

**TO: CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL  
4 JULY 2012**

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## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13**

### **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to invite the Children, Young People and Learning Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Panel to note its work programme for O&S in 2012/13 which is attached at Appendix 1 to this report. The work programme was agreed by the O&S Commission as part of the Annual O&S Report 2011/12 and the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive were consulted on it.

### **2 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **That the Children, Young People and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel notes its work programme for Overview and Scrutiny in 2012/13.**

### **3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 3.1 To invite the Panel to note its work programme for 2012/13.

### **4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 None.

### **5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 5.1 Mrs S Cauchi, Mr A Jackson of the Kerith Centre and Councillors Ms Hayes, Mrs McCracken and Mrs Temperton are the members of the Working Group which has been established to undertake the review of school governance.

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

- 6.1 Not applicable.

#### Background Papers

Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny 2011/12.

Unrestricted

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**Proposed Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny in 2012/13**

The proposed work programme for O&S from 2012/13 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. The selection of review topics takes account of what is of direct and significant interest to residents, and what would be timely, relevant, and likely to add value. The programme incorporates the routine, on-going work of O&S and the completion of reviews currently underway.

The O&S Commission has consulted the O&S Panels, the Council's Corporate Management Team and the Executive on the work programme, as required by the Council's Constitution.

The work programme will necessarily be subject to continual refinement and updating. The 'future proposed reviews' are those which are unlikely to be resourced until 2013/14 or later.

<b>CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL</b>	
1.	<p><b>Monitoring the performance of the Children, Young People and Learning Department</b></p> <p>To include on-going review of the Quarterly Service 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><b>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</b></p>
3.	<p><b>2013/14 Budget Scrutiny</b></p> <p>To review the Council's Children, Young People and Learning budget proposals for 2013/14, and plans for future years.</p>
4.	<p><b>Schools Governance</b></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, the support given to school governors, and the effect of the new legislation concerning local authority and community representation on governing bodies.</p>
5.	<p><b>Policy Development</b></p> <p>To contribute to the formulation of the Council's new Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy.</p>

<b>FUTURE PROPOSED REVIEWS (Unlikely to be resourced until 2013/14 or later)</b>	
<b><u>Children, Young People and Learning</u></b>	
5.	<b>The Provision of School Places</b>  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.
6.	<b>Supporting Disadvantaged Children and Families</b>  To review the implementation of the Child Poverty Strategy, together with the Council's arrangements for the Government's initiative on 'Troubled Families'.