

NOTICE OF MEETING

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Monday, 20th July, 2020, 6.30 pm - Microsoft Teams Meeting:
Watch it [here](#)**

Members: Councillors Lucia das Neves (Chair), Pippa Connor (Vice-Chair), Erdal Dogan, Adam Jogee and Khaled Moyeed

Co-optees/Non Voting Members: Mark Chapman (Parent Governor representative), Luci Davin (Parent Governor representative), Yvonne Denny (Co-opted Member - Church Representative (CofE)) and Lourdes Keever (Co-opted Member - Church Representative (Catholic))

Quorum: 3

1. **FILMING AT MEETINGS**

Please note that this meeting may be filmed or recorded by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by anyone attending the meeting using any communication method. Although we ask members of the public recording, filming or reporting on the meeting not to include the public seating areas, members of the public attending the meeting should be aware that we cannot guarantee that they will not be filmed or recorded by others attending the meeting. Members of the public participating in the meeting (e.g. making deputations, asking questions, making oral protests) should be aware that they are likely to be filmed, recorded or reported on.

By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

The chair of the meeting has the discretion to terminate or suspend filming or recording, if in his or her opinion continuation of the filming, recording or reporting would disrupt or prejudice the proceedings, infringe the rights of any individual or may lead to the breach of a legal obligation by the Council.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3. **URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chair will consider the admission of any late items of urgent business. (Late items will be considered under the agenda item where they appear. New items will be dealt with at item below).

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered:

- (i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, and
- (ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting room.

A member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Register of Members' Interests or the subject of a pending notification must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.

Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal interests and prejudicial interests are defined at Paragraphs 5-7 and Appendix A of the Members' Code of Conduct

5. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

To consider any requests received in accordance with Part 4, Section B, paragraph 29 of the Council's constitution.

6. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 12)

To agree the minutes of the meeting on 22nd June as a correct record.

7. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS - CABINET MEMBER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Verbal update

8. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS - CABINET MEMBER FOR LOCAL INVESTMENT & ECONOMIC GROWTH

Verbal update

9. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE & SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE (PAGES 13 - 16)

10. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

11. FUTURE MEETINGS

6th October
23 November 2020
12 January 2021

18 January 2021
15 March 2021

Philip Slawther, Principal Committee Co-ordinator
Tel – 020 8489 2957
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Bernie Ryan
Assistant Director – Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer
River Park House, 225 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8HQ

Friday, 10 July 2020

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MINUTES OF MEETING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 22ND JUNE 2020

PRESENT:

Councillors: Lucia das Neves (Chair), Pippa Connor (Vice-Chair), Erdal Dogan, Adam Jogee and Khaled Moyeed

Co-opted Members: Luci Davin (Parent Governor representative) and Lourdes Keever (Church representative)

20. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred Members present to item 1 on the agenda in respect of filming at the meeting. Members noted the information contained therein.

21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Chapman (Parent Governor representative) and Ms Denny (Church representative).

22. URGENT BUSINESS

None.

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

24. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

None.

25. SCRUTINY REVIEW INTO BLUE BADGES AND SUPPORTING BETTER ACCESS TO PARKING FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

Councillor Jogee presented the final report of the Scrutiny Review on Blue Badges and Supporting Better Access to Parking for Disabled People. He reported that approval of the report had been delayed by the cancellation of the Committee's meeting on 12 March. He felt that the report's recommendations were realistic and would provide tangible improvements for disabled people. In answer to a question, he stated that the Covid-19 pandemic had brought many of the issues referred to in the report into sharper focus. Approval of the report's recommendations would provide an opportunity for action to be taken swiftly to address them.

RESOLVED:

That the final report of the review into Blue Badges and Supporting Better Access to Parking for Disabled People be approved.

26. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS - CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULTS & HEALTH

Councillor Sarah James, the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health, gave a short overview of key developments within her portfolio and, in particular, the response to the Covid-19 crisis and next steps arising from it. The following key points were noted:

- a. She gave her condolences to those within the local community who had lost loved ones during the pandemic. A virtual book of condolences would be opened. She acknowledged the contribution of the local voluntary and community sector in responding to the crisis. Large numbers of people within the borough were coping with loss and, in addition, there had also been a severe economic impact, with a 550% increase in Universal Credit claims;
- b. People from Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities had been severely affected by the crisis, with disproportionately high death rates. Going forward, further consideration would need to be given to the wider determinants of health;
- c. The response to the pandemic had been undertaken with a range of partners. There were now new discharge hubs at the North Middlesex and Whittington hospitals and this was enabling discharges to take place far quicker. The Community Reablement Service had significantly increased its capacity. The "Proud to Care" initiative had facilitated the successful recruitment of care workers and other boroughs were now emulating this campaign. A new model of Intermediate Care had also been developed. In addition, supplies of emergency Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) had also been provided where required;
- d. Public Health had played a key part in responding to the crisis and were instrumental in developing a local outbreak plan. There were more than 9,000 people in Haringey who were shielding and over half had registered on the government's website. Many residents had needed essential supplies and Connected Communities had responded to this, including the provision of food parcels. Around 9,000 people had contacted the Connected Communities helpline, which could provide a wide range of support including information, advice and guidance. All calls were triaged for any safeguarding issues;
- e. Food had been the top issue and there were now two food hubs within the borough. Some direct purchasing of food had taken place and the food available included hot meals for those who needed them. 30% of those receiving food parcels needed them due to financial issues. The remainder had been unable to access food;
- f. Lack of digital access was a particular issue and the voluntary and community sector were helping to address this;
- g. Responding to the crisis had been a partnership effort and much stronger links had been developed, especially with the voluntary and community sector. 700 volunteers had assisted with the response. A grant of £600,000 had been made available to voluntary and community sector organisations in order to assist with the further development of the sector;
- h. A Community Impact Assessment was being undertaken. In particular, the effect on the BAME community was being considered and a number of recommendations had been made to the Health and Well Being Board. Further data would be collected and work undertaken to develop greater resilience. In addition, the protection of BAME staff would be considered including the undertaking of risk assessments.

Equitable access to services was also a factor and, in addition, the wider determinants of health needed to be considered; and

- i. There were still many challenges to be faced, including responding to any second wave of infections. In addition, there was a clear need to address inequalities.

In answer to a question regarding the payment of sick pack to care workers, Councillor James reported that standard Statutory Sick Pay was provided for within contracts. There were regular provider forums and the key messages that had been given was that care agencies should allow staff who were shielding to be furloughed and continue to pay staff who were self-isolating but not ill themselves.

In respect of Connected Communities, she reported that its work had been widely praised. The service had provided a more agile way of working, with a “light touch” approach. It also involved working co-operatively across the voluntary and community sector. She hoped that the model could be maintained going forward. Connected Communities had pre-dated the pandemic and was continuing to be rolled out. Learning from its experience in dealing with the pandemic would be taken on board.

In response to another question regarding the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on BAME communities, she stated that a report from Public Health England report had covered this issue. In addition, a report from the borough’s BAME Forum had been made to the Health and Well Being Board. Both of these had highlighted the need for more information and robust and reliable research. The North Middlesex Hospital was, amongst others, undertaking research into the issue. The voice of local communities had been built into the Community Impact Assessment. It was important that the right questions were being asked and that there was a need for more equitable access to services. Some groups within the community were not coming forward and the reasons for this needed to be established.

She reported that the Community Impact Assessment included provision for research within the community and consideration of the wider determinants of health. In addition, the community framework had been co-produced with the community and voluntary sector. There was still much work to do though. The policies of Community Wealth Building and Health in all Policies were key and were now embedded across the whole of the Council.

She reported that the first draft of the Community Impact Assessment was circulating for comment. It was to be an iterative process. Joint work also needed to be undertaken by the Health and Well Being Board and it was important that recommendations were agreed. The George Floyd case had also raised a number of issues that needed to be covered. The Community Impact Assessment had been led by officers and the community so far. There would nevertheless be opportunities for elected Members to feed into the process in due course.

In response to a question regarding care homes and exposure to Covid-19, she reported that close contact was being maintained with care providers. Advice and PPE were provided. Action was also included in the local outbreak management plan. Will Maimaris, Director of Public Health, reported that the best way of protecting care homes was to prevent virus outbreaks in the community as it was very difficult to stop leakage. Hospital discharge protocols were being looked at and this had also been done earlier

on. Care home testing was being increased and consideration was also being given to the use of the antibody test. The testing of staff was of particular importance.

