

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
10 JUNE 2009**

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

1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to invite Members of the Children's Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel to consider the Panel's indicative work programme for 2009/10 which is attached at Appendix 1 to this report. The Panel's views will be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, who will formally consult the Corporate Management Team (CMT) and the Executive on the work programme, as required by the Council's Constitution.

2 SUGGESTED ACTION

That the Children's Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

- 2.1 **agrees its indicative 2009/10 work programme, attached at Appendix 1, for recommending to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission for adoption;**
- 2.2 **notes that at its meeting on 16 July 2009, the Overview and Scrutiny Commission intends to consider any amendments proposed by the Overview and Scrutiny Panels to their own work programmes, prior to consulting CMT and the Executive on the whole programme.**

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. In the event that additional review topics are added to the work programme, work will need to be prioritised and may well roll into the next municipal 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 at its meeting on 16 July 2009. The indicative work programme will be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and the ensuing 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.

Background Papers

Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny – 2008/09

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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 O&S Commission appointed by Council at the annual meeting in May will consider this programme and consult the Council's Corporate Management Team and the Executive on it, as required by the Council's Constitution.

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. To help inform that decision, and having taken note of the future developments set out earlier in this report, our experience and the views offered by others, the current members of the O&S Commission set out below an indicative programme of the main topics which we consider are worthy of review. 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.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION	
1.	Co-ordination of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels
2.	Routine Monitoring of the Performance of the Council's Corporate Functions 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.	2010/11 Budget Scrutiny 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.	Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan
5.	Reviewing the Action Taken on Previous Overview and Scrutiny Reports To periodically review the action taken by the Executive in relation to agreed recommendations from earlier O&S reports.

6.	Older People's Strategy To provide input from Overview and Scrutiny to the Council's development of an Older People's Strategy.
7. New	The Work of the Bracknell Forest Partnership 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.
8. New	Sustaining Economic Prosperity 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.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL	
1.	Monitoring the performance of Adult Social Care Services 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.
2.	Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan
3.	2010/11 Budget Scrutiny To review the Council's Adult Social Care budget proposals for 2010/11, and plans for 2011/12/13.
4. New	Transforming Social Care To review the policy initiatives associated with the Transforming Social Care pilots.
5. New	Safeguarding Adults To monitor the Annual Safeguarding Adults Annual Reports.
6. Complete	Services for People with Learning Disabilities 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.	<p>Monitoring the performance of Children's Services and Learning 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.</p>
2.	<p>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</p>
3.	<p>2010/11 Budget Scrutiny To review the Council's Children's Services and Learning budget proposals for 2010/11, and plans for 2011/12/13.</p>
4.	<p>14-19 Years Education Provision A strategic review of education services to the age group 14-19 years.</p>
5. New	<p>The Work of the Bracknell Forest Partnership 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.</p>
6. New	<p>Safeguarding Children 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.</p>
7. New	<p>Transport A strategic review of the procurement and provision of transport used by Children's Services and Learning.</p>
8. Complete	<p>Extended Services and Children's Centres 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.</p>

ENVIRONMENT CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL	
1.	<p>Monitoring the performance of the Environment, Culture and Communities Department</p> <p>To include on-going review of the Performance Monitoring Reports 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>2010/11 Budget Scrutiny</p> <p>To review the Council's Environment, Culture and Communities budget proposals for 2010/11, and plans for 2011/12/13.</p>
4.	<p>Strategic review of waste</p> <p>To complete the work of the working group undertaking the review of the new waste Private Finance Initiative re³ contract and the experience of the first year of Alternative Bin Collection.</p>
5.	<p>Benefits Service Improvement Plan</p> <p>To provide Member input to monitoring the implementation of the improvement plan for the operation of Council and Housing Tax Benefits</p>
6.	<p>Monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan for Supporting People</p>
7.	<p>Contributing to the development of the new Housing Strategy</p>
8.	<p>Section 106 Arrangements</p> <p>To review the arrangements for securing and applying receipts from Section 106 agreements.</p>
9. New	<p>The Work of the Bracknell Forest Partnership</p> <p>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.</p>
10. New	<p>Highway Maintenance and Improvement</p> <p>To review the Council's plans and performance for highway maintenance and improvement.</p>
11. Complete	<p>Contributing to the development of the Community Arts Development Plan</p>

HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL	
1.	Monitoring the implementation of the Borough's Health and Well-Being Strategy
2.	Patient Focus (Now Preparedness for Public Health Emergencies) To complete the work of the Working Group undertaking a detailed review centred on General Practitioner services.
3.	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 This review will include the linkage with the Operating Framework and the national NHS priorities set by the Department of Health.
4.	Contributing to the annual 'Health Check' process and responding to consultations by the PCT and NHS Trusts operating in the Borough.
5. New	The New NHS Constitution 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. New	The New 'Healthspace' in Bracknell To review the PCT's plans and progress towards creating the new 'Healthspace' for Bracknell.
7. New	Control of Hospital-Acquired Infections To review the progress of health service providers on infection control, particularly in relation to MRSA and C Difficile.
8. New	The Work of the Bracknell Forest Partnership 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.
9. Complete	Extended Services and Children's Centres 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.