



Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Forward timetable of consultation and decision making

Scrutiny Commission 18 December 2025

Wards affected: All wards

Self-assessment against the overview & scrutiny statutory guidance

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To present the outcome of the self-assessment carried out by members of Scrutiny against the MHCLG overview & scrutiny statutory guidance.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Commission endorses the self-assessment.
- 2.2 The Scrutiny Commission establishes priorities for action from the self-assessment.
- 2.3 The Scrutiny Commission agrees development of an action plan based on the priorities established.
- 2.4 A workshop be arranged for overview & scrutiny members to develop the action plan.

3. Background to the report

- 3.1 The purpose of the overview & scrutiny statutory guidance is to ensure councils are aware of the purpose and practices all authorities should adopt or consider adopting when deciding how to carry out their overview and scrutiny functions.
- 3.2 The guidance recognises that individual authorities' approaches to scrutiny will differ and that whilst we need to have regard to the guidance, it is not statutory.

- 3.3 At its meeting on 26 June 2025, the Scrutiny Commission considered the overview & scrutiny statutory guidance and agreed to hold a workshop to undertake a self-assessment against the guidance.
- 3.4 On 23 October a workshop took place for Scrutiny Commission members. Councillors J Crooks, Lambert and Williams were in attendance. The workshop went through a self-assessment based on relevant paragraphs of the guidance. The self-assessment is attached at appendix A.
- 3.3 The self-assessment uses a red / amber / green rating to indicate how overview & scrutiny operates against key parts of the guidance. Those areas that have been rated red are not necessarily indications of where improvements are required, but where members may wish to consider whether change is a priority.
- 3.4 Members are asked to consider priorities to inform an action plan, for which a workshop will be arranged. This work will be positive in providing a platform for Scrutiny in any future LGR council structure. It is recognised that the implementation for some actions could take the council beyond 2028.

4. Exemptions in accordance with the Access to Information procedure rules

- 4.1 To be taken in public session.

5. Financial implications (IB)

- 5.1 None.

6. Legal implications (ST)

- 6.1 None.

7. Corporate Plan implications

- 7.1 This report supports all objectives as the overview & scrutiny function's work covers all areas of the council.

8. Consultation

- 8.1 The self-assessment was informed by a member workshop.

9. Risk implications

- 9.1 It is the council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.
- 9.2 It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion

based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

9.3 No significant risks associated with this report were identified.

10. Knowing your community – equality and rural implications

10.1 This report does not impact any community or group, however the work of the overview & scrutiny function aims to encourage public participation and reviews those matters that are important to the community.

11. Climate implications

11.1 There are no implications for climate change within the report.

12. Corporate implications

12.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community safety implications
- Environmental implications
- ICT implications
- Asset management implications
- Procurement implications
- Human resources implications
- Planning implications
- Data protection implications
- Voluntary sector

Background papers: Overview & Scrutiny statutory guidance
Report to the Scrutiny Commission, 26 June 2025.

Contact officer: Becky Owen, Democratic Services Manager
Executive member: Councillor SL Bray.