

## **Report to Council**

**Date of meeting: 25 September 2018**

**Subject: Overview and Scrutiny Report to Council**

**Contact for further information: Councillor M Sartin  
(Chairman, Overview and Scrutiny Committee)**

**Committee Secretary:** Adrian Hendry, ext.4246

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### **Recommendations/Decisions Required:**

**That the Overview and Scrutiny progress report from July 2018 to the present be noted.**

### **Report:**

#### **Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting – 24 July 2018**

1. At our meeting on Tuesday 24 July, we welcomed three officers from Epping Forest Citizen's Advice. They were there to give us an overview of the work they did in our area.
2. We noted that they provided free, confidential, independent and impartial advice to people on their rights and responsibilities. They provided advice on a face to face basis and by telephone and also hold an evening pro-bono solicitor's and a family solicitor's rota. Last year they saw nearly 2000 people and advised them on 7,409 different issues. Providing this service, they have 44 volunteers who had solved the problems of 2 out of every 3 clients.
3. They told us that they had several challenges that they had to face, including funding, volunteer and recruitment training, staff shortages and in particular the EFDC objectives set by us when we allocated them funding. They suggested that joint objectives should be agreed between them and us so that it matched more of their core work. They would also like better monitoring as at present the monitoring was restricted only to their 5 objectives.
4. We then reviewed the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions and the Transformation Programme report on their project dossier.
5. We then reviewed and agreed the membership change to the Resources Select Committee and the work programmes of our committee and the other select committees.
6. Finally, we hope to have Stansted Airport in the form of officers from the Manchester Airport Group at our October meeting to answer some questions that we have. The two officers we are expecting are their Planning Manager and their Corporate Social Responsibility Manager. Matters that they will cover will include the planned expansion of the airport, the handling of increased passenger numbers in the short term and employment opportunities for local residents. Members are welcome to attend this meeting and if they have any questions they are welcome to send them to the Democratic Service Manager for forwarding to the Stansted officers to prepare an answer.