

REPORT TO:	OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY	AGENDA ITEM: 5
DATE OF MEETING:	1 <sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO: N/A
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	ARDIP KAUR <a href="mailto:Ardip.Kaur@southderbyshire.gov.uk">Ardip.Kaur@southderbyshire.gov.uk</a> EXT. 5715	DOC:
SUBJECT:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – INTERNAL AUDIT REVIEW	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	

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## 1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That Committee the report at **Appendix 1**.
- 1.2 That Committee considers the 'Conclusions' and 'Suggested Actions' outlined in the report at **Appendix 1**.

## 2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To advise Committee of the outcome of the audit carried out by Central Midlands Audit Partnership (CMAP) regarding the function and work of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

## 3.0 Detail

- 3.1 As part of the Council's Internal Audit Plan for 2020/21, a review of the function and work of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee was undertaken to consider to what degree the Committee is being effective in "improving public services and quality of life for local residents".
- 3.2 The audit was scoped and based on four objectives which captured the principles set out in "The Good Scrutiny Guide" (published by the Centre for Public Scrutiny in June 2019).
- 3.3 The four principles were as follows:
  - Provide constructive "critical friend" challenge
  - Amplify the voices and concerns of the public
  - Be led by independent people who take responsibility for their role
  - Drive improvement in public services.

- 3.4 The work undertaken involved the review of Overview and Scrutiny Committee minutes, and documents that were available in the public domain on the Council's Committee Management Information System (CMIS). The audit compared their content against the four principles, mentioned above, in order that the Council could

consider and make an informed decision about whether it should choose to continue with its current overview and scrutiny arrangements.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

4.1 None.

#### **5.0 Corporate Implications**

5.1 The Localism Act in 2011 (the 'Act') brought change and permitted all Councils in England to govern with a committee system. The Act also removed the obligation for Councils using the committee system to have an Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

#### **6.0 Community Implications**

6.1 None.

#### **7.0 Background Papers**

7.1 Localism Act 2011