play in supporting the 'financial agenda' and, more generally, whether it was felt that specific training might be needed.

The Chairman commented that there was insufficient time at the meeting to give this item the in-depth consideration it deserved and invited Members to undertake an initial debate to identify issues/matters which could be given detailed consideration at a special meeting of the Committee in November. The Committee noted the need to ensure that the Council was properly equipped to deal with the issues identified in the Interventions Report and that, as the Cabinet alone could not solve all the problems, all Members needed to shape the way forward. The Committee was reminded of its role to challenge decisions, particularly those with financial implications, and acknowledged the need for training in addressing specialised matters such as estimates and budgetary control.

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) a Special Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be held in November specifically to allow more detailed consideration on this subject; and
- (2) the Training Programmes provided through the Local Government Association be explored by the appropriate Officer and all members of the committee encouraged to register for the LGA's "Leadership Webinar on Scrutiny Essentials" to be held at 2.30 pm on 22 November 2021. The booking information and link to be circulated to Members.

*** Referred to Cabinet**