

Date of issue: Tuesday, 22 November 2022

MEETING	COUNCIL
DATE AND TIME:	TUESDAY, 22ND NOVEMBER, 2022 AT 7.00 PM
VENUE:	COUNCIL CHAMBER - OBSERVATORY HOUSE, 25 WINDSOR ROAD, SL1 2EL
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER: (for all enquiries)	SHABANA KAUSER 07821 811 259

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS

The following Papers have been added to the agenda for the above meeting:-

- * Item 4 was not available for publication with the rest of the agenda.
- * Item 5 is an updated version of the papers circulated with the agenda.

PART 1

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>WARD</u>
4.	Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.	1 - 2	All
5.	Recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting held on 17th November 2022	3 - 4	All

- Scrutiny Improvement Review

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COUNCIL MEETING – 22 NOVEMBER 2022**QUESTIONS FROM ELECTORS UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 9****1. From Mr Steven Gillingwater to Councillor Smith**

“Would the Conservative Leader agree with me that Slough is facing a cost of living crisis but we are also facing the cost of Labour crisis - is it right for vulnerable people in our town to be used as scapegoats by the Labour Party or are there alternatives for those struggling?”

2. From Mr Gurcharan Singh Manku to Councillor Anderson

“We all know that due to financial mismanagement and other adventurous investments SBC has a mountain of debt, all assets are being sold and most are at a loss. My question is, what other avenues are being explored to pay this debt without reducing essential public services?”

3. From Mr Hardeep Singh Jandu to Councillor Anderson

“What challenging decisions will be taken to find an additional £6 million in savings next year from the council?”

4. From Mr Iftakhar Ahmed to Councillor Swindlehurst

“Can Cllr Swindlehurst let me know how much has the labour councillors claimed in allowances and paid by Slough Borough Council since January 2018 till now?”

5. From Ms Siobhan Dauti to Councillor Swindlehurst

“For the last few years, due to the shutdown of Priors Close, the Phoenix centre, and Elliman Avenue day centres for adults with physical and learning disabilities, people in our borough have been forced to source daily activities for themselves or their family members through various charities and organisations throughout Slough. Council funding has been withdrawn for a lot of the most the vulnerable people in our town, leaving parents, some of whom are in their 80s, to find, fund and transport their children to various activities. This is just a list for people with learning disabilities, not elderly, children and families etc. Since you have withdrawn lots of funding, and are now planning on cutting funding to CVS to bring it 'in house', how do you intend to manage a whole array of services, with a multitude of volunteers (if they stay as volunteers given the mistrust local people have of this Council) with one social work manager at the helm?”

6. From Mr Neel Rana to Councillor Pantelic

“Why were the voluntary and community sector services paused as to now the need arisen to re-commission these services and what are the service provisions being replaced?”

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Slough Borough Council

Report To: Council

Date: 21 November 2022

Subject: Scrutiny Improvement Review –
Recommendations of the Overview & Scrutiny
Committee

1. Summary and Recommendations

- 1.1 The Overview & Scrutiny Committee considered the report on the Scrutiny Improvement Review at its meeting on 17th November 2022 as set out in the Council agenda published on 14th November 2022. This update paper includes the recommendations of the Committee from that meeting.
- 1.2 The Committee agreed two adjustments to the proposed recommendations. Firstly, to shorten the phrase ‘...as soon as practicable ahead of May 2023’ in recommendation (d) by removing the words ‘ahead of May 2023’. Secondly, by adding a clause asking the proposed Working Group to give consideration to having two scrutiny committees rather than the single one recommended by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny.

2. Recommendations:

- 1) That the O&S Committee recommends to Council:
- a) That the actions to date and next steps in the Scrutiny Improvement Action Plan at Appendix B be noted
 - b) That the findings of the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny’s Scrutiny Improvement Review at Appendix A be noted
 - c) That the recommendations found in section 3 of the Scrutiny Improvement Review Feedback Report Letter be endorsed.
 - d) That a Scrutiny Working Group be reconvened in order to make recommendations to council, as soon as practicable, about the detailed changes to Overview and Scrutiny, plus associated constitutional changes, and that consideration be given to recommending a second committee in addition to the proposed Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee.

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