In answer to a question, Mr Maimaris reported that there was an up to 20% chance of false negative results of swab tests. If there were nevertheless clear symptoms, people could be re-tested. Basic infection control measures needed to be effective. Lessons learnt from were being shared with care homes.

In respect of domestic violence, the Cabinet Member reported that the lockdown had been difficult for families. Although reports had dropped initially, they had since risen by between 30 and 35%. Refuges were all now open and four new ones were being made available. However, services normally relied on face-to-face interaction and, although clients could be contacted virtually, they may not necessarily be in a private space. There was likely to be a surge in demand once lockdown ended. There were also the issues of girl gangs and honour based violence. The next few months were likely to be challenging.

Mr Maimaris reported that listening and engagement events had taken place, including some with BAME communities. The commissioning of services for Violence against Women and Girls was also being reviewed, which was a key part of the Community Safety Strategy for the borough. Issues were also reported to the Health and Well Being Board. The Committee requested further information of the listening and engagement that had taken place. **(Action: Director of Public Health)**.

In respect of the Autism Hub, the Cabinet Member reported that the aim was that this would open in September. Advertisements had gone out, contractors lined up and the capital spend agreed. There would be a need for re-provisioning Learning Disability and Autism. Although the intention was that housing would also be provided on the site, this was likely to be upstairs from where the service would be located.

Committee Members requested that a Members' briefing be arranged on the Recovery and Renewal Plan for the borough. The Cabinet Member felt that this was a good idea and agreed to speak to the Leader of the Council regarding it **(Action – Cabinet Member for Adults and Health)**. The Plan was a large piece of work and very much a work in progress. It would be updated regularly. It included an analysis of lessons learnt and how services would resume.

Beverley Tarka, Director of Adults and Health, that engagement with residents had been initiated and would be continuing. This had been facilitated by the greater use of IT, which had enabled more regular contact with residents. The enhanced contact with residents had included welfare and benefit checks and feedback had been very positive. The response to the pandemic had been integrated and through partnership, including sharing of data. There was much that could be built on. Improved discharge pathways had enabled a figure of zero delayed transfers of care to be achieved. Capacity for reablement had also been doubled and current arrangements would be made permanent. The Recovery and Renewal Plan had so far included involvement with a range of partners, staff and Healthwatch. More engagement was planned, particularly with health partners. There was potential for additional surges in infection and planning to address this needed to be developed further.

In answer to a question, it was agreed that information would be provided to the Committee on how voluntary sector organisations could apply for the £600,000 of grant funding that had been allocated by the Council (**Action – Director of Adult and Health Services**).

RESOLVED:

1. That further information be provided to the Committee by the Director of Public Health on the listening and engagement exercises that had taken place in respect of Violence Against Women and Girls;
2. That a Member Briefing session be arranged on the borough's Recovery and Renewal Plan; and
3. That information be provided to the Committee by the Director of Adults and Health on how voluntary sector organisations can apply for the £600,000 of grant funding that has been allocated by the Council for voluntary and community sector organisations.

27. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS - CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Councillor Kaushika Amin, the Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families gave a short overview of key developments within her portfolio and, in particular, the response to the Covid-19 crisis as well as the next steps. The following key points were noted:

- a. The crisis had severely impacted on children and young people within the borough. The vast majority of them were currently not attending school and there were implications arising from this for their education and mental health and well-being;
- b. There had been a recent High Court judgement which had been critical of the Council and specifically the Disabilities Team. A Peer Review of the service, led by an independent practitioner, had been set up by the Council in response. The approach was recommended by London Councils. There would also be an audit of cases to ensure that they were no others where there might be similar issues;
- c. During the last three months, it had been necessary to conduct much work virtually or by mobile phone. The Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) had been mainly office based but engagement had also taken face-to-face, with the use of PPE if necessary;
- d. There had been a considerable amount of work undertaken with schools, including twice weekly virtual meetings involving Haringey Education Partnership. There had also been meetings with Headteachers and teaching unions regarding safety concerns on the re-opening of schools. There were now over 4,000 children back in school; and
- e. A full holiday programme for children and young people was planned, which would include both virtual and annual events. It would be advertised both through booklets and online.

