



EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT COVER SHEET

Title of Report:	Chairman of the Scrutiny (Community Regeneration) Committee: Annual Report 2022/23	To be marked with an 'X' by Democratic Services after report has been presented
Meeting of:	Corporate Management Team: N/A	
	Leader and Deputy Leaders: N/A	
	Leader's / Leader of the Opposition's Advisory Group / Independent Alliance Advisory Group: N/A	
	Council: 20th March 2023	
	Audit Committee / Scrutiny (Community Regeneration) Committee / Scrutiny (Environment and Health and Well Being) Committee / Scrutiny (Value for Money Council) Committee: N/A	



Is this an Executive Decision:	NO	Is this a Key Decision:	NO
Is this in the Forward Plan:	NO	Is the Report Confidential:	NO
If so, please state relevant paragraph from Schedule 12A LGA 1972:	N/A		

Essential Signatories:

ALL REPORTS MUST BE IN THE NAME OF A HEAD OF SERVICE

Monitoring Officer: **John Teasdale**

Date Signature

Chief Finance Officer: **Sal Khan**

Date Signature

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Council

Date: 20th March 2023

REPORT TITLE:	Chairman of the Scrutiny (Community Regeneration) Committee: Annual Report 2022/23
PORTFOLIO:	Leader of the Council
HEAD OF SERVICE:	Chief Executive
CONTACT OFFICER:	Daniel Arnold (Programmes and Transformation Team Leader) Ext. No. 1626
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Non-specific

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To provide a summary of the Scrutiny activities undertaken by the Scrutiny (Community Regeneration) Committee during 2022/23.

2. Background

- 2.1. The Council's Scrutiny Committees discharge the overview and scrutiny function under Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000.
- 2.2. The Committees are tasked with:
- 2.2.1. Reviewing and/or scrutinising decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;
 - 2.2.2. Reviewing and scrutinising the performance of the Council;
 - 2.2.3. Serving as consultees in relation to executive decisions and key elements of service plans when required; and
 - 2.2.4. Producing progress reports and recommendations to the Executive arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process or refer to the Executive entire reports produced as a result of the scrutiny process. However it is

the decision of the Executive whether or not such a report is subsequently submitted to Full Council.

2.3. In December 2021 the Council, having carried out a review of the Council's arrangements, agreed a number of enhancements to committee structures and membership. In particular it was agreed to strengthen the Council's overview and scrutiny function by creating a standalone Audit Committee and increasing the number of scrutiny Committees to three, aligned with the Corporate Plan priorities. It was also agreed that the membership of the scrutiny committees be revised to 8 members. These changes were implemented with effect from May 2022.

3. Contribution to Corporate Priorities

3.1. This report can contribute to all priorities to some degree (depending on the subject matter of the scrutiny review in question); however the remit of this particular Scrutiny Committee is to consider services within the corporate priority area of "Community Regeneration".

4. Committee Activities

4.1. Scrutiny Work

4.1.1. Over the past year, the Committee has undertaken various scrutiny work, including keeping a watching brief on corporate items and working on a number of specific reviews covering a broad spectrum of subject matter:

4.1.1.1. **Review of Station Street Refurbishment Project:** The review aimed to determine whether the project delivered on its objectives, examined if there are any lessons for future regeneration works, consider whether it was value for money and gather the views of Council stakeholders. A report is scheduled to be approved by the Committee in March 2023. A summary of the scope of this review and the draft recommendations (to be approved by the Committee) can be seen in **Appendix 1**.

4.1.1.2. **Review of Burton Job Fairs and Business Springboard Boost:** At the meeting of the Scrutiny (Community Regeneration) Committee held on 3rd October 2022, Committee Members agreed to invite a representative from the Regeneration team and Councillor Mike Metcalfe to provide an update on the Job Fairs and Business Springboard Boost. A detailed presentation was provided to the committee and an opportunity for questions followed. Further details can be seen in **Appendix 1**.

4.1.1.3. **Uttoxeter Sports Hub update:** Councillor Bev Ashcroft, Council Officers and representatives from the FA have been invited to the March 2023 Scrutiny (Community Regeneration) Committee to give an update on the Uttoxeter Sports Hub.

4.1.1.4. **General Scrutiny Responsibilities:** There has been ongoing scrutiny from the Committee of the quarterly Corporate Plan Performance Reports as in previous years. The Committee has continued to scrutinise Executive Decision Records on an ongoing basis.

4.1.1.5. **Ongoing Programme of Reviews:** The Committee continues to maintain a programme of future reviews, with Members highlighting and prioritising potential topics on an ongoing basis. This approach ensures a full and productive programme of work for the Committee, with additional reviews commencing in the near future as existing work is completed.

5. **Financial Considerations**

This section has been approved by the following member of the Financial Management Unit: Lisa Turner

5.1. There are no financial issues arising from this Report.

6. **Risk Assessment and Management**

6.1. The main risks to this Report and the Council achieving its objectives are as follows:

6.1.1. **Positive** (Opportunities/Benefits):

6.1.1.1. None identified

6.1.2. **Negative** (Threats):

6.1.2.1. None identified

6.2. The risks do not need to be entered in the Risk Register. Any financial implications to mitigate against these risks are considered above.

