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**ENVIRONMENTAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20**

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**Background**

1. The Cardiff Council Constitution requires all Scrutiny Committees to ‘report annually to the Council on their workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate’.
2. A copy of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee’s draft Annual Report 2019/20 is attached at **Appendix 1**. This report outlines the Committee’s main activities undertaken during the 2019/20 Municipal Year. The year’s work has been set out under the following headings:
  - Briefing Information;
  - Inquiries;
  - Performance Monitoring;
  - Policy Review;
  - Pre – Decision Scrutiny.
3. The report concludes by setting out topics by scrutiny type that have been covered by the Environmental Scrutiny Committee during the 2019/20 municipal year. In addition to this, the Committee will have the opportunity to identify suitable priorities for the 2020/21 Environmental Scrutiny Committee work programme.
4. A copy of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee – Draft Annual Report 2019/20 was considered at the 15<sup>th</sup> September meeting. At this meeting Members asked that the report was updated to reflect the impact of the Committee during 2019/20. During this item Members will have an opportunity to decide which of the suggestions put forward should be included within the final version of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee – Annual Report 2019/20.

## **Legal Implications**

5. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

## **Financial Implications**

6. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

## **Recommendation**

The Committee is recommended to consider, if necessary amend, and approve the attached Environmental Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2019/20 for presentation to Council.

**DAVINA FIORE**

**Director of Governance & Legal Services**

**30<sup>th</sup> September 2020**