



Haringey Council

Agenda item:

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE On 30 JUNE 2008

Report Title: **Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme 2008/09**

Report of: Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Cllr. Gideon Bull

Wards(s) affected: All

Report for: **Non key decision**

1. Purpose

1.1 To indicate the reports Overview and Scrutiny Committee wishes to receive in the Municipal Year 2008/09.

1.2 To indicate topics from Appendix E, which the Committee wishes to commission in-depth “task and finish” scrutiny review panels, in addition to the scrutiny of the Cabinet’s budget proposals for 2009/10.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee:

- i. Agrees the reports it wants submitted to it during the 2008/9 Municipal Year from Appendices A, B, C and D as indicated.
- ii. Identifies and prioritises those topics from Appendix E and commissions task and finish review panels to investigate the topics as indicated;
- iii. Indicates those topics from Appendix E that it considers unsuitable for a in-depth scrutiny review and that should therefore be taken off the rolling programme list, with the remainder forming a rolling programme of future reviews;
- iv. Agrees the Forward agenda plan at Appendix F.

Report Authorised by: Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Cllr. Gideon Bull

Contact Officer: Trevor Cripps – Overview and Scrutiny Manager

Tel:0208 489 6922

trevor.cripps@haringey.gov.uk

3. Chief Financial Officer Comments

3.1 The Chief Financial Officer has been consulted over the contents of this report and notes that there are no specific financial implications arising directly that cannot be met from existing cash limited budgets.

3.2 It should be borne in mind that any recommendations arising from reports written as part of the agreed Overview & Scrutiny work programme may have financial implications. These will be raised and addressed at the time each report is written.

4. Head of Legal Services Comments

4.1 There are no direct legal implications as a result of decisions on this report. Scrutiny is a statutory function and the work programme items fall within the powers of the Committee.

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

5.1 None

6. Financial Implications

6.1 None directly as a result of decisions on this report. There is provision in the scrutiny budget to meet the cost of the support work necessary to complete this work programme. However, officers in other Services will be required to undertake additional work to support the programme, this will be carried out as part of their normal duties and will be met from within existing budgets.

6.2 Each report could result in recommendations which have financial implications. These will be contained within the body of the report.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 None directly as a result of decisions on this report. Scrutiny is a statutory function and the work programme items fall within the powers of the Committee.

7.2 Each report could result in recommendations which have legal implications. These will be contained within the body of the report.

8. Equalities Implications

8.1 None directly as a result of decisions on this report

8.2 Each report could result in recommendations which have equalities implications. These will be contained within the body of the report.

9. Background

- 9.1. Statute provides that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the power to:
- review or scrutinise Cabinet and Council decisions in connection with any council service,
 - make reports or recommendations with respect to any Cabinet or Council functions,
 - report or make recommendations on matters which affect the authority's area or its inhabitants and in particular to scrutinise partner bodies and,
 - Using the "Call-In" process, review decisions made but not yet implemented.
- 9.2. The Committee's powers to scrutinise are very wide and it is for Members to decide what items they want on their work programme and how they intend to carry out scrutiny exercises through the year. It is, therefore, essential that each year the Committee identifies:
- the issues it wants to be reported to it; and
 - the topics for which it will commission scrutiny review panels to carry out more detailed reviews.
- 9.3. It is intended to continue the practice of having a rolling programme of scrutiny topics from which the Committee can commission reports or in-depth review panels, as capacity allows.
- 9.4. It is therefore proposed to follow the same process as last year, when topics were categorised into separate lists, from which the Committee selects a work programme.

The scrutiny work programme is to be selected from the following sources:

Reports on Performance

- 9.5. Scrutiny Members have a key role in helping to improve the performance of the Authority, including partner and Health bodies. One of the ways they may do this is by considering performance indicator, audit and inspection reports. The role is not that of formal monitoring, which in Haringey is a Cabinet function, but of receiving sufficient information to gain an overview of how the Council or health body is performing and which may help to identify areas where scrutiny may wish to become involved. Attached as **Appendix A** is a list of performance reports the Committee wishes to receive.

Reports which provide information about Strategies, Policies and Services

- 9.6. One of the aims of the Committee's work programme is to provide Members with information about Council and Health services. **Appendix B** identifies service and strategic issues on which the Committee may wish to commission reports on. The list is indicative only and the Committee may wish to ask for reports on other issues. Besides improving Member's knowledge of the way the Council operates, such reports enable them to identify areas which might be subject to detailed reviews in the future. The Committee is requested to confirm the highlighted topics are the ones it wishes to receive reports on.

