



REPORT TO:	Council
DATE:	23 rd January 2023
SUBJECT:	Joint scrutiny of the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership
PURPOSE:	To review the Partnership's progress after its first year.
KEY DECISION:	No
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Councillor Paul Skinner
REPORT OF:	Councillor Edward Mossop (ELDC) on behalf of the Partnership Scrutiny Task Group
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL
EXEMPT REPORT?	No

SUMMARY

The Overview and Scrutiny Committees of Boston Borough Council, South Holland District Council, and East Lindsey District Council commissioned a joint Scrutiny Task & Finish Panel to undertake a review of the progress on the opportunities identified in the approved business case for the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership.

Note: All content is contained in the attached Partnership Task Group report and not summarised in this covering report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To note the attached report (**Appendix A**) and associated recommendations.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To note the recommendations put forward by Scrutiny Task & Finish Panel as part of a scrutiny process.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None

1. REPORT

1.1 This report brings forward a joint scrutiny report, attached at **Appendix A**. The scope of this work was set out by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees at ELDC, SHDC, and BBC and is attached at **Appendix B**.

1.2 This report has been presented to each of the Partnership Councils' relevant sovereign scrutiny committees before being presented to Council. The scrutiny work undertaken was required under the Partnership's Memorandum of Agreement and is an annual commitment.

1.3 All content is contained in the attached Partnership Task Group report and not summarised in this covering report.

1.4 The Leaders of each Partnership Council have collectively considered the recommendations. The Leaders thanked the Panel for their work and are pleased to be able to accept 9 of the 10 recommendations made. The only recommendation Leaders jointly felt unable to accept is recommendation 6 – this conclusion was reached as Member allowances are a sovereign Council matter and not something the Partnership should seek to influence.

EXPECTED BENEFITS TO THE PARTNERSHIP

The opportunity to learn from the Partnership's first year of operation.

IMPLICATIONS

SOUTH AND EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP

The recommendations contained in the report at **Appendix A** are similar in many ways to the recommendations that came from the recent Partnership Peer Review. Much of the work needed to address the issues raised is already underway and will help us drive the Partnership forward.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Only those considered by the Panel in the attached report.

STAFFING

Only those considered by the Panel in the attached report.

CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Only those considered by the Panel in the attached report.

DATA PROTECTION

Only those considered by the Panel in the attached report.

FINANCIAL

Only those considered by the Panel in the attached report.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Only those considered by the Panel in the attached report.

STAKEHOLDER / CONSULTATION / TIMESCALES

Consultation with a number of councillors and officers was undertaken and helped form the basis of the final report and recommendations. Details of these consultations can be found at **Appendix C, D and E** of this report.

REPUTATION

Only those considered by the Panel in the attached report.

CONTRACTS

none

CRIME AND DISORDER

none

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY/ HUMAN RIGHTS/ SAFEGUARDING

Only those considered by the Panel in the attached report.

HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Only those considered by the Panel in the attached report.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Only those considered by the Panel in the attached report.

LINKS TO 12 MISSIONS IN THE LEVELLING UP WHITE PAPER

none

ACRONYMS

none

APPENDICES

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report: -

APPENDIX A	Report of the panel
APPENDIX B	Scoping document
APPENDIX C	Questions for guest witnesses
APPENDIX D	Questionnaire results
APPENDIX E	Meeting notes

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT	
A report on this item was previously considered by:	
Environment & Performance Committee	22 nd November 2022

REPORT APPROVAL	
Report author:	Councillor Edward Mossop (ELDC) on behalf of the Partnership Scrutiny Task Group
Covering report signed off by:	Rebecca James, Scrutiny Officer
Covering report approved for publication:	James Gilbert, Assistant Director - Corporate