
Council

2nd September 2025

Name of Cabinet Member:

Not applicable

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of Law and Governance

Ward(s) affected:

None

Title: Scrutiny Annual Report 2024-25

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary

The Constitution requires that Scrutiny reports annually to inform Council of its work. The Annual Report sets out the work undertaken by the following bodies over the last municipal year:

- Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee
- Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board
- Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board
- Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board
- Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board
- Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board

As set out in the Constitution, the Scrutiny Co-ordination and each Scrutiny Board is responsible for setting its own work programme and, in doing so, consults with relevant Cabinet Members and the Leadership Board. They also consider the wishes of those Members of the Scrutiny Board who are not members of the largest political group on the Council.

The report also provides the recommendations made to the Executive during the last municipal year. Council is asked to consider and approve the report..

Recommendations:**Council is recommended to:**

- (1) Approve the Scrutiny Annual Report to Council 2024-25 (Appendix 1)
- (2) Note the Recommendations made to the Executive (Appendix 2)
- (3) Note that the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee and each Scrutiny Board has an active work programme which is considered at each meeting, when all Members of the Committee/Boards can suggest items for Scrutiny.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix 1 – Scrutiny Annual Report to Council 2024-25

Appendix 2 – Recommendations to the Executive

Other useful background papers can be found at the following web addresses:

None.

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

At their meeting on 21st August 2025, Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee agreed the Annual Report for Council and recommended that the Recommendations to the Executive were also included.

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No.

Will this report go to Council?

Yes – 2nd September 2025

Report title: Scrutiny Annual Report 2024-25

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 Coventry City Council operates the Executive/Scrutiny model of Governance, as established by the Local Government Act 2000.
- 1.2 The Council has five Scrutiny Boards covering all aspects of the Council, as well as a Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee, which is responsible for the overall management of the Scrutiny and Overview function.
- 1.3 Scrutiny Boards have the power to investigate any matters they consider relevant to their work area and to make recommendations to the Council, the Cabinet, any Cabinet Member or any other Committee of the Council as they see fit.
- 1.4 The membership of the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee and Scrutiny Boards is determined by full Council and reflects political proportionality.
- 1.5 The Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee and each Scrutiny Board is responsible for setting its own work programme and in doing so consults with relevant Cabinet Members and the Leadership Board. They also consider the wishes of those Members of the Scrutiny Board who are not members of the largest political group on the Council
- 1.6 At its meeting on 21 August, 2025, the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee considered the Annual Report (Appendix 1). The Committee recommended that recommendations made by Scrutiny to the Executive during the municipal year should be noted by Council and these are detailed in Appendix 2 to this report.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 The Constitution requires Scrutiny to report to Council on an annual basis as part of the functions of Scrutiny. Therefore, Council is recommended to:
 - (1) Agree the Scrutiny Annual Report to Council 2024-25 (Appendix 1)
 - (2) Note the Recommendations made to the Executive (Appendix 2)
 - (3) Note that the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee and each Scrutiny Board has an active work programme which is considered at each meeting, when all Members of the Committee/Boards can suggest items for Scrutiny.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 There has been no consultation as the Annual Report is a constitutional requirement and there are no proposals made that require consultation.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

Not applicable.

5. Comments from the Director of Finance and Resources and the Director of Law and Governance

5.1 Financial implications

There are no specific financial implications arising from the recommendations within this report.

5.2 Legal implications

There are no specific legal implications arising from this report. The issues referred to in this report will assist the Council in complying with its obligations under section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000.

6 Other implications

None.

6.1 How will this contribute to the One Coventry Plan?

Scrutiny work programmes prioritise items that contribute to the One Coventry Plan and the priorities within it.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

There is no direct risk to the organisation as a result of the recommendations in this report.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

The role of Scrutiny is to hold the Executive to account and improve decision making. Scrutiny's impact is on improving existing policy, developing new policy and monitoring performance.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

There are no direct implications for equalities as a result of these recommendations, however all scrutiny items are considered for their health inequalities impact, as well as wider equalities impacts.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment

There are no direct implications for Climate Change as a result of these recommendations, however progress on the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy is subject to regular scrutiny.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

Scrutiny has powers to hold health partners and community safety partners to account, as well as require attendance and response to recommendations made. Scrutiny can also invite other organisations that deliver services to residents of Coventry, including the public, private and voluntary, social and community sectors. Several external organisations have been involved in the work of Scrutiny during 2024-25

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