Suggested scrutiny topics which could initially be the subject of one off feasibility reports to the Committee.

- 9.7. Members should not be asked to take decisions about the way they wish to carry out a review, until they receive a report for each topic, prepared either by the service involved, or by scrutiny officers or both. It is accepted that the process of drawing up a feasibility report will commit resources, but the additional information available will help Members focus reviews and to terminate them at an early stage if there is unlikely to be a satisfactory outcome. It is also essential that senior officers from the services concerned are involved in the preparation of the feasibility reports to ensure that strategic issues are properly dealt with. **Appendix C** is a list of scrutiny topics that have been suggested in the past and which could be the subject of one-off feasibility reports to the Committee. They will enable the Committee to decide whether it wishes to take no further action, make recommendations to the Cabinet, or to commission a more detailed scrutiny review. The Committee is requested to confirm the highlighted topics are the ones it wishes to receive reports on.

Updates on past scrutiny reviews

- 9.8. As in the past the Committee will look at progress in implementing agreed recommendations arising from past reviews. It is essential that the Committee regularly follows up progress in implementing agreed recommendations from previous scrutiny reviews and whether the intended outcomes were achieved. This is a key function for determining the “added value” of scrutiny involvement. **Appendix D** is a list of previous scrutiny reviews where such an update is relevant during the municipal year.

Call-In

- 9.9. The current Chair has decided that these will be considered at additional meetings wherever possible.

Topics for detailed scrutiny

- 9.10. In addition to the more regular work of the Committee, it is able to commission a number of “task and finish” scrutiny review panels, to look at chosen topics in-depth.
- 9.11. Scrutiny review panels require a high level of commitment from the Members who serve on them. It is proposed that the size of scrutiny panels be flexible and that they consist of between 4 and 7 Members drawn from each of the political parties. Each scrutiny panel will continue to be Chaired by a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the rights and position of statutory co-optees will not be affected.
- 9.12. This year, subject to agreement, it is proposed that as well as chairing one review members of Overview and Scrutiny Committee will, where possible, also sit as a Scrutiny Panel member on another review. One of Scrutiny’s long term aims is to develop and introduce a rolling programme of topics for in-depth scrutiny review. Not only will this allow the Committee to plan its future work programme but it will result in greater flexibility. Reviews can then be commissioned as resources allow.

9.13. There is also no reason why task and finish reviews cannot run into the next municipal year albeit that membership might change in some circumstances. This would alleviate the bunching of scrutiny panel reports and allow a more balanced flow of scrutiny reports to the Cabinet or appropriate external body.

Criteria for determining the value of a Review

9.14. Previously criteria for determining the likely value for scrutiny reviews was developed and used to give a priority rating to each suggested topic. It was used to help the Committee identify worthwhile reviews which accorded with the Council's priorities. However, it was not entirely beneficial as there were set criteria by which review topics were evaluated and these were not weighted in any way. The marking was also in some incidences subjective, by necessity.

9.15 A major disadvantage of this method was that some Non Cabinet Members, (who were not on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee), perceived that the scrutiny work programme was officer led, given their role in the nomination and marking process. It is crucial to the effective working of scrutiny, that all Members are aware that this Committee determines the scrutiny work programme. For this reason it is suggested that members of the Committee, rather than relying on an officer evaluation, prioritise suggestions for in-depth review themselves by applying the criteria set out below :

1. Does the proposal relate to something that the Council has given priority to in its Community Strategy?
2. Has the topic been identified in a self assessment report or by any other external or internal audit or inspection improvement plan?
3. Does the issue have a demonstrably high public profile? (Identified through complaints, ward casework, local media etc.)
4. Is it likely that the scrutiny review would achieve tangible outcomes, increase cost effectiveness or 'add value' in some other way?
5. Would the likely outcomes of the scrutiny review have an impact on a substantial number of local people?
6. Would the review duplicate work recently completed, currently in progress, or planned to take place in another review process in the near future?
7. Would the scrutiny review be completed within a reasonable timescale?

Topics for Review

9.16. Included in **Appendix E** are a number of more specific reviews some of which have resulted from previous investigations and where the Committee has previously agreed to commission an in-depth review. The committee is requested to confirm it wishes to commission task and finish scrutiny panels into the topics indicated and to delete others from the list.

