

Birmingham City Council

Report to City Council

8 April 2025



Title:	SCRUTINY BUSINESS REPORT
Lead Member:	Councillor Sir Albert Bore
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee:	Not Applicable
Has this report been shared with the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair?	Not Applicable
Report Author:	Fiona Bottrill, Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager Legal and Governance fiona.bottrill@birmingham.gov.uk
Authorised by:	Marie Rosenthal, Interim City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer, Legal and Governance
Is this a Key Decision?	Not Applicable
Reason(s) why not included on the Forward Plan and confirm who has authorised it to be considered:	Not Applicable
Is this a Late Report?	No
Reason(s) why Late and confirm who has authorised it to be considered:	Not Applicable
Is this decision eligible for 'call in?'	Not Applicable
If 'call-in' has been dis-applied, please provide reason(s) and confirm who has authorised:	Not Applicable
Wards:	Not Applicable

Does this report contain exempt or confidential information?	No
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Has this decision been included on the Notification of Intention to consider Matters in Private? Not Applicable

Reasons why not included on the Notification and confirm who has authorised it to be considered: Not Applicable

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update City Council on the progress in the delivery of the Overview and Scrutiny Development Plan and the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees. This includes the work programmes of the seven Overview and Scrutiny Committees, two Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees, how this contributes to the delivery of the Improvement and Recovery Plan and the work of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel that the scrutiny office support.

2 COMMISSIONERS' REVIEW

- 2.1 Commissioners have no observations on the report.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That City Council note the report.

4 KEY INFORMATION

Context

- 4.1 Overview and Scrutiny is a key part of the Council's governance arrangements as set out in the Constitution. During the 2024/25 municipal year the work of Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committees has focussed on the priorities set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Development Plan agreed at Corporate and Finance OSC in September 2024. These are:

- Delivery of Improvement and Recovery Plan priorities
- Delivery of the Corporate Plan priorities
- Critical Performance Issue by exception
- Safe and Effective key services for vulnerable people
- Equity Issues Arising from the Budget
- Business Critical services
- Life and Limb services
- Statutory Scrutiny Functions and engaging with external organisations to inform the work of Scrutiny Committees
- Monitoring the implementation of scrutiny recommendations

Demonstrating Outcomes: Scrutiny of Cost of Living Programme Case Study

- 4.2 The Corporate and Finance O&S Committee held a single issue meeting on 28 February 2025 to consider the work of the Cost of Living Programme that supports residents in Birmingham. This also incorporated an update on the implementation of the recommendations from the Cost of Living Scrutiny Task and Finish Group that was undertaken in 2023 and the committee agreed that 25 of the 32 recommendations has been completed. The report focussed on the 5 themes below and witnesses from partner organisations attended the meeting to discuss their work and the future development of the Cost of Living Programme.

Theme 1: Addressing Financial Crisis by introducing better financial planning, income maximisation, and lower utility costs.

Theme 2: Prevention of Crisis by moving people away from crisis into employment.

Theme 3: Services Working Together through the close collaboration between activities including Warm Welcome, Energy and Food Security, Benefits Maximisation and Employment.

Theme 4: Inclusive Services across the whole city ensuring a focus on particular groups of residents in need of support.

Theme 5: Building Resilience by investing in the Cost-of-Living support infrastructure across the city for the longer term.

- 4.3 The report recognised the role that Overview and Scrutiny had in development of the programme:

“The report would particularly like to acknowledge that the advice and direction of the original Task and Finish Group (set up in October 2023) has been beneficial to the Cost-of-Living programme. The information ... will hopefully illustrate that the recommendations drawn from the Councillors knowledge of their wards and localities has added fresh clarity, impetus, and strategic direction to the programme.” (Page 3, paragraph1.5)

“Members of the Committee have provided important advice to the team in the early stages of the programme. Member insight and experience at ward level is needed to ensure the Cost-of-Living work remains relevant and appropriate for the citizens of Birmingham.” (Page 17, paragraph 4.46)

- 4.4 At the meeting the Committee commended the innovative approach that had been developed across Council services and with partner organisations to use the Household Support Fund to meet the needs of residents who struggle to meet their everyday living costs. In particular members thanked those who volunteer their time and expertise to support others with compassion and dignity. The Committee also agreed 7 recommendations to the Executive to consider when deciding the next stage of the Cost of Living Programme.

