

THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

REPORT TITLE: DRAFT ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2025/26

26 MAY 2026

REPORT OF CHAIRPERSON: COUNCILLOR CAROLINE BROOK

Contact Officer: Matthew Watson Tel No: 01962 848 317 Email
mwatson@winchester.gov.uk

WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

At the end of each municipal year, the Chairperson of the Scrutiny Committee reviews the work of all overview and scrutiny bodies and reports to the council.

Appendix 1 contains the draft report for the 2025/26 municipal year so that the Scrutiny Committee can add its comments before it is finalised for presentation to the full council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the committee consider and makes any necessary comments on the content of the report before its submission to full council.

Annual Scrutiny Report

2025/26

What is Scrutiny?

Scrutiny improves decision-making by reviewing and suggesting improvements to decisions.

Decisions taken must be monitored in this way to ensure that the council's services are of high quality and that the decision-making process is transparent and that the council's various programmes of work remain on track. It also provides an opportunity for the views of the public, businesses, community groups and others to be considered when reviewing the council's activities.

To achieve this, the council has established three Policy and Scrutiny committees, which are:

1. The Economy and Housing Policy (EHP) Committee
2. The Health and Environment Policy (HEP) Committee
3. The Scrutiny Committee

One of the key roles of scrutiny is to hold decision-makers to account for their decisions. Scrutiny committees have the power to require Cabinet Members to attend their meetings and explain the decisions they have taken. Having heard from decision-makers and gathered any other evidence, policy and scrutiny committees can make recommendations on how things could be improved.

A key part of the role of the two policy committees is also to consider proposals for new policy and recommend new ways forward as well as to review existing policies and strategies.

In addition to reviewing decisions and performance, the policy and scrutiny committees can look at topics in more detail. Establishing a 'task and finish' group is a way to undertake more detailed work, gather evidence on the topic and develop recommendations that can make a difference and add value.

By focusing on a particular topic, a task and finish group can gather evidence from several sources, including customers, other people affected by the issue and experts from outside the Council. This provides the opportunity for the public to influence the policy-making process.

The Committees

The Council has the following policy and scrutiny committees, which, as specified in the Council's constitution, carry out the overview and scrutiny function with the following remits:

Economy and Housing Policy Committee

To maintain a strategic overview of the progress towards the achievement of the relevant priorities in the Council Plan, to include:

Thriving Places - making our district a place where residents want to live, visitors come and visit and attractive for sustainable business investment and growth that provides opportunities for young people to live and work in the district.

Good Homes for All - Focusing on increasing the number of affordable homes across the district while taking action to ensure our tenants live in council homes that are decent, safe and energy efficient and resilient to the effects of climate change.

Health and Environment Policy Committee

To maintain a strategic overview of the progress towards the achievement of the relevant priorities in the Council Plan, to include:

Greener Faster - working with and enabling businesses, organisations, and residents to reduce carbon emissions and achieve the council's net zero carbon commitment for the district by 2030.

Healthy Communities - providing safe and attractive public facilities and open spaces to enable our residents to improve their health and wellbeing. Working collaboratively with voluntary and community sector partners to tackle social isolation, build community cohesion and support those most in need including targeted support for residents affected by the increased cost of living.

Scrutiny Committee

The Scrutiny Committee reviews and/or scrutinises decisions made, or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions, apart from regulatory functions (decisions made in respect of permissions, licences, and other similar consents).

The broad terms of reference are as follows:

To review and scrutinise any decisions made or to be made or actions to be taken in connection with the discharge of the Council's functions, including holding the Cabinet to account by reviewing and scrutinising executive decisions.

Reviewing and scrutinising the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives and performance targets

Exercise the right to Call-In for reconsideration of decisions made but not yet implemented by the Leader, the Cabinet and Cabinet Members and Officers.

It can monitor the implementation of decisions, and service performance, and make reports and/or recommendations to the Cabinet. More generally, the Scrutiny Committee can select topics for closer enquiry in the interest of improving the council. It can further review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them and/or invite them to address the Committee about their activities and performance. They can ask questions and gather evidence from any person or body (with their consent) and exercise the right to call in, for reconsideration, decisions made but not yet implemented by the Leader, Cabinet, or officers.