Number of items submitted to each Committee meeting

- 9.17. Overview and Scrutiny members have raised concerns over the length of the agenda for some of its meetings. This has been by necessity rather than design, particularly in relation to Health issues where timescales have been imposed on local health bodies and the period for scrutiny involvement has been limited.
- 9.18. However, when demand is high it may be necessary to schedule additional meetings. It may also be advantageous to “theme” meetings when possible.
- 9.19. A typical scrutiny agenda may therefore consist of:
- Executive Question Session (two Executive Members attending).
 - Performance reports.
 - Issues for information.
 - Reports on possible topic for detailed review.
 - Reports following up one or more past reviews or a final in-depth report, from a commissioned task and finish scrutiny review panel.
- 9.20. A draft Forward Plan of Scrutiny Committee is attached at **Appendix F**, which the Committee is requested to ratify.

10. Use of Appendices / Tables / Photographs

- Appendix A Performance Reports
Appendix B Reports providing information on strategies, policies and services
Appendix C Suggested topics that could be subject of feasibility report
Appendix D Reports giving an implementation update on past scrutiny reviews
Appendix E Potential in-depth review topics
Appendix F Overview and Scrutiny Committee forward agenda 2008/09.

Performance Management Reports

The Committee would like reports, at the relevant time, on the following:

- The Council Performance and Budget Reports - 6 monthly
- The Council Plan, followed by update – 6 monthly
- The Children’s Service’s annual performance self-assessment
- School Places Planning - Annual Report
- Exam results – Annual Report
- Local Area Agreement Stretch Targets – 6 monthly
- Annual Adult Services Report
- CPA Updates – short reports
- Annual Health Check – NHS Performance Ratings
- Adult Services Budget Monitoring - Update
- Homes for Haringey Performance – 6 monthly
- 6 Nominated Housing Associations Performance - Annual

Reports Which Provide Information about Strategies, Policies and Services

Committee to confirm items indicated.

TOPIC

Child Poverty strategy	
Youth Justice Plan	
Building Schools for the Future – Overall plan & Update on position	Submit report
Children and Young People Plan	Submit report
Haringey's Strategy for 14/19 year olds	
Haringey's Strategic Partnership	Submit report
Family Support Strategy	
The Action being taken to implement a Common Assessment Framework (Children's Services)	
Review of Carers Strategy	
Domestic Violence Strategy	
Safer Communities Strategy	
Crime and disorder Information Sharing Protocol	
Greenest Borough Strategy	Submit report
Regeneration Strategy	Submit report
Hate Crime Strategy	Submit report
Strategic framework for Improving Adults' well-being	
Sports and Physical Activity Strategy	Submit report
The Cultural Strategy	Submit report
Partnership working –an outline of who the Council's partners are and what they do	
The Council's risk management strategy.	
Equalities Scheme	
Customer Charter	
Consultation Strategy	Submit report
Mental health Action Plan	
Life Expectancy Plan	Submit report
Supporting People Strategy	
Sustainable Community Strategy	
Local Area Agreement	Submit report
Decent homes – overall plan & update on current position	Submit report

SUGGESTED SCRUTINY TOPICS WHICH COULD INITIALLY BE THE SUBJECT OF FEASIBILITY REPORTS TO THE COMMITTEE

The Committee to confirm items indicated.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Provision of play facilities for children under school age
Effective co-ordination of services for young people aged 16/19 Submit report
Fostering and Adoption of looked after children in Haringey Submit report
 Building Schools for the Future
 PFI Contracts with Secondary Schools
Child Adolescent Mental Health Services Submit report

RESOURCES

Commercial Property Portfolio Submit report
Procurement Process Submit report
Relationship with Job centre plus Submit report

URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Gambling establishments in the Borough Submit report
 Parking Income -collection
Out of hours enforcement & late night economy (licensing) Submit report
 Essential User Permits and permits for specific roads
 Environmental Health – review strategy
 Conservation of our local heritage – good design
 Habitat conservation areas in parks
 Joint working of ASBAT
Paving Front Gardens/cross-overs Submit report
 Social Clubs
HMO Licensing Submit report

ACE PEOPLE & ORG DEVELOPMENT

HR Strategy, - effectiveness of new strategy

ACE PPP&C

Funding for Community Organisations Submit report
 Haringey Compact
Knife Crime Submit report
 Hate Crime Strategy

ADULT, CULTURE & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Libraries Submit report

HEALTH SERVICES

What should an information prescription look like? Submit report
 Access to St Anne’s Hospital Site

