

3. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS

3.1 (a) The Overview and Scrutiny Commission shall establish such overview and scrutiny panels as it shall determine, including at least the following three panels:

- Environment, Culture and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel
- Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel
- Children’s Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel

with terms of reference as set out below. The Commission may discontinue any overview and scrutiny panel and/or appoint alternative or additional panels, subject to there being a minimum of the three standing panels. The Commission may also amend the terms of reference of the panels as appropriate.

(b) Where the Overview and Scrutiny Commission seeks to discontinue or appoint overview and scrutiny panels other than as set out in the Constitution, it may do so provided that it has consulted with interested parties, if appropriate. Any change will be reported to the proper officer and then to the next meeting of the Council by the chairman of the Commission, so that the Constitution may be amended accordingly

3.2 Terms of Reference

The three above mentioned overview and scrutiny panels shall

- (i) conduct scrutiny reviews or policy development projects allocated by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission from the corporately agreed work-programme, preparing evidence-based reports and recommendations for consideration by the Commission.
- (ii) at the request of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission:
 - review and/or scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council’s functions;
 - consider any matter affecting the Borough or its inhabitants.

In addition, the following panels shall have responsibility for performance monitoring activities as set out in the table below.

| | |
|--|---|
| Environment, Culture and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel | To receive Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports on the work of the Environment, Culture and Communities Department and to question the relevant Executive portfolio holders and senior officers thereon, reporting to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission where necessary. |
| Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel | To receive Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports on the work of the Social Care and Learning Department and to question the relevant |

| | |
|--|--|
| | Executive portfolio holder(s) and senior officers thereon in so far as it relates to the Adult Social Care functions of the Council, reporting to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission where necessary. |
| Children's Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel | To receive Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports on the work of the Social Care and Learning Department and to question the relevant Executive portfolio holder(s) and senior officers thereon in so far as it relates to the Children's Services and Learning functions of the Council, reporting to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission where necessary. |

In addition, the Council has established/participates in the following overview and scrutiny committees:

- (i) The Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel which shall undertake all the statutory functions of a scrutiny committee in accordance with Section 7 (and regulations made under that section) of the Health and Social Care Act 2001, relating to reviewing and scrutinising health service matters.
- (ii) The Joint East Berkshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- (iii) The Joint East Berkshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee with Buckinghamshire County Council.