Overview and Scrutiny Development Plan

- 4.5 The progress in delivery of the Overview and Scrutiny Development Plan is set out below:
- The Health Scrutiny Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was agreed in September 2024. This is a joint MoU with Solihull MBC and the Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board (ICB) and has been

identified as an example of good practice the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny.

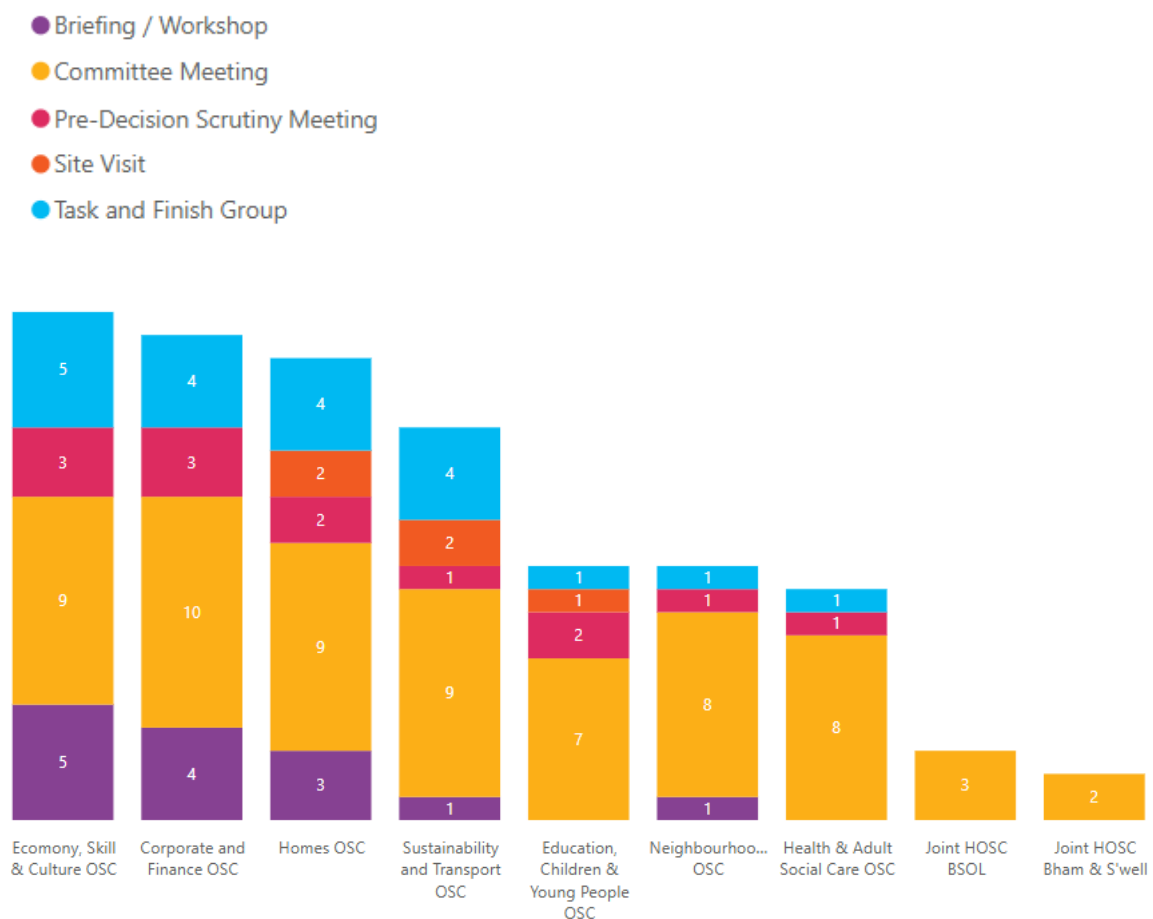
- The Audit and Scrutiny Memorandum was agreed in February 2025.
- The Scrutiny Dashboard has been developed and information from this been used to report with work of Overview and Scrutiny Committees to City Council.
- The single report template has been rolled out.
- A new Committee Reports Portal has been designed to streamline the drafting and approvals pathway for reports. This Portal is currently in a pilot phase with the Children and Families Directorate.
- A procedure has been agreed to assist with the timely publication of scrutiny reports.
- The Scrutiny Information Hub is being developed, and a training session is being arranged with O&S Committee Chairs.
- Monthly meetings of O&S Committee Chairs have been implemented.
- Meeting of the Independent Chair of Audit Committee and Chair of Corporate and Finance OSC have been held.
- Work has started on the review of the Scrutiny Framework and Procedure Notes.
- Engagement with external partners through scrutiny includes Commissioners presenting the First Commissioners Report to Corporate and Finance OSC,
 - the Chief Executive of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) presented the WMCA Annual Report to Corporate and Finance OSC in November and will attend the March Committee meeting to update members on the WMCAs work and outcomes for Birmingham,
 - partner organisations involved in the Cost of Living Programme; tenant representatives from the City Housing Involvement Board attending Homes OSC in relation to Tenant Engagement and Satisfaction report,
 - Transport for West Midlands attended the Sustainability and Transport OSC in relation to the West Midlands Bus Franchising consultation, Birmingham Integrated Care Board and University Hospitals NHs Foundation Trust in relation to health scrutiny issues,
 - Healthwatch Birmingham in relation to health and adult social care issues,
 - Careers Matters presented evidence to the work of the Economy and Skills OSC on the Council as an employer of young people. Representatives from the culture sector including the Birmingham Museums Trust and the Birmingham Culture Compact also attended Economy, Skills and Culture OSC.
- Work has been undertaken to identify links between the work of the Birmingham City Council Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the WMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
- The Scrutiny Newsletter has been re-instated to inform members of the work that will be undertaken by O&S Committees.

