

Report to Council

Date of meeting: 17 February 2015

**Subject: Overview and Scrutiny Report to Council –
17 February 2015**

Contact for further information: Cllr R Morgan

Democratic Services Officer: A Hendry



Recommendations/Decisions Required:

That the Overview and Scrutiny Progress report from January 2015 to the Present be noted.

Report:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting 12 January 2015

1. At our meeting on Monday 12 January we received a presentation from six members of the Epping Forest Youth Council. They were joined by thirteen other Youth Council members to give an overview of what they had been up to over the past year.
2. We noted that one of their biggest profile events last year was the Youth Conference held here in our Council Chamber on 14 October. They had 90 students attending from various secondary schools from around our district. They were consulted on issues affecting the lives of local young people, on ideas on how to improve the local community and on how to promote local democracy.
3. Social media was a big part of their work as it promoted the work they did and raised the profile of young people in the district. Recently their on-line following had doubled.
4. Youth volunteering was another big theme for them and as young volunteers they were passionate about encouraging young people to volunteer their time and energy. Their Youth Volunteer programme was now being taken up by all secondary schools in the district.
5. As always, we were very impressed by the quality of their presentation; we went on to question them on their work and the projects undertaken over the last year.
6. We then considered the Cabinet's Key Objectives for 2014/15 and the progress made in quarter 2, up to the end of September 2014. We noted the progress made and queried any parts of it that we were unsure of.
7. We went on to review our Committee's and the Scrutiny Panel's work programme to date.
8. We noted that that the County's Mental Health Services were to give a presentation to our Committee at a future meeting and discussed the issues we would like them to present on and wondered if the Youth Council would like to be present and ask their own questions.
9. We also noted that NEPP would like to come to one of our meetings and agreed that we should facilitate this.
10. Finally, we reviewed the Cabinet's Forward Plan but had no specific items that we wanted to consider.