For Section 19 of the Police & Justice Act 2006, the Committee acts as the Council's Crime & Disorder Committee and as such is responsible for reviewing and scrutinising the decisions and work of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP)

This report from the Committee Chairperson, which is found later in this report, provides an overview of the work undertaken by the Committee during the 2025/26 municipal year. The committee held seven formal meetings with high attendance and increased public participation. Key topics discussed included waste and recycling, the Local Plan, financial performance, housing, and community safety. The committee made several recommendations to the Cabinet and engaged in constructive discussions with public participants and Councillors.

Membership and Meetings

Economy and Housing Policy Committee: The following Councillors have attended the committee during the year: Councillor Batho, Councillor Chamberlain, Councillor Eve, Councillor Morris, Councillor Murphy, Councillor Gordon-Smith, Councillor Bolton, Councillor White, Councillor Lee, Councillor Westwood, Councillor Brophy, Councillor Horrill.

The following cabinet members attended the committee to address the meeting: Councillor Tod (Leader and Cabinet Member for Regeneration), Councillor Mark Reach (Cabinet Member for Good Homes), Councillor Lucille Thompson (Cabinet Member for Business and Culture), Councillor Neil Cutler (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation)

Health and Environment Policy Committee: The following Councillors attended the committee during the year: Councillor Bennett, Councillor Brophy, Councillor Eve, Councillor Horrill, Councillor Latham, Councillor Lee, Councillor Miller, Councillor Pett, Councillor Power, Councillor Warwick, and Councillor Westwood.

The following cabinet members attended the committee to address the meeting: Councillor Becker (Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities), Councillor Cramoysan (Cabinet Member for Recycling and Public Protection), Councillor Cutler (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation), and Councillor Learney (Cabinet Member for the Climate and Nature Emergency).

Scrutiny Committee: The following Councillors have attended the committee during the year: Councillor Batho, Councillor Bolton, Councillor Brook, Councillor Clear, Councillor Godfrey, Councillor Gordon-Smith, Councillor Horrill, Councillor Laming, Councillor Lee, Councillor Murphy, Councillor Pett, Councillor Power, Councillor Wallace.

The following cabinet members attended the committee to address the meeting:

Councillor Becker (Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities), Councillor Cramoysan (Cabinet Member for Recycling and Public Protection), Councillor Cutler (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation), Councillor Learney (Cabinet Member for the Climate and Nature Emergency), Councillor Porter (Cabinet Member for Place and Local Plan), Councillor Reach (Cabinet Member for Good Homes), Councillor Tod (Leader and Cabinet Member for Regeneration)

Items considered during 2025/26

The following specifies the substantial agenda items for each meeting of the three Committees.

Scrutiny Committee.

5 June 2025

1. Q4 Finance & Performance Monitoring
2. Appointments Of External Bodies Related to Scrutiny
3. Annual Scrutiny Report 2024/25
4. Annual Report - Exceptions to Forward Plan 2024/25

8 September 2025

1. Housing Revenue Account Outturn 2024/2025
2. General Fund Outturn 2024/2025
3. Q1 Finance & Performance Monitoring
4. Work Request from A Committee Member: The Planning Enforcement Service

13 November 2025

1. General Fund Budget Options & Medium-Term Financial Strategy
2. HRA Business Plan & Budget Options
3. Hobbs View, Southbrook Cottages, Micheldever - Lessons Learned
4. Q2 Finance & Performance Monitoring

19 January 2026

1. Central Winchester Regeneration Scheme Update

10 February 2026

1. Treasury Management Strategy 2026/27
2. Planning Enforcement - Task and Finish Group - Feedback to Scrutiny Committee
3. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2026/27
4. General Fund Budget 2026/27
5. Capital Investment Strategy 2026-2036

4 March 2026

1. Annual Community Safety Update
2. Planning Enforcement - Task and Finish Group - Feedback to Scrutiny Committee
3. Q3 Finance & Performance Monitoring

17 March 2026

1. Adoption Of the Winchester District Local Plan 2040 And the Preparation of The Local Plan 2044

In addition, at each meeting the committee was provided with the latest Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