UPDATES OF PREVIOUS SCRUTINY REPORTS

The Committee to confirm it would like the all the following reports:

Highways repairs
Extended Services in and around schools
Housing Allocations and Lettings Policy
Access to services for People with Learning Disabilities
Community Safety Role of CCTV
Fly Tipping
Improving Road Safety
Blue Badges
Benefits Take – up and income maximisation
Adaptations

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Appendix E

POTENTIAL IN-DEPTH REVIEW TOPICS FOR CONSIDERATION

The Committee to confirm the commissions and deletions indicated:

Topic		CHAIR
<u>Children and Young People</u>		
School Exclusions part 2	Commission review	Cllr. Egan
Youth Provision		
The action being taken to narrow the gap in educational achievement between children from low income and disadvantaged backgrounds and their peers	Delete	
Encouraging more young people to stay in Education	Delete	
Providing all children and young people with a planned and coherent programme of personal finance education	Delete	
Improving access to employment for excluded Groups and improving the availability of quality education and training		
The action being taken to improve the health and well being of children and young people and to encourage them to take part in high quality PE and sport	Delete	
Child Protection processes	Commission review (When appropriate)	To be nominated
Support to statutory school age children with drug and alcohol problems	Commission review	Cllr. Alexander
<u>RESOURCES</u>		
<u>Budget Scrutiny</u>	Commission review	Cllr. Bull
Themed value for money reviews – areas to be identified by Finance Department	Delete	
Housing Benefits		
Measuring and reporting the Council's efficiency gains and submission of Annual Efficiency Statements to the Department for Communities and Local Government.	Delete	
The action being taken to deliver 3% net cash releasing VFM savings per year.	Delete	
<u>URBAN ENVIRONMENT</u>		
Recycling Part 2	Commission review When resources allow	Cllr Adamou

Utility works (planning and co-ordination)		
The energy efficiency of council-owned buildings, including schools and housing.		
Co-ordination of Local Authority Regulatory Functions	Delete	
The action being taken to improve long term housing supply and affordability in the Borough	Delete	
Animal welfare		
Pest Control and wildlife		
Pets and Tenants		
Animal fouling		
<u>POLICY PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS</u>		
Safer Communities	Delete	
Making communities safer	Delete	
Haringey Strategic Partnership	Delete	
Community Consultation and communications	Delete	
Mediation in ASB	Commission review When resources allow	Cllr. Egan
Reducing Adult Re-offending		
Improving Health, supporting justice Strategy		
Alcohol Strategy		
<u>ADULT CULTURE & COMMUNITY SERVICES</u>		
Action necessary to help increase the proportion of socially excluded adults in settled accommodation and employment, education or training	Delete	
Social Care Transport – corporate and patient (day centres etc.)	Commission review	Cllr. Bull
Support for carers	Commission review	Cllr. Dodds
Concerts in parks policy review		
Vulnerable Adults		
Social Care - base budgets (LD or PD tbd)	Commission review	Cllr. Adamou
<u>HEALTH SERVICES</u>		
Stroke Prevention	Commission review	Cllr. Winskill
The action taken locally by the NHS to reduce maximum waiting times to 18 weeks from GP referral to hospital treatment.		
The action taken locally by the NHS provide better support for those with long term illness to live independently and control their own condition		
Progress towards introducing a new comprehensive strategy to reduce health inequalities in life expectancy and infant mortality	Delete	

What should an "information prescription" look like		
Licensing, affects of new legislation on health	Delete	
Priority Housing for people with Mental Health illnesses	Delete	
Joint scrutiny Mental Health	Delete	
Breast Screening		
Dentists		
Learning Disabilities	Delete	
Intermediate Care	Delete	
Mental Health	Commission review	Cllr. Aitken
Others		
Job Centre Plus - The way in which Job Centres in the Borough deal with applicants for jobseekers allowance and liaise with the Council over Housing Benefit.		
CONEL	Delete	
Life Long Learning		

