

EXECUTIVE SCRUTINY PROTOCOL

Item OS 22/24 referred from Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 7 July 2022

The report of the Director of Central Services and Deputy Chief Executive reminded Members of the changes to the Council's governance arrangements which had come into effect on 10 May 2022 and had increased the scope, role and responsibility of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee so that it could effectively discharge its functions. The report provided details at Annex 1 of the draft Executive-Scrutiny Protocol agreed between the Leader and the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny which aimed to ensure that there was a constructive relationship between the Executive and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee was advised that statutory guidance highlighted the benefits of adopting a protocol to clarify the relationship between it and the Executive to support a framework of strong democratic transparency and accountability and to establish effective communication between Scrutiny and Executive Members which could lead to more effective scrutiny of and support for the Executive.

A number of Members identified the need for training on the new governance arrangements and about the relationship between the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the new Scrutiny Select Committees and were advised that training for committee members was scheduled to be held on 5 October and that this could be shared more widely if required.

RECOMMENDED: That, subject to clarification of the wording of the Protocol with regard to access to key information (in accordance with paragraph 40 of the Statutory Guidance) in consultation with the Leader and the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny, the draft protocol, as set out at Annex 1 to the report, be commended to Cabinet for approval.

***Referred to Cabinet**