

Report to:	SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Date of Meeting:	1 July 2020

SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To allow Members to consider the Scrutiny Annual Report for 2019/2020, celebrating achievement and identifying improvement to be made.

2.0 Recommendation:

2.1 To review and approve the Scrutiny Annual Report 2019/2020 and forward to Full Council for consideration.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation:

3.1 It is best practice to have an annual report for scrutiny and it will form the second report back to Council required by the Scrutiny Lead Member.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are:

- The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool
- Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience

5.0 Background information

5.1 The production of a Scrutiny Annual Report each year is considered best practice. The report reflects on the work carried out during the year and what lessons can be learned for improvement to continue to drive scrutiny forward at the authority.

- 5.2 The Municipal Year of 2019/2020 was very positive for Scrutiny at the authority with more work carried out than in recent years including scrutiny reviews, policy development, special committee meetings and informal meetings to build relationships between Executive Members and Scrutiny Members.
- 5.3 Due to the ongoing pandemic, in March 2020 it was considered that all scrutiny work should be put on hold in order to reduce the burden on services in crisis mode and also determine how scrutiny meetings could be carried out during the pandemic whilst meeting Government requirements.
- 5.4 Things have slowly been returning to normal with informal meetings held virtually between scrutiny chairs and vice chairs, directors, Executive Members and key partners such as the CCG. The work of scrutiny was temporarily consolidated into two meetings of the Scrutiny Leadership Board, this meeting and another scheduled for 22 July with five key topics in total to be reported on.
- 5.5 Workplanning sessions have been established for the three Scrutiny Committees and it is expected that the schedule of meetings for the Committees will return to normal from September 2020. Following that consideration will need to be given to re-scoping and restarting Scrutiny Reviews and rescheduling (if appropriate) work put on hold due to the crisis.

6.0 **List of Appendices**
Appendix 4(a): Scrutiny Annual Report 2019/2020

7.0 **Legal considerations**

None.

8.0 **Human Resources considerations**

None.

9.0 **Equalities considerations**

None.

10.0 **Financial considerations**

None.

11.0 **Risk management considerations**

None.

12.0 **Ethical considerations**

None.

13.0 **Internal/External Consultation undertaken**

None.

14.0 **Background papers**

None.