

**ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL**  
**23 JUNE 2009**

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**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2009/10**  
**Assistant Chief Executive**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this report is to invite Members of the Environment, Culture and Communities Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Panel to consider the indicative work programme for 2009/10 which is attached at Appendix 1 to this report. The outcome of all the O&S Panels' consideration of their parts of the indicative work programme will be reported orally to the Commission. The O&S Commission is required by the Council's Constitution to formally consult the Corporate Management Team (CMT) and the Executive on the work programme.

**2 SUGGESTED ACTION**

That the Environment, Culture and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

- 2.1 considers the 2009/10 work programme attached at Appendix 1;
- 2.2 considers commencing the Environment, Culture and Communities working group on Highway Maintenance and Improvement.
- 2.3 Considers venues for the Environment, Culture and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel meetings in 2009/10.

**3 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The work of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and Panels during 2008/09 was summarised in the Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny, adopted by Council at its meeting on 15 April 2009. The Annual Report contained an indicative work programme relating to 2009/10 which took account of the views of CMT and the Executive. That programme has been amended in Appendix 1 to reflect the Council's decision to restructure Overview and Scrutiny and to incorporate additional topics put forward since the Annual Report was produced.
- 3.2 The indicative work programme aims to continue the strategic and effective approach to Overview and Scrutiny coverage. It recognises that the programme should reflect the limitations on both Members' and Officers' time and allows some capacity for additional review topics which experience suggests will arise during the year.
- 3.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Panels are due to consider their work programmes at their meetings scheduled between 2 June and 23 June 2009. The outcome of those discussions and any recommended changes to the overall work programme will be

reported to the Commission. The work programme will be subject to consultation with the Council's Executive and CMT, as required by the Constitution.

- 3.4 The work programme for the Joint East Berkshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, of which the Council is a member, is determined separately by that Committee.
- 3.5 The O&S Chairmen have previously indicated that they would like the Commission and each of the Panels to hold at least one meeting each year at a location outside Easthampstead House. The Panel's last external meeting was at Heatherwood Hospital in January 2009.

### Background Papers

Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny – 2008/09

### Contact for further information

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**Indicative Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny in 2009/10**

The indicative work programme for O&S in 2009/10 is shown on the following pages. The programme is aimed at maintaining a strategic and coordinated work programme based on major areas of Council and partner organisations' activity, of direct and significant interest to residents. The programme incorporates the routine, on-going work of O&S and the completion of reviews currently underway. It proposes a limited number of new O&S reviews which are seen to be timely, relevant, significant and likely to add value.

The determination of the O&S Work Programme for the forthcoming year is a matter for the newly appointed members of the Commission and its Panels. The proposed indicative work programme below will necessarily be subject to refinement and updating. It will also require consultation with the Executive and the Corporate Management Team, as required by the Council's Constitution.

The work programme for the Joint East Berkshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, of which Bracknell Forest Council is a member, is determined separately by that Committee.

<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION</b>	
1.	<b>Co-ordination of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels</b>
2.	<b>Routine Monitoring of the Performance of the Council's Corporate Functions</b> To include: the Corporate Performance Overview Reports; the Performance Monitoring Reports of the Chief Executive's Office and the Corporate Services Department; progressing the regeneration of Bracknell Town Centre; the reports of both internal and external audit; and progress on strategic risk management.
3.	<b>2010/11 Budget Scrutiny</b> To review the Council's budget proposals for 2010/11, and plans for 2011/12/13. Note – each of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels will also scrutinise the budget proposals in their departmental areas.
4.	<b>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</b>
5.	<b>Reviewing the Action Taken on Previous Overview and Scrutiny Reports</b> To periodically review the action taken by the Executive in relation to agreed recommendations from earlier O&S reports.
6.	<b>Older People's Strategy</b> To provide input from Overview and Scrutiny to the Council's development of an Older People's Strategy.
7. <b>New</b>	<b>The Work of the Bracknell Forest Partnership</b> Building on the 2008/09 O&S review of the Local Area Agreement, to review the role and activities of the Bracknell Forest (Local Strategic) Partnership's Theme

	Partnerships for: The Town Centre Partnership, The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, and The Economic and Skills Development Partnership.
<b>8. New</b>	<b>Sustaining Economic Prosperity</b> To review the service plans for the Council's new Priority 6, to sustain the economic prosperity of the Borough during the current economic downturn.

<b>ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL</b>	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Monitoring the performance of Adult Social Care Services</b> To include on-going review of the Performance Monitoring Reports, receiving statutory plans and reports (such as the annual reports on complaints received) and monitoring the action taken by the Executive to earlier reports by the Panel.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>2010/11 Budget Scrutiny</b> To review the Council's Adult Social Care budget proposals for 2010/11, and plans for 2011/12/13.
<b>4. New</b>	<b>Transforming Social Care</b> To review the policy initiatives associated with the Transforming Social Care pilots.
<b>5. New</b>	<b>Safeguarding Adults</b> To monitor the Annual Safeguarding Adults Annual Reports.
<b>6. Complete</b>	<b>Services for People with Learning Disabilities</b> To complete the work of the Working Group undertaking a review of services for people with learning disabilities (formally known as the Social Care Modernisation Agenda Working Group).

CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL	
1.	<b>Monitoring the performance of Children's Services and Learning</b> To include on-going review of the Performance Monitoring Reports, receiving statutory plans and reports (such as the annual reports on the Children and Young People's Plan) and monitoring the action taken by the Executive to earlier reports by the Panel.
2.	<b>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</b>
3.	<b>2010/11 Budget Scrutiny</b> To review the Council's Children's Services and Learning budget proposals for 2010/11, and plans for 2011/12/13.
4.	<b>14-19 Years Education Provision</b> A strategic review of education services to the age group 14-19 years.
5. <b>New</b>	<b>The Work of the Bracknell Forest Partnership</b> Building on the 2008/09 O&S review of the Local Area Agreement, to review the role and activities of the Bracknell Forest (Local Strategic) Partnership's two Themed Partnerships for: The Children's Trust and The Early Years, Child Care & Play Partnership.
6. <b>New</b>	<b>Safeguarding Children</b> To review the Council's plans and performance with regard to safeguarding children, including the role of the Executive Member, and a specific review of child protection practice and procedures.
7. <b>New</b>	<b>Transport</b> A strategic review of the procurement and provision of transport used by Children's Services and Learning.
8. <b>Complete</b>	<b>Extended Services and Children's Centres</b> To complete the work of the Working Group undertaking a review of Extended Services and Children's Centres jointly with the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

ENVIRONMENT CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL	
1.	<b>Monitoring the performance of the Environment, Culture and Communities Department</b> To include on-going review of the Performance Monitoring Reports and monitoring the action taken by the Executive to earlier reports by the Panel.
2.	<b>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</b>
3.	<b>2010/11 Budget Scrutiny</b> To review the Council's Environment, Culture and Communities budget proposals for 2010/11, and plans for 2011/12/13.
4.	<b>Strategic review of waste</b> To complete the work of the working group undertaking the review of the new waste Private Finance Initiative re <sup>3</sup> contract and the experience of the first year of Alternative Bin Collection.
5.	<b>Benefits Service Improvement Plan</b> To provide Member input to monitoring the implementation of the improvement plan for the operation of Council and Housing Tax Benefits
6.	<b>Monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan for Supporting People</b>
7.	<b>Contributing to the development of the new Housing Strategy</b>
8.	<b>Section 106 Arrangements</b> To review the arrangements for securing and applying receipts from Section 106 agreements.
9. New	<b>The Work of the Bracknell Forest Partnership</b> Building on the 2008/09 O&S review of the Local Area Agreement, to review the role and activities of the Bracknell Forest (Local Strategic) Partnership's Theme Partnerships for: The Strategic Housing Partnership, The Cultural Partnership, The Transport Partnership, and The Climate Change Partnership.
10. New	<b>Highway Maintenance and Improvement</b> To review the Council's plans and performance for highway maintenance and improvement.
11. Complete	<b>Contributing to the development of the Community Arts Development Plan</b>

HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL	
1.	<b>Monitoring the implementation of the Borough's Health and Well-Being Strategy</b>
2.	<b>Patient Focus (Now Preparedness for Public Health Emergencies)</b> To complete the work of the Working Group undertaking a detailed review centred on General Practitioner services ( <i>Note – this original remit has now changed</i> ).
3.	<b>In conjunction with the Joint East Berkshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, monitoring the performance and budget of the Berkshire East Primary Care Trust PCT</b> This review will include the linkage with the Operating Framework and the national NHS priorities set by the Department of Health.
4.	<b>Contributing to the annual 'Health Check' process and responding to consultations by the PCT and NHS Trusts operating in the Borough.</b>
5. <b>New</b>	<b>The New NHS Constitution</b> To review the implementation by NHS organisations of the new NHS Constitution, which brings together a number of rights, pledges and responsibilities for staff and patients.
6. <b>New</b>	<b>The New 'Healthspace' in Bracknell</b> To review the PCT's plans and progress towards creating the new 'Healthspace' for Bracknell.
7. <b>New</b>	<b>Control of Hospital-Acquired Infections</b> To review the progress of health service providers on infection control, particularly in relation to MRSA and C Difficile.
8. <b>New</b>	<b>The Work of the Bracknell Forest Partnership</b> Building on the 2008/09 O&S review of the Local Area Agreement, to review the role and activities of the Bracknell Forest (Local Strategic) Partnership's Health and Social Care Partnership. <i>Note – the Adult Social Care O&amp;S Panel considers that it would be more appropriate for that Panel to review this partnership.</i>
9. <b>Complete</b>	<b>Extended Services and Children's Centres</b> To complete the work of the Working Group undertaking a review of Extended Services and Children's Centres jointly with the former Social Care and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Note – This programme may need to be amended to meet new requirements arising during the year.