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD AGENDA PLAN 2008/09

<u>O&S COMMITTEE DATE</u>	<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>Report type</u>
30 JUNE 2008	<p>Cabinet Questions: Cllr. G. Meehan – Council Leader - State of Borough Address</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Response to Scrutiny review on High Impact Users of Healthcare 2. Greenest Borough Strategy 3. Council Performance Report 4. Local Area Agreement 5. LAA Stretch Targets 6. O&S Work Programme 2008/09 	<p>Response to review</p> <p>Information Performance Information Performance Information</p>
28 JULY 2008	<p>Cabinet Questions: Cllr. C. Adje - Resources Cllr. L. Santry – Children and Young People</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget Strategy Report 2. Developing Community Based Services – Stakeholder Consultation 3. Mental Health Partnership, including a St Ann's Hospital site update – HPCT, MHT, Council 4. BSF – Overall plan and update on position 5. Extended Services in & around Schools 6. School Places Planning Report 7. Neighbourhood Management Scrutiny Report 8. Children's Centres Scrutiny Report 	<p>Information Information</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Information Update Information Scrutiny Review Scrutiny Review</p>

<u>O&S COMMITTEE DATE</u>	<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>Report type</u>
<p>11 SEPTEMBER 2008</p>	<p>Cabinet Questions: Cllr. L. Reith – Community Cohesion & Involvement Cllr. D. Basu – Leisure, Culture & LLL</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Haringey's Strategic Partnership 2. LAA Stretch Targets 3. Consultation strategy 4. Sports and Physical Activity Strategy 5. Cultural Strategy 6. Housing Allocation and Lettings . 7. Knife Crime 	<p>Information Performance Information Information Information Update Feasibility</p>
<p>27 OCTOBER 2008</p>	<p>Cabinet Questions: Cllr. J. Bevan – Housing Services Cllr. B. Haley – Environment & Conservation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decent Homes 2. HMO Licensing 3. Blue Badges 4. Adult Services budget 5. Commercial Property Portfolio 6. Road Safety 7. Homes for Haringey 	<p>Information Feasibility Update Update Feasibility Update Performance</p>

<u>O&S COMMITTEE DATE</u>	<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>Report type</u>
02 DECEMBER 2008	<p>Cabinet Questions: Cllr. Meehan – Leader & Performance Cllr. Harris – Adults Social Care & Wellbeing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council Performance Report 2. Adult Services Annual Report 3. Life Expectancy Plan 4. Access to services for People with Learning Difficulties 5. Gambling Establishment in the Borough 6. Consultation Strategy 	<p>Performance Performance Information Update</p> <p>Information Information</p>
08 DECEMBER 2008	BUDGET SCRUTINY	
15 DECEMBER 2008	BUDGET SCRUTINY	
18 DECEMBER 2008	BUDGET SCRUTINY	

<u>O&S COMMITTEE DATE</u>	<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>Report type</u>
06 JANUARY 2009	<p>Cabinet Questions: Cllr. K Amin – Regeneration and Enterprise Cllr. N. Canver – Enforcement and Safer Communities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hate Crime Strategy 2. Out of Hours Enforcement 3. Effective co-ordination of services for Young People aged 16/19. 4. Fly tipping 5. Community Safety Role of CCTV 6. Regeneration strategy 7. Repairs to Highways 	<p>Information Feasibility Feasibility</p> <p>Update Update Information Update</p>
16 FEBRUARY 2009	<p>Cabinet Questions: Cllr. L. Santry – Children & Young People Cllr. C. Adje - Resources</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Exam Results Report 2.Fostering and Adoption 3. Children & YP Annual Performance self assessment 4. Children and Young People Plan 5. Council Plan 6. LAA Stretch targets 7. What does an Information Prescription look like 	<p>Performance Feasibility Performance Information Information Performance Feasibility</p>

<u>O&S COMMITTEE DATE</u>	<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>Report type</u>
16 MARCH 2009	<p>Cabinet Questions:</p> <p>Cllr B. Harris – Adult, Social Care & Wellbeing Cllr. L. Reith - Community Cohesion & Involvement</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NHS Annual Health Check 2. Funding for Community Organisations 3. Adaptations – update 4. Child adolescent Mental Health Services 5. Benefits Take up / Maximising income 6. Gambling Establishments in the Borough 7. Procurement 8. Completed scrutiny reviews 	<p>Performance Feasibility Update Feasibility Update Feasibility Feasibility</p>
20 APRIL 2009	<p>Cabinet Questions:</p> <p>Cllr. J. Bevan – Housing Services Cllr. B. Haley – Environment & Conservation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paving front Gardens / Crossovers 2. Libraries 3. CPA Self Assessment 4. Homes for Haringey – Performance 5. Nominated Housing Associations 6. Relationship with Job Centre Plus 7. Completed Scrutiny Reviews 	<p>Feasibility Feasibility Update Performance Performance</p> <p>Feasibility</p>