- 4.6 The Corporate and Finance O&S Committee will consider a full report on the delivery of the Overview and Scrutiny Development Plan at the committee meeting on 2 May 2025 and will also consider how the recommendation from Commissioners to review the O&S Committee work programme for 2025/26 will be implemented.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes

- 4.7 Since the last Scrutiny Business Report to City Council, Overview and Scrutiny Committees will have held 63 meetings between November and May 2025. The charts below show the number and types of meetings held by the different committees during the 2024/25 municipal year.

Graph: Showing Number and Type of Scrutiny Meetings by Overview and Scrutiny Committee June 2024 – May 2025



From: Scrutiny Dashboard developed with City Observatory (Information correct as of 19 March 2025)

Note: Where a committee carried out pre-decision scrutiny at a committee meeting or task and finish group meeting this has been shown as a 'pre-decision scrutiny meeting'.

- 4.8 **Corporate & Finance O&S Committee:** The committee held an extra-ordinary meeting on 7 November and the Lead and Finance Commissioners attended to

present the Commissioners' First report to the Secretary of State and members also considered the Section 151 Officer Update report on the financial position of the Council. At a meeting on 22 November members considered an update report from the West Midlands Combined Authority.

- 4.9 A focus of the committee's work during November – January was pre-decision scrutiny of the 2025/26 budget and savings proposals. Three Task and Finish Group meetings were held and the report, including 49 recommendations, was agreed at the Committee meeting on 24 January 2025. The recommendations were included in the Budget report to Cabinet on 11 February and City Council on 4 March 2025.
- 4.10 At the committee meeting on the 24 January 2025 members also considered the Section 151 Officer Update report, the 2023/24 Provisional Financial Outturn and received a report on the delivery of savings and the IRP Programmes within the Committee's terms of reference. Members noted the Commissioners' comments that the information regarding savings and IRP programmes was based on data from to the end of September 2024 and did not reflect the current position.
- 4.11 The committee focussed on the Cost of Living Programme at the meeting on 28 February 2025 as set out in the case study in Sections 4.2 – 4.4 of this report and also agreed the Audit / Scrutiny Memorandum of Understanding.
- 4.12 The committee meeting on 28 March 2025 considered the report from the West Midlands Combined Authority on the WMCA work in Birmingham and also the Council's Quarter 3 Financial Monitoring report. The Commissioner's second report to the Secretary of State will be reported to the committee once it has been published.