Councillor Dogan reported that he and the Chair had met Councillor Brabazon, the then Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families and the Director of Children's Services to discuss the court case and steps that had been taken to address the matters

that had arisen. In answer to a question, the Cabinet Member stated that the Peer Review would aim to report by the end of June. It was to be led by Islington Council, who had been identified as Haringey's "partner in practice". The report would be available in six weeks' time. The audit of all cases would be undertaken by an independent practitioner and would look at all live cases. There was also a court work project taking place that would aim to ensure that good practice was put in place. The aim of these processes was to identify what had gone wrong and to prevent it from happening again. The structure of the Disabilities Team would be looked at as part of this process.

In answer to a question, the Cabinet Member acknowledged the need for independence in the review so that those undertaking it were not familiar to people within the service. Haringey was part of a London wide project to share experience and challenge though and had been linked with Islington as part of this. It was nevertheless important that Islington was held to account for the robustness and impartiality of the process followed. The Director of Children's Services reported that there was no formal requirement to inform OFSTED in this situation. This was only essential where there had been significant harm to a child or a death but OFSTED had nevertheless been informed.

In respect of drug and alcohol issues that impacted on children, the Director of Children's Services reported that support was always available. It had been a long term issue and there were services in place to address the issue. These would have been part of virtual arrangements during the lockdown. An assessment had not yet been undertaken on the impact of the lockdown but could be done.

It was agreed that the Cabinet Member and relevant officers from the Children and Young People's Service would be invited to an informal meeting of the Children and Young People's Panel that would be taking place in July (**Action – Principal Scrutiny Officer**). The Director of Children's Services stated that the issue of drugs and alcohol could be brought to a future Panel meeting. In addition, the Cabinet Member suggested that information regarding the role of the voluntary and community sector within this could also be considered.

In answer to a question regarding the powers that the local authority had over schools, the Cabinet Member stated that this was a complex issues due to the varying status of schools within the borough. However, the local authority had a clear role as employer to significant numbers of school staff and a responsibility to children within the area. The government's initial advice regarding re-opening of schools had not been helpful but had since improved and there was now a wide range of guidance available.

In respect of school finances, the Assistant Director for Schools and Learning reported that school finance officers would be taking part in an on-line workshop. In addition, finance issues could be brought to the Schools Forum.

In answer to another question, the Cabinet Member reported that risk assessments had been undertaken when schools were re-opening. Health and safety had been looked at very carefully and there had been particular concern regarding BAME staff and children as well as children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND).

The Assistant Director of Schools and Learning reported that the Council had been working very closely with schools during the lockdown. There had been a series of on line workshops on re-opening that had been very well attended. Plans for re-opening needed to be signed off by governing body Chairs and Headteachers. Processes had been quality assured and BAME issues taken fully into account. In addition, the Director of Public Health had provided advice.

The Cabinet Member reported that the impact of the lockdown on the most disadvantaged children would be assessed, both locally and nationally. In particular, the Department for Education (DoE) was providing catch up support, both to small groups and individually. This would include access to a national tutor programme. Work would also be undertaken with parents so that children were better able to access learning from home. Committee Members noted that lack of access to IT equipment was a big issue. The Cabinet Member reported that schools had been trying to obtain equipment to assist families as part of a package of support. She would be happy to report further on the issue.

The Committee highlighted the drop in the number of safeguarding referrals following the lockdown and the increased proportion leading to a Section 47 investigation. The Director of Children's Services reported that the lack of referrals from schools was key to this. The service was responding to this issue through the MASH and it was agreed that the Assistant Director for Social Care agreed to draft a briefing note for the Committee on the issue, including outcomes (**Action – Assistant Director for Social Care**). The Director of Children's Services reported that referrals were now getting back to their normal level.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Cabinet Member and relevant officers from the Children and Young People's Service be invited to an informal meeting of the Children and Young People's Panel to be arranged to take place in July; and
2. That the Assistant Director for Social Care be requested to draft a briefing note for Committee Members on how the Children and Young People's Service had responded to the drop in safeguarding referrals that had taken place during lockdown and the outcomes of action that had been taken.

