

**TO: CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
18 JANUARY 2012**

**2012/13 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME
Assistant Chief Executive**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report invites the Children, Young People and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel to suggest items to be included in the Panel's Work Programme for 2012/13 and to establish a working group to review school governance arrangements.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Children, Young People and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

- 2.1 suggests items to be included in the Panel's Work Programme for 2012/13; and
2.2 establishes a working group to review school governance arrangements.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 To invite the Panel to suggest items to be included in the Panel's Work Programme for 2012/13 and to form a working group to undertake a review of school governance.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The Constitution requires that the Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Commission shall develop a work programme of O&S reviews and policy development projects, in consultation with the Executive and the Corporate Management Team. The Commission will be invited to agree a proposed work programme as part of the Annual Report of O&S for 2011/12, and will wish to know Panels' views on what should be included in the programme.
- 5.2 To assist the Panel's deliberations, attached to this report are:
- Appendix 1 - The 2011/12 O&S work programme.
Appendix 2 - Previously identified O&S reviews for the future.
Appendix 3 - A list of completed O&S reviews.
- 5.3 As the Working Group of the Panel reviewing the Common Assessment Framework has now completed its review (the report appears elsewhere on this agenda), the Panel is invited to establish a working group to undertake the next piece of review work, school governance.

**6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS / EQUALITIES
IMPACT ASSESSMENT/ STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES /
CONSULTATION**

6.1 Not applicable.

Background Papers

None.

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Revised Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny in 2011/12

The work programme will necessarily be subject to continual refinement and updating.

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL	
1.	<p>Monitoring the performance of the Children, Young People and Learning Department</p> <p>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 on complaints received) and monitoring the action taken by the Executive to earlier reports by the Panel.</p>
2.	<p>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</p>
3.	<p>2012/13 Budget Scrutiny</p> <p>To review the Council's Children, Young People and Learning budget proposals for 2012/13, and plans for future years.</p>
4.	<p>English as an Additional Language</p> <p>To carry out a follow-up review to the issues which arose in the 2008 Overview and Scrutiny review of English as an Additional Language in Bracknell Forest schools (Completed).</p>
5.	<p>Policy development</p> <p>a) <u>Child Poverty Strategy</u> – to monitor the implementation of the new strategy and contribute to its future development (Commenced with a presentation at the 15.06.11 meeting and return to later).</p> <p>b) <u>School meals</u> – using the Member review of school meals, contribute to forming the procurement specification for the new school meals contract (to be continued, input to tendering process September to December).</p>
6.	<p>Common Assessment Framework</p> <p>As a follow-up to the review of safeguarding children, to review the arrangements for the Common Assessment Framework in Children's Social Care (Completed).</p>

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

FUTURE PROPOSED REVIEWS

To assist future planning, the proposed reviews below have previously been identified.

Children, Young People and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel	
1.	<p>Schools Governance</p> <p>To review the comments by Ofsted about governance in Bracknell Forest Schools, and the arrangements being made to ascertain and achieve effective governance in all schools. The review might focus on the importance of sound governance and the effect of the new legislation concerning local authority and community representation on governing bodies.</p>
2.	<p>The Provision of School Places</p> <p>To review the Council's arrangements for planning and providing places for children in Bracknell Forest's schools, to include the school admissions process. One focus of the review might be the greater complexity introduced by the Academies and Free Schools legislation.</p>
3.	<p>Supporting Disadvantaged Children and Families</p> <p>To review the implementation of the Child Poverty Strategy, together with the Council's arrangements for the Government's initiative on 'Troubled Families'.</p>

Completed Reviews (as at July 2011)Appendix 3

Publication Date	Title
December 2003	South Bracknell Schools Review
January 2004	Review of Adult Day Care Services in Bracknell Forest (Johnstone Court Day Centre & Downside Resource Centre)
May 2004	Review of Community & Voluntary Sector Grants
July 2004	Review of Community Transport Provision
April 2005	Review of Members' Information Needs
November 2005	The Management of Coronary Heart Disease
February 2006	Review of School Transfers and Performance
March 2006	Review of School Exclusions and Pupil Behaviour Policy
August 2006	Report of Tree Policy Review Group
November 2006	Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) – Review of the ASB Strategy Implementation
January 2007	Review of Youth Provision
February 2007	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2006
February 2007	Review of Library Provision
July 2007	Review of Healthcare Funding
November 2007	Review of the Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy
December 2007	Review of the Council's Medium Term Objectives
March 2008	2007 Annual Health Check Response to the Healthcare Commission
April 2008	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2007/08
May 2008	Road Traffic Casualties
August 2008	Caring for Carers
September 2008	Scrutiny of Local Area Agreement
October 2008	Street Cleaning
October 2008	English as an Additional Language in Bracknell Forest Schools
April 2009	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2008/09

Unrestricted

Publication Date	Title
April 2009	Healthcare Commission's Annual Health Check 2008/09 (letters submitted)
April 2009	Children's Centres and Extended Services in and Around Schools in Bracknell Forest
April 2009	Older People's Strategy
April 2009	Services for People with Learning Disabilities
May 2009	Housing Strategy
July 2009	Review of Waste and Recycling
July 2009	Review of Housing and Council Tax Benefits Improvement Plan
December 2009	NHS Core Standards
January 2010	Medium Term Objectives 2010/11
January 2010	Review of the Bracknell Healthspace (publication withheld to 2011)
January 2010	14-19 Years Education Provision
April 2010	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2009/10
July 2010	Review of Housing and Council Tax Benefits Improvement Plan (Update)
July 2010	The Council's Response to the Severe Winter Weather
July 2010	Preparedness for Public Health Emergencies
October 2010	Safeguarding Adults in the context of Personalisation
October 2010	Review of Partnership Scrutiny
December 2010	Hospital Car Parking Charges
January 2011	Safeguarding Children and Young People
March 2011	Review of the Bracknell Healthspace (Addendum)
April 2011	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2010/11
July 2011	Review of Highway Maintenance (Interim report)