Members of the committee received briefings on the Council's Risk Policy and Strategy in February and the revised Corporate Performance Indicators in March.

At the committee meeting on 2 May 2025 members will consider the delivery of 2024/25 savings and IRP Programmes within the Committee's terms of reference and an update on the implementation of the Overview and Scrutiny Development Plan including the arrangements to review the work programme for 2025/26 in line with Commissioners' comments.

- 4.13 **Economy, Skills & Culture O&S Committee:** The Committee has continued to focus on scrutinising the delivery of the Council's Asset Disposal Programme within the Improvement and Recovery Plan. Most recently, the Committee has considered a specific report on this programme's progress on 8 January. The next quarterly report is due for consideration on 2 April. In addition to this, the Committee has also considered the progress on outstanding recommendations from the Council Owned Assets Inquiry. The Committee particularly discussed how the current financial situation for the Council has impacted upon delivering these recommendations. In response to this, the Committee resolved to consider a report on the Corporate Landlord Programme on 7 May 2025.

- 4.14 The Committee is undertaking an inquiry into the recruitment and retention of young people into the Council. Evidence gathering is underway. Information has been provided to the Committee from the Council and external partners such as Careers Matters. It is intended to conclude evidence gathering shortly and agree recommendations within the next couple of months.
- 4.15 The committee considered a report at the meeting on 8 January 2025 on the delivery of the 24/25 savings and the IRP Programmes in the Committee terms of reference.
- 4.16 At the committee meeting on 12 February 2025 members considered a report on the current health of the arts, heritage and cultural assets in the city, and made recommendations. The Committee's discussions particularly focused on the positive economic benefits to the city from a strong culture sector.
- 4.17 The delivery of 2024/25 savings and IRP Programmes, an update on the Council's Asset disposal programme and the Economic and Place Strategy will also be reported to the Committee meeting on 2 April 2025. The committee meeting on 7 May 2025 will consider the Corporate Landlord programme.
- 4.18 **Education, Children and Young People O&S Committee:** In December 2024 the SEND Commissioner presented his [third report](#) to the Secretary of State on improving SEND services in Birmingham. Members acknowledged the progress in service recovery and the improvement to Special Educational Needs Assessment and Review (SENAR). The Committee was keen to understand more of the lived experience of parents and carers and how schools and health partners were represented in the improvement journey. The Committee considered the quarterly update on progress of the Children and Families Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP). Members also assessed the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the [Child Criminal Exploitation Scrutiny Inquiry](#). It heard from the Cabinet Member, Children and Families Directorate, Birmingham Children Trust, Community Safety, and West Midlands Police that seven of the 14 recommendations had been achieved, and progress was ongoing for the remaining. A further tracking report was scheduled for July 2025.
- 4.19 At the committee meeting on 22 January 2025 the committee considered the delivery of 2024/25 savings and IRP Programme within the committee's terms of reference. Members also undertook pre-decision scrutiny and considered how the Council is embedding its corporate parenting responsibilities to children in care and care experienced young people to inform the future Cabinet report. The committee's comments included greater oversight of how directorates were embedding their corporate parenting duties, refresher training for all councillors, an information handbook, and better use of the Corporate Parenting Implications section in committee reports. The feedback was sent to the Cabinet Member for consideration in preparation of the Cabinet report.

