

REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE No. 1, 2025/26

FULL COUNCIL 24 November 2025

Chair: Councillor Matt White

Deputy Chair: Councillor Pippa Connor

1. INTRODUCTION

This report to Full Council arises from consideration of the following report by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 22nd Of July 2025; Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) Protocol 2025.

The Committee noted that two changes proposed to the Scrutiny Protocol. The first change was to paragraph 9.2 which clarified that a Committee Member from the largest opposition group was responsible for chairing the Budget Scrutiny process. The second change was to add a new section (Section 10) to set out the formal role of Overview & Scrutiny in the scrutiny of local health services as specified in national legislation and guidance.

There was discussion about the scrutiny of health services and whether this had previously been part of the remit of the Adults & Health Scrutiny Panel or whether the scope of the remit was being widened through the amendment. In response it was noted that the Panel had always had a focus on health services but that the remit did not reflect this as it tended to be based on the Cabinet Member's portfolio. The amendment was therefore intended as a clarification rather than a significant change to the remit. We noted that the changes would also help to ensure continuity of the scrutiny function in the future by setting out clearly in writing the health scrutiny role as currently performed.

The Committee agreed the revised Overview and Scrutiny Protocol.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Full Council is recommended:

To note the updated Overview and Scrutiny Protocol in line with the practice for noting Committee protocols.