Health and Environment Policy Committee

3 July 2025

1. Nature Improvement Plan (HEP043)

18 September 2025

1. Future Of Waste Project (Presentation)
2. Air Quality Strategy (Presentation)

2 December 2025

1. Climate Adaptation - HEP045 And Presentation
2. Community Resilience Strategy - HEP044

25 February 2026

1. Enhanced Biodiversity Duty (HEP046)
2. Support Creation of Local Carbon Credits (Presentation)
3. Public Spaces Protection Order and Enforcement (Presentation)
4. Building A Resilient Waste Service for the Future (Presentation)

Economy and Housing Policy Committee

2 July 2025

1. Social Housing Regulation Consumer Standard Improvement Plan.
2. Review of the Economy and Housing Policy Committee Resolutions for 2024/25.

16 September 2025

1. Winchester District Tourism Strategy 2026-2030 - Baseline Report and Outline Recommendations.
2. Housing Development Strategy.
3. Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping.
4. Housing Compliance Policies.

25 November 2025

1. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan & Budget Options.
2. The Local Visitor Economy Partnership.

23 February 2026

1. Housing Revenue Account - Future Policy Options.

Public participation.

The policy and scrutiny committee welcomes and encourages engagement with residents and other community representatives during its public participation session. During 2025/26 all public meetings of the council were live-streamed, recorded and made available on the council's YouTube channel, which has improved the visibility and transparency of meetings.

The agenda, minutes, audio and video recordings for all Policy and Scrutiny meetings can be found on our website.

Review of 2025/26

Economy and Housing Policy Committee.

Report of the chairperson of the committee, Cllr James Batho.

Economy

At the September meeting the Business and Culture team brought forward the Winchester District Tourism Strategy 2026-2030 - Baseline Report and Outline Recommendations. The committee acknowledged the challenges highlighted, including the need to diversify the visitor market, encourage business collaboration, and secure investment to deliver the strategy. The committee supported the progression of the strategy based on the work undertaken but asked for clarification on whether the Foodies Festival at River Park was subsidised by the council and for future, specific festivals, such as Boomtown, to analyse the town centre footfall data to identify any significant differences.

At the meeting in November the Local Visitor Economy Partnership was presented. The district's visitor economy was significant, welcoming over 8 million visitors annually, which supported 5,760 local jobs and contributed £292 million to the local economy and in recognition of this in May, Winchester City Council, alongside Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council, and Southampton City Council, gained Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) accreditation from Visit England.

The committee supported the council's role in facilitating the delivery of the LVEP and realising its benefits, noting it was a timely opportunity for the City Council to work on a wider regional stage, particularly in the context of local government reorganisation (LGR).

Housing

At the first meeting in July the Housing team presented the Social Housing Regulation Consumer Standard Improvement Plan which was in response to a self-referral made to the Social Housing Regulator and the subsequent regulator judgment on 30 April 2025 of C3, indicating serious failings and a need for improvement in safety, quality, transparency, influence, and accountability. The committee made several recommendations, the main points being to ensure that impact on tenants was kept to a minimum, concerns about officer time and resource and that processes were put in place to ensure the condition of properties were regularly checked in the future.

In September the committee looked at the Housing Development Strategy 2025 to 2032. The strategy was updated due to significant economic changes, including increased interest rates, build cost inflation and a slowdown in affordable housing providers acquiring Section 106 units. The 2024 resident survey identified the availability of affordable housing as the most urgent issue facing communities, reinforcing the need for an up-to-date strategy.

The committee agreed that the final strategy should place a strong emphasis on proactively working with and supporting registered providers and other partners to ensure their capacity to deliver affordable housing is maximised and, where appropriate, councillors to promote awareness of Action Hampshire's rural housing enabling service to parish councils.