- 4.20 On the 26 February 2025 the Committee held a themed meeting focussing on safeguarding and the Birmingham Children's Trust. Members considered the Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership Board Annual Report 2023/24 and the annual report from the Birmingham Children's Trust, which included the transformation programme - Trust 2025 that seeks to deliver a shift towards earlier support for families. Members also discussed the short breaks review and Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children.
- 4.21 The Committee meeting on 9 April will consider the governance around school exclusions, Elective Home Education, and part time timetables, a report on the delivery of savings and IRP Programme within the committee's terms of reference, and a further update on the Children and Families Directorate Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP).
- 4.22 Other items included in the Committees work programme for this municipal year include, School Improvement, School Attainment, and the Family Hubs Programme.
- 4.23 **Homes O&S Committee:** The Committee has continued to undertake scrutiny on Regulatory Compliance as the Council moves towards compliance under the Social Housing Regulation Act and the recommendations from the Housing Ombudsman Report. To support this, the Committee received a briefing on the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan on 6 February 2025. The Committee has also introduced a programme of site visits to bring the performance data included the regulatory compliance reports to life. In March, the Committee will be visiting the Bromford tower blocks.
- 4.24 In January, the Committee considered reports on the delivery of the 2024/25 savings and IRP Programmes within the committee's terms of reference. The Committee also considered the implementation of the Council's Affordable Housing Strategy and carried out pre-decision scrutiny on the Gypsy and Roma Traveller (GRT) Strategy and Delivery Plan. Key points on the proposed GRT Strategy were included for consideration by Cabinet when making their decision in March.
- 4.25 At the committee meeting on 27 February 2025 members considered the Council's performance in relation to collection of rents and managing debt and how tenants are supported through the cost of living crisis. This meeting also considered the Request for Call-In for the Cabinet decision on the Future Delivery of Affordable Housing in the City – A Review of Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust (BMHT) which was not referred back to Cabinet for re-consideration. Following the committee meeting members had a briefing on the Ladywood Regeneration scheme.
- 4.26 The Committee has concluded its inquiry into the standards of Council Houses, which had a particular focus on improving voids. This Inquiry reported to the Committee in February. The Inquiry has recommended that the Committee

considers the Improving Voids workstream as part of its ongoing work programme.

- 4.27 At the committee meeting on 10 April members will consider reports on the delivery of savings and IRP Programmes in the committee's terms of reference and also a report on Regulatory Compliance providing oversight, scrutiny and productive challenge to City Housing while moving towards compliance under the Social Housing Regulation Act and the recommendations from the Housing Ombudsman Report. The reports planned for the May meeting include the Homelessness Prevention Strategy 2024/29 and the Temporary Accommodation Strategy.
- 4.28 **Health and Adult Social Care O&S Committee (HASC):** At the committee meeting on the 4 December 2024 members considered a report on the implications of national and local policy in relation to health and social care, a report on the temporary relocation of the Urgent Treatment Centre in Erdington High Street and also a report on the options available for the future of Care Centres and members agreed a response to the consultation.
- 4.29 The committee meeting on 15 January 2025 included reports on the implementation of the Birmingham and Lewisham African and Caribbean Health Inequalities Review (BLACHIR), the delivery of savings within the committee's terms of reference and the Birmingham Adults Safeguarding Board Annual report. The Committee also agreed to undertake pre-decision scrutiny of the Cabinet decision on Care Centres.
- 4.30 At the meeting on 5 March 2025 members considered a report on the joint working at a locality level with a focus on the pilot in East Birmingham.
- 4.31 The 9 April committee meeting will consider the delivery of 2024/25 savings within the committee's terms of reference. The report to 14 May 2025 committee meeting will focus on the Birmingham Active Sports Strategy and monitoring recommendations of the Scrutiny Inquiry on Promoting Health and Wellbeing: A Commonwealth Games Legacy. The Committee has also received a referral from Audit Committee regarding the Disabled Facilities Grant.
- 4.32 **Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees:** The Birmingham and Sandwell Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) met on 11 February 2025 and considered a report on the opening of the Midland Metropolitan University Hospital and a report on the Patient Experience work at the Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust to improve communication and personalisation of care.
- 4.33 The Birmingham and Solihull Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee met on 30 January 2025 to consider the update report on culture, leadership, patient safety and governance at the University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. At this meeting members also considered a report from the Integrated Care Board on

the Financial Performance and Recovery including the Birmingham Heartlands Hospital Urgent and Emergency Care Project and an update on the Urgent Treatment Care Review. Reports for the meeting on 15 April 2025 include the ICB Performance and Finance and update reports on Autism & ADHD services and Dental Services.

