

<b>Meeting:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
<b>Classification:</b>	Part 1
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No
<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>In-Depth Scrutiny Projects 2022/23 and 2023/24</b>
<b>Report Author:</b>	Tim Row (Principal Democratic Services Officer)
<b>Executive Director</b>	Joe Chesterton (Executive Director - Finance & Resources)

## **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To present the draft report and recommendations of the In-Depth Scrutiny Project undertaken on behalf of the Place Scrutiny Committee for 2022/23 entitled "Preparing Southend for the EV Revolution".

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 **That the report and recommendations arising from the Place Scrutiny Committee In-Depth Scrutiny Project for 2022/23, detailed at Section 6 of the attached report, be approved.**
- 2.2 **That the budget implications arising from the recommendations of the in-depth scrutiny project be considered as part of current and future years' budget processes prior to implementation.**

## **3. Background**

- 3.1 At its meeting on 4 July 2022, the Place Scrutiny Committee agreed that an In-Depth Scrutiny Project be undertaken during the 2022/23 municipal year on the theme of 'Preparing Southend for the Electric Vehicle Revolution', as part of the scrutiny work programme for the year (Minute 86 refers).
- 3.2 The project was led by a Councillor Project Team appointed by the Council on 19 May 2022 comprising: Councillors: M Berry, K Buck, J Courtenay, M Dent, A Jones, N Ward, J Warren and P Wexham. Councillor Buck was appointed Chair of the Project Team from January 2023.
- 3.3 The Project Team was supported by relevant officers including J Burr (Executive Director (Neighbourhoods & Environment)) and T Row (Principal Democratic Services Officer/Project Co-ordinator). Other officer support was provided in respect of specific elements of the in-depth scrutiny project.

- 3.4 Progress with regard to the joint in-depth scrutiny project was achieved throughout the 2022/23 municipal year. Efforts were made by the Project Team to ensure that the timescale for the delivery of the project was maintained and that the project was completed by the end of the 2022/23 municipal year.
- 3.5 The draft final report arising from the In-Depth Scrutiny Project was agreed by the Place Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2023 (Minute No. 28 refers). A copy of the final report is attached as Appendix 1 and the recommendations of the Project Team are set out in Section 6 of the report. These have been agreed by the Project Team.
- 3.6 In accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 10 (Part 4 (e) of the Constitution), the report and recommendations of an In-Depth Scrutiny Project would normally be presented to the Cabinet by the chair of the relevant scrutiny committee. As the scrutiny project for 2022/23 was undertaken on behalf of the Scrutiny Committee by the project team, it is suggested that the report and recommendations arising from the project should be presented to the Cabinet by Cllr Buck as Chair of the Project Team and now the relevant Cabinet Member.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 In accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 10 (Part 4 (e) of the Constitution), the report of the in-depth scrutiny report is attached at Appendix 1 for approval by Cabinet.
- 4.2 The recommendations from the review are set out in Section 6 of the report. Some of the recommendations arising from the review have budget implications that will require consideration as part of future years' budget processes prior to implementation.
- 4.3 The Cabinet is requested to endorse the recommendations arising from the in- depth scrutiny project.

#### **5. Other Options**

- 5.1 To note the report but not progress any of the recommendations.

#### **6. Reasons for Recommendations**

- 6.1 Not applicable

#### **7. Corporate Implications**

##### Contribution to the Southend 2050 Road Map

Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation.

### Financial Implications

There are costs associated with organising in-depth projects relating to officer time, but this will all be contained within existing resources.

### Legal Implications

None

### People Implications

None.

### Property Implications

None

### Consultation

As described in report.

### Equalities and Diversity Implications

None

### Risk Assessment

None

## **6. Background Papers**

None

## **7. Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Final report of In-Depth Scrutiny Project 2022/23