The committee also considered the draft Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy for 2025-2030 which set out how the council and its partners would respond to the risk of homelessness and the reality of rough sleeping. Despite national pressures, including rising housing costs and a shortage of affordable homes, the council had successfully remained in the top 25% nationally for homeless prevention activities, and the use of bed and breakfast accommodation had been kept to a minimum. The committee commended the officers and partner organisations for their work in preventing homelessness and noted the significant achievements made and acknowledged the external challenges, including funding constraints and demographic changes, and supported the need to ensure council funding provisions continued through any period of local government reorganisation. The committee requested officers to provide data on the average length of stay in temporary accommodation for the previous two years.

The final report for this meeting was Housing Compliance Policies. The report was to seek approval and adoption of six core housing repair, maintenance, and compliance policies covering fire safety, gas and heating, electrical safety, asbestos, water hygiene, and lift safety. There is a business need to navigate a complex framework of statutory obligations to ensure council homes were safe and legally compliant and Pennington's Choice, specialist property and surveying consultants, were commissioned to develop the policies in partnership with the council's technical teams. The presentation was to raise awareness of the policies with committee members, rather than for consultation on the content.

At the November meeting the committee was asked to review and comment upon Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan & Budget Options. The paper presented a balanced and viable HRA business plan that protected tenants' money, The main pressures on the HRA were macroeconomic factors, particularly interest rates and inflation, which impacted the HRA's £200 million debt. Consequently, the interest rate assumption was increased from 5% to 6%.

At the final meeting in February the committee considered the Housing Revenue Account - Future Policy Option. This was dealt with in a more interactive format than for regular committee items. It was felt that this approach would generate a deeper debate and achieve a cross-party understanding and consensus of the key aspects of the HRA. Following an introduction, the committee adjourned to work in three separate groups to attempt to balance a HRA budget before reconvening to discuss their findings. Each group sought to construct a balanced HRA budget, weighing competing priorities such as investing in existing stock, increasing new homes, and redeeming HRA debt. Following the sessions the committee invited officers and the Cabinet Member to consider further work in these areas:

- (a) The feasibility and implications of seeking a 5% saving within the housing management and repairs and maintenance budgets, and whether any resulting insights could be reported back to the committee.
- (b) The potential for alternative delivery models — for example, increased in-house resourcing for work currently delivered by third parties, enhanced partnership working, and improved utilisation of existing assets — and whether any emerging findings could be shared with the committee in due course.
- (c) The importance of taking interest rate exposure into account when developing future plans, given the financial pressures associated with renewing loans.

The Health and Environment Policy Committee

Report of the chairperson of the committee, Cllr Jerry Pett

Introduction

The Health and Environment Policy Committee (HEP) met four times during the municipal year, in July, September, December and February. The majority of its business was to receive and comment on papers or presentations of ongoing projects and strategies within its purview rather than scrutinise policy papers before being taken by Cabinet. This was a source of frustration to some members of the committee, but members were, nonetheless, voluble in their willingness to contribute to the debates. It was also agreed to set-up two members-only working groups to 'deep dive' into issues of interest to the committee, these being:

Nutrient Neutrality

Provision of Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Facilities

An agreed paper giving the output of the first of these was passed to the relevant Portfolio holders in March 2026 and their response is awaited.

July 2025 Meeting

Members of the public addressed the committee on the authority's EV charging strategy and the scheduling of grass and hedge cutting.

The committee reviewed the draft Nature Improvement Plan, presented to the committee by Cllr Learney as the portfolio holder and the Principal Ecologist/Biodiversity Officer. The Plan was intended to build on the extant Biodiversity Action Plan and members showed great interest in the draft, making many constructive suggestions to improve its clarity and efficacy to be addressed before its next iteration, and requested that it be recirculated to members ahead of its submission to Cabinet.

September 2025 Meeting

A member of the public addressed the committee on their frustrations at the limits of the recycling service offered in the District, the linkage between poor air quality and the limited permeability of the city centre for cyclists and pedestrians, and the low take-up of all-electric vehicles by licensed taxi drivers in the city. The Cabinet Member for Recycling and Public Protection, Cllr Cramoysan, responded, noting the divided responsibility between District and County authorities for waste collection and disposal, the lack of evidence for poor air quality 'hotspots', and measures taken to mitigate the low take-up of electric vehicles among Hackney drivers.