28. MINUTES

The Committee agreed that its review on Fire Safety in High Rise Blocks would be revisited in the light of the recent fire at Firs House and that updated terms of reference be drafted to take this forward.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Committee's review on the issue of Fire Safety in High Rise Blocks be revisited and updated terms of reference be drafted; and
2. That the minutes of the meetings of 14th January, 23rd January and 26th May 2020 be approved.

29. FUTURE MEETINGS

- 20th July 2020;
- 6 October 2020;
- 23 November 2020;
- 12 January 2021;
- 18 January 2021; and
- 15 March 2021.

CHAIR: Councillor Lucia das Neves

Signed by Chair

Date

**Overview and Scrutiny
Action Tracker**

Mtg. Date	Action	Response	Who by	Status
22 nd June	The Committee requested further information of the listening and engagement that had taken place.	<p>A VAWG & BAMER Community Forum was organised by the VAWG Team at Haringey Council on 17th June 2020. The forum invited BAMER services, community groups, faith leaders, and members of the community to voice the struggles and barriers that they are facing in order to collectively discuss what resources and support are needed to address these issues.</p> <p>The meeting was comprised of 30 attendees including representatives from Haringey Council, specialist VAWG BAMER services, BAMER- specific community services, and other non-VAWG and non-BAMER specialist organisations who work with women and girls from BAMER backgrounds.</p>	Will Maimaris	Completed
22 nd June	OSC requested that a Members' briefing be arranged on the Recovery and Renewal Plan for the borough. The Cabinet Member agreed to speak to the Leader of the Council on this.	Briefing arranged for 9 th July.	Cllr James	Completed
22 nd June	Information to be provided to the Committee on how voluntary sector organisations could apply for the £600,000 of grant funding that had been allocated by the Council.	A presentation from a Member briefing session on the community organisations support package was sent to Members on 9 th July.	Beverley Tarka	Completed
22 nd June	Cabinet Member and relevant officers from the Children and Young People's Service to be invited to an informal meeting of the Children and Young People's Panel that would be taking place in July.	Agreed. Officers are liaising to the service and Lead Member to agree a suitable date.	Rob Mack	Ongoing.

22 nd June	Assistant Director for Social Care to draft a briefing note for Committee Members on how the Children and Young People's Service had responded to the drop in safeguarding referrals that had taken place during lockdown and the outcomes of action that had been taken.	The Service is drafting a briefing note which will be circulated on the week of 13 th July.	Beverley Hendricks	Ongoing
26 th May	The Leader agreed to come back to the Committee with a response on the provision of sick pay to care workers.	A response was emailed to members on 30 th June.	Cllr Ejiofor	Completed
26 th May	The Leader agreed to come back to the Committee with a written response on the development of a local test, track and trace model for Covid-19, including information on access for those who needed to be regularly tested.	A response was emailed to members on 22 nd June.	Cllr Ejiofor	Completed
26 th May	Members to provide any examples or areas where they thought messaging on Covid-19 could be improved to the Leader's Office.	Members to feedback if they have any concerns.	OSC members	Noted
26 th May	Ongoing funding for housing rough sleepers and how this would affect those with no recourse to public funds to be followed up going forwards.	Further update to OSC once there is clarity on funding position.	Clerk	Scheduled to future meeting.
23 rd January	Cllr Adje agreed that he would come back to the Committee with details of how the west of the Borough was represented through the Haringey Business Alliance. The Cabinet Member also agreed to come back to the Committee with options for the site next to the Muswell Hill Library site and some thoughts on potential conflicts with need for housing etc.	A response was emailed to members on 22 nd June.	Cllr Adje	Completed
23 rd January	The Cabinet Member agreed to provide an update on administration's progress in relation to bringing vacant properties back into use and whether this related to privately-owned or Council properties.	A response was emailed to Members on 22 nd June.	Cllr Adje	Completed

