WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2019

OXFORDSHIRE AND THE INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

(Contact: Keith Butler, Tel: (01993) 861523)

I. PURPOSE

To consider the adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism and to make recommendations thereon to the Council.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee considers the report and makes relevant recommendations to the Council.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At the meeting held on 23 January, Mr Sharone Parnes addressed the Council regarding 'Oxfordshire and the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism'. A copy of his submission, encouraging the Council to adopt the IHRA definition, is attached as Appendix A to this report.
- 3.2 At that meeting the Council resolved that this Committee be requested to give consideration to the adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism and to make recommendations thereon to the Council.
- 3.3 The working definition of antisemitism was adopted by the IHRA on 26 May 2016 and is set out, together with illustrative examples provide by the IHRA to guide its work, at Appendix B.
- 3.4 The Committee is invited to consider the report and make recommendations to the Council.

4. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

None appropriate

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

6. REASONS

Not applicable

Keith Butler

Head of Democratic Services

(Author: Paul Cracknell Tel: (01993) 861523; Email: paul.cracknell@westoxon.gov.uk

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Background Papers:

None