Future of Waste: The committee received two informative presentations, introduced by Cllr Cramoysan, from the Corporate Head of Service (Place). The first, an update on collection and recycling capabilities, was timely as the Food Waste Collection scheme had started to be rolled out across the District. The second updated the Committee on the introduction of 'Extended Producer Responsibility', which aims to incentivise suppliers to increase the amount of recyclable packaging in their products.

Air Quality Strategy: The Service Lead: Public Protection gave a presentation updating the committee on the evolving Air Quality Strategy. Members were keen to ensure that the scope of the strategy should be seen to be more comprehensive in its coverage of the whole district. They also observed the linkages between the loss of rural buses and the inevitable increase in car use in the city, and other factors beyond the Authority's control, such as the cumulative effect of the activity of Southampton Air and Sea ports on the District's air quality.

December 2025 Meeting

Climate Adaptation: The Cabinet lead for Climate Change, Cllr Learney, introduced a paper on Climate Adaptation, reiterating that action on climate change is the Council's overarching priority. The purpose, supported by a presentation from the Sustainability Manager and Sustainability Programme Manager, was to enable the Committee to inform and shape the development of the Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment. Good engagement from members provided the presenters with several pointers to perceived lacunae in the assessment's coverage of the full District and its stakeholders.

Community Resilience Strategy: The portfolio holder for Healthy Communities, Cllr Becker, introduced a report for the committee that outlined this draft strategy, the ultimate aim of which was to develop a publicly accessible document that signposted communities and promoted community engagement. The Service Lead: Communities and Wellbeing presented the draft, emphasising its purposes as the development of social capital and empowering communities to respond to challenges and improving their own well-being. Members were supportive of the strategy and encouraged greater definition of 'what good looks like' in this context.

February 2026 Meeting

Enhanced Biodiversity Duty: The Cabinet member for Climate and Nature Emergency, Cllr Learney, introduced a report on the Authority's progress against the Enhanced Biodiversity Duty ahead of a presentation by the Service Lead: Sustainability and Natural Environment and the Ecology/Biodiversity Officer. Members noted that there was much community-led activity in this area and queried the Authority's ability to collate comprehensive data on the delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain across the District, but were keen, individually, to act as conduits for this. It was also noted that the aim would significantly benefit from greater clarity in the units used for reporting BNG

Creation of Local Carbon Credits: The same team presented an update on the creation of local carbon credits that led to several questions from members that exposed some difficulty in their ability to judge the effective collation and management of data from schemes delivered by a variety of actors across the District. There was broad consensus that there was a need for better coordination across all who are contributing to the generation of local carbon credits to give greater transparency of delivery.

Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) and Enforcement: The Cabinet member for Recycling and Public Protection, Cllr Cramoysan, introduced a presentation by the Service Lead: Public Protection that sought members' views on the use and potential expansion of PSPOs in the District and their enforcement. Members asked for further data on the use of Fixed Penalty Notices within the extant PSPO in Winchester City, suggesting that there was insufficient information immediately available to them to judge its overall efficacy.

Whilst one member cited a perception among residents that many people, and particularly women, felt at risk when walking through the city centre in hours of darkness this was not generally accepted by others.

More pertinently, a clear majority of members felt that more evidence would be required to support any future request to expand the role of PSPOs in any part of the District, citing the risk of criminalising those already marginalised in our communities to little, if any, beneficial effect.

Building a Resilient Waste Service for the Future: Cllr Cramoysan introduced a presentation by the Corporate Head of Service (Place) that reflected the recent introduction of the food waste collection scheme, which was showing early signs of strong uptake. He also noted that, in future, the capacity for kerbside glass recycling could potentially be increased by bringing glass within the scope of the main recycling bins. He also noted that the instances of fly-tipping had decreased, possibly discouraged by recent successful prosecution of offences in both public and private land.

Conclusion

My thanks to all officers and portfolio holders who have engaged with the committee through the year – the standard of their papers and presentations was uniformly high. Thanks also to the Democratic Services team who have very effectively administered the Committee's business. Finally, my personal thanks to all members who sat on the Committee throughout the year, and in particular my Deputy Chair, Cllr Brophy, who collectively ensured that the standard of debate and engagement remained cordial and constructive.

