

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

Background

1. This report provides an update on correspondence arising from recent scrutiny meetings.
2. Following most Committee meetings, the Chair writes a letter to the relevant Cabinet Member or officer, summing up the Committee's comments and recommendations regarding the issues considered.
3. At the Committee meeting on 16 November 2022, the previous Committee Members received a report detailing the correspondence sent and received up to that meeting. There were no responses outstanding.
4. Correspondence has been sent since that meeting and the current position is set out below:
 - i. **No Response Required** - from Councillor Thomas to the Chair's public letter following pre-decision scrutiny of the Shared Prosperity Fund Update report to Cabinet, considered at Committee on 16 November 2022.
5. Copies of the public Chair's letters and responses received can be found on the Council's website page for the relevant Committee meeting, with a hyperlink provided at the top of the page, entitled '*correspondence following the committee meeting*'. Copies of confidential letters have been shared with Committee Members, on a confidential basis.

Way Forward

6. During the meeting, Members have the opportunity to reflect on the correspondence update.

Legal Implications

11. 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

12. 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:

- i. Reflect on the update on correspondence update.

DAVINA FIORE

Director of Governance and Legal Services

6 December 2022