7. **Legal Considerations**

This section has been approved by the following member of the Legal Team: John Teasdale

7.1. There are no significant legal issues arising from this Report.

8. **Equalities and Health**

8.1. **Equality Impacts:** The subject of this Report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. An equality and health impact assessment is not required.

8.2. **Health Impacts:** The outcome of the health screening question does not require a full Health Impact Assessment to be completed. An equality and health impact assessment is not required.

9. **Data Protection Implications – Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)**

10.1. A DPIA must be completed where there are plans to:

- use systematic and extensive profiling with significant effects;
- process special category or criminal offence data on a large scale; or
- systematically monitor publicly accessible places on a large scale
- use new technologies;
- use profiling or special category data to decide on access to services;
- profile individuals on a large scale;
- process biometric data;
- process genetic data;
- match data or combine datasets from different sources;
- collect personal data from a source other than the individual without providing them with a privacy notice ('invisible processing');
- track individuals' location or behaviour;
- profile children or target marketing or online services at them; or
- process data that might endanger the individual's physical health or safety in the event of a security breach

10.2 Following consideration of the above, there are no Data Protection implications arising from this report which would require a DPIA.

10. **Human Rights**

10.1. There are no Human Rights issues arising from this Report.

11. **Sustainability** (including climate change and change adaptation measures)

11.1. Does the proposal result in an overall positive effect in terms of sustainability (including climate change and change adaptation measures) **N/A**

12. **Recommendation(s)**

12.1. To note the report

13. **Background Papers**

13.1. None

14. **Appendices**

14.1. Appendix 1: Scrutiny (Community Regeneration) Committee Reviews 2022/23 (*below*).

Appendix 1: Scrutiny (Community Regeneration) Committee Reviews 2022/23

Review of Station Street Refurbishment Project

Summary of Background and Scope

Background and Purpose

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the project delivered on its objectives, examine if there are any lessons for future regeneration works, consider whether it was value for money and gather the views of our stakeholders.

Scope

The core themes of this report were:

- Did the project provide value for money with a design that will look good in 10 years and is good enough to carry through to future regeneration projects?
- Did the project deliver on its objectives? Have the business frontages improved? Can we compare shop occupancy levels? Were there any shortcomings or any lessons that can be learned for future regeneration works?
- What do our residents and business owners think of the project? Is there anything Councillors would like to have seen in the project?

Proposed Recommendations

The following draft recommendations will be considered by the Committee at its next meeting on Monday 27th 2023.

- To increase planting in the planters using a mix of ornamental grasses to create a prairie style planting.
- To increase planters on the hanging basket poles to give a more enhanced and aesthetically pleasing floral display along Station Street.
- To continue with the schedule of works in terms of litter picking, weeding and CCEO patrols.
- In terms of seating, consider the feasibility of increasing this provision in other areas of Station Street.
- To increase maintenance and repair any damage caused to the planters in order to retain their visual enhancement.

- To revisit the project's success during 2024 in terms of occupancy rates and footfall to continue to report on our standing with the national average.

Update on Burton Job Fairs and Business Springboard Boost

Burton Job Fairs

At the meeting of 3rd October 2023 it was reported that the Job Fairs were led by Job Centre Plus, and supported by a partnership consisting of BSDC, Burton Albion Community Trust, Trent and Dove Housing, South Derbyshire District Council, Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce and Sharpe's Pottery Museum. This service has been delivering for ten years and on average 4 job fairs are held annually. ESBC contributes to the venue costs, the venues for the fairs are rotated between BSDC, Burton Market Hall and Burton Town Hall.

Virtual and bespoke job fairs were held throughout the height of the COVID pandemic and this year in-person events had been held. The Town Hall event held in June 2022 was one of the best attended; with 501 job seekers attending with 48 employers promoting job vacancies. Employers recorded 322 positive actions. 107 job seekers recorded 322 positive actions, with 107 job seekers left with an interview secured; 193 application forms completed and 22 job offers made on the day. 92% of employers rated the event as good; 84% of job seekers recorded the event as "very good" or "excellent", which are quite typical ratings for the job fairs.

Business Springboard Boost

At the meeting of 3rd October 2023 it was reported that the scheme was launched in 2021/22 and has allocated funds of £200,000 to businesses over the two year period. Businesses could apply for funding from between £500 to £10,000, of which both new and existing businesses are eligible to apply. A total of 118 businesses enquired about the fund between April 2021 and September 2022. Full and valid applications have been received from 20 businesses in round 1 and 9 to date in round 2. 13 businesses were successful in round 1; and 8 so far in round 2.

It was reported that a total of £421,775 of private sector funds had been matched with £159,565 investment from East Staffordshire Borough Council to date, with the project costs being £581,340. So for every £1 of grant, £2.64 of private sectors' money was levied. It was noted that this was one of the strongest returns on investment for recent grant schemes.