The Scrutiny Committee

Report of the chairperson of the committee, Councillor Caroline Brook.

This report provides an overview of the work undertaken by the Scrutiny Committee during the 2025/26 municipal year in fulfilling its role to review and scrutinise decisions made and actions taken. Throughout the year, the committee held seven formal meetings. Public participation remained a valuable part of our process, and we received questions and deputations from members of the public and non-committee members on a variety of significant issues, including the Central Winchester Regeneration Scheme, the disposal of council assets, and the adoption of the Local Plan.

June 2025 At our June meeting, we reviewed the Q4 Finance and Performance Monitoring report. We considered feedback from a member sub-group regarding Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and requested that future reports include definitions for carbon emissions scopes and separate gas consumption data for the Guildhall and main offices. We also raised outstanding actions regarding the acquisition process for The Corner House property and the need for more data on local speeding issues from the Community Safety Partnership.

September 2025 In September, we scrutinised the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and General Fund Outturns for 2024/25, raising questions about progress toward Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) targets for housing stock and the acceleration of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds. While reviewing Q1 Performance, we asked the Cabinet to consider developing an integrated KPI relating to climate change and reviewed fly-tipping clear-up rates. We also agreed to establish a time-limited Task and Finish Group to conduct a focused review of the council's Planning Enforcement Service. This Task & Finish Group subsequently met, and a report was brought back to our March 2026 meeting.

November 2025 Our November meeting focused heavily on financial planning, as we considered the General Fund Budget Options and the HRA Business Plan. We raised concerns regarding wastewater charges, proposed rent increases for five-bedroom social homes, and the criteria for disposing of surplus HRA assets. We also reviewed the "lessons learned" report from the Hobbs View Passivhaus pilot project in Micheldever, which experienced a cost overspend. We recommended that future projects include a clearer assessment of the council's risk appetite and that the lessons learned from Hobbs View be evaluated upon the completion of the Woodman Close project. Finally, we reviewed Q2 Performance, requesting, amongst other matters, a member briefing on the "Greener Faster" priority to clarify details on nutrient credits and biodiversity net gain.

January 2026 In January, we held an additional meeting where our primary focus was the Central Winchester Regeneration Scheme. We examined the implications of the consortium partner GKRL withdrawing and PFP Igloo assuming 100% of the consortium responsibilities. Members queried whether this shift altered the project's risk profile or caused a loss of essential skills. To ensure transparency, we recommended that Cabinet provide a visual timeline of the project's predicted milestones for councillors and the public.

February 2026 At our February meeting, we scrutinised the General Fund and HRA Budgets for 2026/27. We questioned the impact of a worse-than-expected provisional government spending settlement, as well as an annual £1.4 million reduction caused by a government calculation error regarding business rates pooling. We also sought assurances on the funding of digital transformation software and the condition of the Guildhall. Alongside the budgets, we reviewed the Treasury Management Strategy and the Capital Investment Strategy for 2026-2036.

March 2026 The committee held two meetings in March. At our first meeting, we received the Annual Community Safety Update from Chief Inspector Korine Bishop, focusing on high-harm crime, anti-social behaviour, and rural crime. We recommended that future reports include trend data and clearer breakdowns between the city centre, market towns, and rural areas. We also received the findings of the Planning Enforcement Task and Finish Group, noting that communication with councillors and parishes was the most frequently raised issue, and we requested a progress report on the service improvements in six months.

At our final, additional meeting, we scrutinised the adoption of the Winchester District Local Plan 2040 and the preparation of the Local Plan 2044. We questioned the council's readiness to apply new energy efficiency standards and the challenges posed by a compressed 30-month statutory timeframe for the new 2044 plan. We recommended that Cabinet provide a clear transition timetable for upskilling staff on energy standards and arrange a briefing on how the 30-month deadline will be met while ensuring robust public consultation.

Members of the cabinet attended all our meetings, allowing for direct discussion and questioning concerning policy and progress. All committee members contributed constructively to the issues put before them, and I am grateful to them and the officer team for their support. My thanks also go to the Committee Vice-Chair, Councillor Wallace, for his help and support during the past 12 months.