

**Report for:** Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel – 18 December 2018

**Title:** Work Programme Development 2018-19

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

**Lead Officer:** Robert 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 reports on the development of the Panel's work plan for 2018/20.

## **2. Recommendations**

2.1 That the Panel considers its work programme, attached at **Appendix A**, and considers whether any amendments are required.

2.2 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be asked to endorse any amendments at its next meeting.

## **3. Reasons for decision**

3.1 The work programme for Overview and Scrutiny was finalised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 19 November 2018. Arrangements for implementing the work programme have progressed and the latest plans for the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel are outlined in **Appendix A**.

## **4. Alternative options considered**

4.1 The Panel could choose not to review its work programme but this could diminish knowledge of the work of Overview and Scrutiny and would fail to keep the full membership updated on any changes to the work programme.

## **5. Background information**

5.1 At its meeting on 4 June, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed a process to develop a two-year work plan for the Committee and its panels. This included measures to ensure that the views of residents and stakeholders are taken into account in developing, including the setting up of a "Scrutiny Café" event. The Committee meeting on 23 July further developed this approach, which also included an on-line scrutiny survey.

- 5.2 The survey went live on 20 August and ran until 14 September. 191 responses were received. Suggestions within this for potential areas to be looked at in detail were combined with those from the Committee and its panels and discussed at the Scrutiny Café. This took place on 13 September and attracted over 50 people, including a large number of people from voluntary sector and community organisations. A summary of the issues raised within the Scrutiny Survey and the feedback from the Scrutiny Café for each of the areas covered by the Committee and its panels was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 2 October.
- 5.3 Following this, the Chair and each of the scrutiny panel Chairs met with relevant officers to discuss further those matters relating to the respective areas covered by the Committee and their panels and how these could be addressed within work plans, including;
- Which issues would be best suited to dealt with by an in-depth scrutiny review;
  - Which issues might be better suited to “one-off” item at a regular meeting. In addition, there are also routine items such as performance data, budget scrutiny and Cabinet Member Questions which may also provide a means of addressing issues;
  - What other work may be taking place within the Council on issues raised so that any overview and scrutiny involvement complements rather than conflicts with this;
  - Whether issues may have already been looked at recently by overview and scrutiny recently and, if so, whether to re-visit them.
- 5.4 An updated copy of the work plan for the Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel is attached as Appendix “A”.
- 5.5 In the light of the discussions in respect of the areas covered by the Panel, the Chair has also now drafted a response to all of the issues raised in the Survey and feedback from the Scrutiny Café that were relevant to it, which is attached as Appendix “B”. This has been done so that it is possible to show how all the matters raised during the work planning process have been addressed.
- 5.6 The Panel has agreed that the first review that it will be undertaking will be on the issue of Special Educational Needs and Disability provision. A draft scope and terms of reference for the review is attached as Appendix “C”. Dates for evidence sessions for the review will be arranged shortly.
- 5.7 The work plan for the Panel will be monitored and reviewed regularly, with each meeting receiving an update on progress.

#### *Forward Plan*

- 5.8 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.

- 5.9 To ensure the information provided to the Panel 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>

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

## **6. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

- 6.1 The contribution of scrutiny to the corporate priorities will be considered routinely as part of the Panel's work.

## **7. Statutory Officers comments**

### **Finance and Procurement**

- 7.1 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**

- 7.2 There are no immediate legal implications arising from the report.
- 7.3 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the approval of the future scrutiny work programme falls within the remit of the OSC.
- 7.4 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.
- 7.5 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**

- 7.6 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.

7.7 The Panel should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them within its work plan, 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.

7.8 The Panel should ensure 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.

## **8. Use of Appendices**

Appendix A – Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel; Work Plan for 2018/20

Appendix B – Children and Young; Response to issues raised in Scrutiny working planning process

Appendix C – Draft scope and terms of reference for review on Special Educational Needs and Disability

## **9. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

N/A