

**Report for:** Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 28 January 2019

**Title:** Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Panel Work Programme

**Report authorised by:** Ayshe Simsek, Acting Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

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**Ward(s) affected:** N/A

**Report for Key/  
Non Key Decision:** N/A

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

1.1 This report seeks approval of the work plans for 2018-20 for the Committee and its Panels.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 To note the work programmes for the main Committee and Scrutiny Panels at Appendix A and agree any amendments, as appropriate.

**3. Reasons for decision**

3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) is responsible for developing an overall work plan, including work for its standing scrutiny panels. In putting this together, the Committee will need to have regard to their capacity to deliver the programme and officers' capacity to support them in this task.

**4. Background**

4.1 An updated copy of the work plan for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is attached as Appendix "A". The current work plans for all of the other scrutiny panels are also attached.

4.2 Responses to all of the issues raised in the survey and feedback from the Scrutiny Café have been drafted and shared with all of those who attended the Café. The responses are also on the Council's website:  
<https://www.haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy/how-decisions-are-made/overview-and-scrutiny/scrutiny-consultation>

*Overview and Scrutiny Committee*

4.3 After reported previously, an additional Committee meeting has been arranged for Monday 29 April. This is to assist the Committee in completing its work plan and, in addition, to provide an opportunity to approve final reports of reviews undertaken by the Committee and its panels.

- 4.4 The meeting will also receive a report on the further development of overview and scrutiny, which has been moved back from the Committee meeting on 25 March. In order to inform this, a “Scrutiny Stocktake” will be arranged with Scrutiny chairs and officers involved in scrutiny. This will be facilitated by Ann Reeder, who recently assisted with mentoring of Chairs. The intention is that those attending will give their feedback on their experience of scrutiny to date in the new Council and consider how ways of working might be refreshed and capacity developed further
- 4.5 The Committee will be meeting on 25 January to consider interim recommendations for its review on Fire Safety in High Rise Blocks. A draft final report will be submitted to the Committee meeting on 25 March. It will now be possible for work to begin on the Committee’s review on Local Business, Employment and Growth. However, work on the scope and terms of reference requires completion before evidence gathering can commence.

#### *Forward Plan*

- 4.6 Since the implementation of the Local Government Act and the introduction of the Council’s Forward Plan, scrutiny members have found the Plan to be a useful tool in planning the overview and scrutiny work programme. The Forward Plan is updated each month but sets out key decisions for a 3-month period.
- 4.7 To ensure the information provided to the Committee is up to date, a copy of the most recent Forward Plan can be viewed via the link below:

<http://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RP=110&RD=0&J=1>

- 4.8 The Committee may want to consider the Forward Plan and discuss whether any of these items require further investigation or monitoring via scrutiny.

### **5. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

- 5.1 The contribution of scrutiny to the corporate priorities will be considered routinely as part of the OSC’s work.

### **6. Statutory Officers comments**

#### **Finance and Procurement**

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report. Should any of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny generate recommendations with financial implications these will be highlighted at that time.

#### **Legal**

- 6.2 There are no immediate legal implications arising from the report.
- 6.3 In accordance with the Council’s Constitution, the approval of the future scrutiny work programme falls within the remit of the OSC.

- 6.4 Under Section 21 (6) of the Local Government Act 2000, an OSC has the power to appoint one or more sub-committees to discharge any of its functions. In accordance with the Constitution, the appointment of Scrutiny Panels (to assist the scrutiny function) falls within the remit of the OSC.
- 6.5 Scrutiny Panels are non-decision making bodies and the work programme and any subsequent reports and recommendations that each scrutiny panel produces must be approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Such reports can then be referred to Cabinet or Council under agreed protocols.

## **Equality**

- 6.6 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:
- Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
  - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
  - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 6.7 The Committee should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them within its work plan and those of its panels, as well as individual pieces of work. This should include considering and clearly stating;
- How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share the nine protected characteristics;
  - Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate;
  - Whether there is equality of access to services and fair representation of all groups within Haringey;
  - Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people, are being realised.
- 6.8 The Committee should ensure that equalities comments are based on evidence. Wherever possible this should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service-users views gathered through consultation.

## **7. Use of Appendices**

Appendix A; Work Plans for the Committee and the scrutiny panels.

**8. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

N/A