14 th January	Agreed to look into use of autism-friendly colour-coding of library books in Marcus Garvey and consideration about how to develop a consistent approach across Haringey libraries	<p>The Library Service Management Team members have continued discussions to obtain expert advice to ensure that our libraries are able to meet the needs of our children and young people and adults with special needs. A review of our facilities and stock will be completed to ensure we have appropriate places and materials, including autism-friendly colour-coding. The Service is also developing a plan to ensure a consistent approach across Haringey libraries.</p> <p>The Head of Libraries is also currently in the process of rearranging a meeting, following the lockdown, with the Head teacher of the Grove School to better understand how the school has approached setting up classrooms, breakout and support space and sensory rooms to support children and young people in the best possible way with a view to replicating elements of this in Haringey's Children's Libraries wherever possible.</p>	Charlotte Pomery	Completed
14 th January	An all Member briefing session to be set up around leisure and the Fusion contract.	Briefing was scheduled for March but was postponed due to Covid-19.	Cllr Amin/ Zoe Robertson	Ongoing
25 th November	The Committee requested that future reports also include details of how many Member Enquiries were responded to before the ten day target time and that a breakdown of those cases and the number of days taken be provided	This is will provided in next years data report April 2019 – March 2020	Debbie Darling	Scheduled to a future meeting
25 th November	The Committee sought further information around the Citizens Panel and its composition. Update to be brought to March meeting as part of the consultation and engagement report.	Noted.	Clerk	Scheduled to a future meeting

22 nd July	Feedback on libraries and the library peer review to be provided to a future meeting.	Scheduled to come back later in the year.	Cllr Amin/Judith Walker/ Andy Briggs	Scheduled to a future meeting.
25 th March	The Chair requested that a report on social value rents come back to a future meeting of the Committee for consideration, particularly in relation to its impact upon the voluntary and community sector.	To be include on a future agenda.	Rob Mack	Scheduled to a future meeting.
25 th March	The AD for Strategy and Communications agreed to come back to the Committee at a future date to provide an update on participation outcomes on Borough Plan and the Citizens Panel.	Update on Borough Plan participation outcomes and Citizens Panel to come back to future meeting	Joanna Sumner	Scheduled to come back to a future meeting.

Report for: Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 20 July 2020

Title: Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Panel Work Programme

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

Lead Officer: Rob Mack, Principal Scrutiny Support Officer
Tel: 020 8489 2921, E-mail: rob.mack@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: N/A

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

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 This report seeks outlines plans to develop the workplans for the Committee and its Panels for 2020-22.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the proposals within the report for the development of the workplan for 2020-22 be approved.

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 The Committee and its Panels completed their workplans for 2018-20 and were in the process and developing new ones for 2020-22 when the Covid-19 crisis occurred. A scrutiny survey had been undertaken and analysed as part of this process and another Scrutiny Café event was planned but this needed to be postponed.

4.2 After lockdown, the normal work of the Committee and its Panels was suspended. Regular virtual meetings of the Committee were arranged though with short, focused agendas. In order to not divert or distract key officers and partners from responding to the crisis, these centred around Cabinet Member questions with officer involvement and the need for written reports reduced. The first round of Panel meetings for the year were cancelled.

4.3 With the crisis now past its initial peak and some degree of normality returning, the Committee and its Panels are now in a position to resume their normal work, albeit with the need for virtual meetings for the foreseeable future. The Committee will therefore need to give further consideration to how it develops its

workplan. A key part of this will be plans for how the borough recovers from the Covid-19 pandemic.

- 4.4 It is proposed that a virtual engagement process be arranged with representatives of the local community in order to inform the work planning process. This will be in two parts:
- A small event to take place during the summer; and
 - A larger event later in the year.
- 4.5 The next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny and the next round of meetings of each of the Panels will be taking place before the work planning process is fully completed. It is therefore proposed that agendas for these should focus on key issues identified with Chairs after discussion with Cabinet Members and senior officers/partners. In addition, Panel Chairs will also consult with Members of their Panels. It is suggested that each meeting focussed on one or two key issues.
- 4.6 As agreed at the last meeting, the Committee will be re-visiting its previous review on Fire Safety in High Rise Blocks. New key lines of further will be developed for this. In addition, progress with the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee's earlier review will be considered.
- 4.7 In addition, the Committee will need to return to the review that it had been undertaking on Business Support – Procurement and the Local Supply Chain. In particular, appropriate recommendations will need to be considered. Panels are now also in a position to resume any outstanding reviews that have been taking place.

Forward Plan

- 4.8 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.
- 4.9 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>
- 4.10 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