- 4.34 **Neighbourhoods O&S Committee:** At the committee meeting on 27 November 2024 members considered a report on the consolidation of enforcement in relation to waste, and the budget saving in relation to the Transformation of Neighbourhood Advice and Information Services (NAIS) and Community Libraries.
- 4.35 The committee has also undertaken detailed work in relation to the Transformation of Community Libraries and the Neighbourhoods Advice and information Service (NAIS). This has included pre-decision scrutiny of the Cabinet decision on 5 February 2025 which resulted in 10 recommendations for consideration by the Executive. Also, the consideration of four Requests for Call-In of the Cabinet decision on 5 March 2025. This decision was not referred back to Cabinet. However, the O&S Committee requested that the Cabinet Member responds to the pre-decision scrutiny recommendations and further reports on the transformation of the community libraries and are brought to the committee at key stages in the process.
- 4.36 At the committee meeting on 15 January 2025 members considered the reports on the delivery of the 2024/25 savings and IRP Programmes within the committee's terms of reference, Implementation for Waste Transformation, and the Review of Parks.
- 4.37 At the committee meeting on 12 February 2025 members held a themed meeting that focussed on its statutory responsibilities as the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee. The Cabinet Member presented the Community Safety Partnership Board and Team Annual Report, and members sought reassurance on the publication of the Community Safety Strategy. The Committee also considered an update report from West Midlands Police on Neighbourhood Policing.
- 4.38 The delivery of 24/25 savings and IRP Programmes within the committee's terms of reference will be reported to the committee meeting on 2 April.
- 4.39 **Sustainability and Transport O&S Committee:** The Inquiry Report on Road Safety was presented to City Council on 3 December 2024. 16 recommendations in the report were agreed.
- 4.40 The committee meeting on 12 December 2024 received reports on the First Year Review of the Permit Scheme Road Safety and Street Activities, the Flood Risk Management Interim Report, the Average Speed Enforcement Programme and an update on the Delivery of Active Travel Schemes.

- 4.41 At the committee meeting on 23 January 2025 members reviewed the implementation of the recommendations from the Active Travel Inquiry, and it was agreed that 11 of the 15 recommendations have been completed. At this meeting members also considered the impact of the Clean Air Zone and also the delivery of savings within the Committees terms of reference.
- 4.42 In February members undertook a site visit to understand the current position on relation to rail operations across Birmingham and bus operations including bus franchising.
- 4.43 At the committee meeting on 6 March members considered reports on the West Midlands Bus Franchising consultation also the Flood Risk Management Annual Plan.
- 4.44 At a separate meeting in March members received a briefing of the Highways Maintenance and Management PFI Contract.
- 4.45 On 17 April 2025, the Committee will consider the Transport Delivery Programme for HS2 and Travel for West Midlands (TfWM) Schemes. In May, the Committee will listen to external partners on road harm reduction including the West Midlands Active Travel and Road Safety Commissioners plus West Midlands Police. The Committee has also requested information on parking enforcement.
- 4.46 **West Midlands Police and Crime Panel:** Cllr Knowles, Cllr Mahmood and Cllr Moore represented BCC on the Panel.
- 4.47 A key focus of the Panel's work this year has been the development of the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) new Police and Crime Plan which sets the PCC's strategic direction and objectives. The Panel meeting on the 9 December considered the work of the Panel's Information Sub-Group that had undertaken a deep dive into the proposed Police and Crime Plan Key Performance Indicators. The Panel also considered the PCC's update on activities and recent key decisions, and the PCC's Medium Term Financial Position and forecast Financial Outturn.
- 4.48 At the December meeting the Panel held the Confirmation Hearing for the reappointment of Chief Constable for West Midlands Police in accordance with Schedule 8 of the Police and Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. Panel Members put a series of questions to the Mr Guildford to assess his professional competence and independence for the role. Following this, the Panel endorsed the PCC's preferred candidate, and Mr Guildford was confirmed as the Chief Constable.
- 4.49 In December members undertook a site visit to Force Contact and the Firearms Unit. The day included an update on the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner, the work of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), and a briefing on the new Neighbourhood Policing Model.

