



Extract from Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 20 June 2019

**JOSC/008/19-20 Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report
2018/19**

Purpose

The report set out the draft Annual report for the Committee covering the 2018/19 Municipal year in accordance with the terms of the Councils' constitutions.

Summary of discussion:

The report set out the draft Annual report for the Committee covering the 2018/19 Municipal year in accordance with the terms of the Councils' constitutions.

Members discussed the report before them and wider issues such as the political affiliation of the Chairs of Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Some members expressed the opinion that the Chair should not be from the dominant party and noted recommendations from the Centre for Public Scrutiny to that effect. The Chairman expressed that he disagreed, the Committee as a whole was responsible for the business examined and that he personally sought to run meetings in an apolitical and open manner as fairly as possible. A Member stated that the Centre for Public Scrutiny disagreed with the Chairman's take on the Chair.

A Member commented that the public needed to be made more aware of the work of the Committee to increase engagement in its work and made the following proposal *'that the Councils' Communication Department be asked to put the Annual Report into more user friendly and publicly accessible format'* the proposal was seconded and approved unanimously.

Resolved:

- i) That the Committee approves the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual report for 2018/19; and
- ii) That the Annual report be reported to the Adur and Worthing Council meetings in July 2019 for approval;**
- iii) That the Communication Department be asked to put the Annual Report into more user friendly and publicly accessible format