

Report for: Housing Planning & Development Scrutiny Panel – 23rd June 2025

Title: Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Panels - Membership and Terms of Reference

Report

authorised by: Ayshe Simsek, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

Lead Officer: Philip Slawther, Principal Scrutiny Officer
Tel: 020 8489 5691, E-mail: philip.slawther2@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 sets out the terms of reference and membership for Overview and Scrutiny and its panels for 2023/24.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Panel is asked to:
- (a) Note the terms of reference (Appendix A) and Protocol (Appendix B) for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its Panels.
 - (b) Note the policy areas/remits and membership for each Scrutiny Panel for 2023/24 (Appendix C).

3. Reasons for decision

- 3.1 The terms of reference and membership of the scrutiny panels above need to be confirmed at the first meeting of each municipal year.

4. Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 4.1 As agreed by Annual Council on 19 May, the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2025/26 will be:
- Cllr Matt White (Chair);
 - Cllr Pippa Connor (Vice-Chair);
 - Cllr Makbule Gunes;
 - Cllr Anna Lawton;
 - Cllr Adam Small.

- 4.2 The Committee will also include statutory education representatives, who shall attend and have voting rights solely on education matters when being considered by the main committee.
- 4.3 The terms of reference and role of the OSC is set out in the Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part Four (Section G) of the Council's Constitution. This specifies key responsibilities for the Committee. This information is provided in full at **Appendix A**.
- 4.4 There is also a Protocol, outside the Constitution and provided at **Appendix B**, that sets out how the OSC is to operate.

5. Scrutiny Panels

- 5.1 The Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules state that the OSC may establish a number of Scrutiny Review Panels to examine designated Council services.
- 5.2 The proposed 2025/26 membership for the four Scrutiny Panels is listed below.

Scrutiny Panel	Membership
Adults and Health	Cllr Pippa Connor (Chair), Cllr Cathy Brennan, Cllr Thayahlan Iyngkaran, Cllr Mary Mason, Cllr Sean O'Donovan, Cllr Felicia Opoku, Cllr Sheila Peacock.
Children and Young People	Cllr Anna Lawton (Chair), Cllr Anna Abela, Cllr Kaushika Amin, Cllr George Dunstall, Cllr Mark Grosskopf, Cllr Marsha Isilar-Gosling, Cllr Ruairidh Paton.
Culture, Community Safety & Environment	Cllr Makbule Gunes (Chair), Cllr Liam Carroll, Cllr Luke Cawley Harrison, Cllr Eldridge Culverwell, Cllr George Dunstall, Cllr Mark Grosskopf, Cllr Sue Jameson.
Housing, Planning & Development	Cllr Adam Small (Chair); Cllr Dawn Barnes, Cllr John Bevan, Cllr Isidoros Diakides, Cllr Holly Harrison-Mullane, Cllr Lester Buxton, Cllr Khaled Moyeed.
All Councillors (except Members of the Cabinet) may be members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Scrutiny Review Panels. However, no Member may be involved in scrutinising a decision in which he/she has been directly involved.	

- 5.3 The policy areas to be covered by the four existing Scrutiny Panels are attached at **Appendix C**, together with the relevant portfolio holders for each scrutiny body.

- 5.4 Given the Council's difficult financial situation, the terms of reference for Overview and Scrutiny has been updated to allow more prominent focus on budget monitoring and performance. The Committee will still keep its strategic focus as well as oversight of customer focus and worklessness which is in response to community views expressed at the Scrutiny Café in September 2024. However, culture and leisure has moved to the remit of the Culture, Community Safety and Environment Scrutiny Panel.

6. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 6.1 The contribution scrutiny can make to strategic outcomes will be considered as part of its routine work.

7. Statutory Officers Comments

Finance and Procurement

- 7.1 The Chief Finance Officer has confirmed the Haringey representatives on the JHOSC are not entitled to any remuneration. As a result, there are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report.
- 7.2 Should any of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny generate recommendations with financial implications then these will be highlighted at that time.

Legal

- 7.3 The Assistant Director for Corporate Governance has been consulted on the contents of this report.
- 7.4 Under Section 21 (6) of the Local Government Act 2000, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the power to appoint one or more sub-committee to discharge any of its functions. The establishment of Scrutiny Panels by the Committee falls within this power and is in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Constitution.
- 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 OSC. Such reports can then be referred to Cabinet or Council under agreed protocols.
- 7.6 The OSC can appoint two representatives to the North Central London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This is in accordance with the decision made by full Council on 22 March 2010 that the making of nominations to the Joint Health Committee be delegated to the Committee.

Equality

7.7 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.

7.8 The proposals outlined in this report relate to the membership and terms of reference for the OSC and carry no direct implications for the Council's general equality duty. However, the Committee should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them within its work programme 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.

7.9 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.

8. Use of Appendices

Appendix A - Part Four (Section G) of the Constitution of the London Borough of Haringey.

Appendix B - Scrutiny Protocol

Appendix C - Overview & Scrutiny Remits and Membership 2025/26

9. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985