- 4.50 In January 2025 the Panel completed its statutory review of the PCC's Draft Police and Crime Plan 2025 to 2029. The Panel was satisfied that the Plan reflected current priorities across the West Midlands and would support the continuation of the existing work by West Midlands Police and partner organisations to reduce crime and improve community safety. The Panel made a series of recommendations that asked the PCC to consider including more clarity on ambitions and include specific targets where appropriate or explain how statistically significant changes would be measured, consider establishing a mechanism to monitor the performance of Live Chat, and expand the Plan to include specific reference to tackling graffiti, vandalism and low-level criminal damage. The Panel report and PCC response are published on the Panel website.
- 4.51 In January 2025 the Panel also reviewed the work of the Commissioner and the West Midlands Police in identifying any lessons learnt from the violent disorder that had taken place in the Summer of 2024. This explored the work to ensure residents of West Midlands were safe, working with partners on community cohesion and collaborating with other police forces to ensure that there was an adequate police response in the region and nationally to address any future disorder across the country.
- 4.52 In February 2025 the Panel conducted its statutory review of the proposed Policing Precept for the 2025/26 financial year and considered the PCC revenue budget and capital programme. To prepare for the task members received two briefings to understand how the police funding was distributed and broken down across the force and how members could effectively scrutinise the budget and precept proposals. The Panel endorsed the proposed precept of £229.50 for a Band D property.
- 4.53 Also in February 2025, the Panel conducted its statutory review of the PCC's Annual Report. Members commented on the report and provided a response to the PCC.
- 4.54 At the March Panel meeting two new Independent Panel Members were appointed following an open regional recruitment process. Independent Members provide impartial perspectives to the Panel. The Panel also received reports on the PCC's oversight of the Chief Constable on tackling discrimination and misogyny within West Midlands Police, updates from the PCC and Deputy PCC on recent activities. The annual report monitoring PCC complaints handled by the Panel was also presented.

5 MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

Ward Councillor(s)

- 5.1 Not Applicable

Overview and Scrutiny

5.2 Not applicable

Other

5.3 Not Applicable

6 IMPACT AND IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Best Value

6.1 There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendations in this report. Overview and Scrutiny Committees will continue to scrutinise the delivery of savings as a key element of the Council's financial recovery.

Legal

6.2 There are no legal implications resulting from the recommendations in this report. The work of the O&S Committees meets the Council's statutory duties regarding local government and health scrutiny as set out in the Statutory Guidance: [Overview and scrutiny: statutory guidance for councils, combined authorities and combined county authorities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) and Health Scrutiny Regulations: [Local authority health scrutiny - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Equalities

6.3 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

6.4 The protected characteristics and groups outlined in the Equality Act are: Age; Disability; Gender Reassignment; Marriage and Civil Partnership; Pregnancy and Maternity; Race; Religion and Belief; Sex, and Sexual Orientation.

6.5 Overview and Scrutiny should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them during work programme development, the scoping of work, evidence gathering and making recommendations. This should include considering: How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share a relevant protected characteristic; Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate; Whether there is equality of access to services and fair representation of all groups within Birmingham;

Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people are being realised.

- 6.6 Overview and Scrutiny should ensure that equalities comments, and any recommendations, are based on evidence. This should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service-users views gathered through consultation.

Procurement

- 6.7 There are not procurement implications arising from this report.

People Services

- 6.8 There are no staffing implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

Climate Change, Nature and Net Zero

- 6.9 Overview and Scrutiny Committees will consider climate change, nature and Net Zero issues relevant to the work programme items.

Corporate Parenting

- 6.10 Overview and Scrutiny Committees will consider corporate parenting responsibilities and opportunities relevant to the work programme.

Other

- 6.11 There are no other implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

7 APPENDICES

- 7.1 None

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None