

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL  
16 SEPTEMBER 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 Children's Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel to note the Panel's work programme for 2009/10, which is attached at Appendix 1 to this report, and consider establishing a working group to review the Council's plans and performance with regard to safeguarding children. The Overview and Scrutiny Commission adopted the work programme on 16 July 2009 having formally consulted the Corporate Management Team and the Executive thereon, as required by the Council's Constitution. For their information, the Leader and Chief Executive have received a copy of the adopted work programme under cover of a letter dated 6 August 2009.

**2 SUGGESTED ACTION**

- 2.1 **That the Children's Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel notes its 2009/10 work programme, attached at Appendix 1, which has been adopted by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission.**
- 2.2 **The establishment of a working group to review the Council's plans and performance with regard to safeguarding children be considered.**

Background Papers

Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny – 2008/09

Agenda and minutes of the Children's Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 10 June 2009

Agenda and minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission on 16 July 2009

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**Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) in 2009/10**

The work programme for O&S in 2009/10 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 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; progress on 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>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.
7. <b>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.

## ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

1.	<p><b>Monitoring the performance of Adult Social Care Services</b> To include: a series of visits to adult social care facilities in, and possibly outside, the Borough; 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.</p>
2.	<p><b>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</b></p>
3.	<p><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.</p>
4. <b>New</b>	<p><b>Transforming Social Care and Safeguarding Adults</b> All-Panel workshops to familiarise Members with distinct areas of the initiative, including Care Homes, after which a working group will be established to undertake more in-depth review work in this regard.</p>
5. <b>New</b>	<p><b>Safeguarding Adults</b> To monitor the Annual Safeguarding Adults Annual Reports.</p>
6. <b>New</b>	<p><b>The Work of the Bracknell Forest Partnership</b> Building on the 2008/09 O&amp;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.</p>

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

1.	<p><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.</p>
2.	<p><b>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</b></p>
3.	<p><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.</p>
4.	<p><b>14-19 Years Education Provision</b> To complete the work of the Working Group undertaking a strategic review of education services to the age group 14-19 years.</p>

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 Theme 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.
<b>Reviews to be considered when resources become available</b>	
7. <b>New</b>	<b>Transport</b> A strategic review of the procurement and provision of transport used by Children's Services and Learning.

#### **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; monitoring the arrangements for securing and applying receipts from Section 106 agreements; 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>Monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan for Supporting People</b>
5. <b>New</b>	<b>Playbuilder Programme</b> To contribute to the decision-making process on the allocation of funding, and to monitor the implementation of the Council's participation in the government's 'Playbuilder' programme for transformation and creation of play areas.
6. <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 Strategic Housing Partnership, The Cultural Partnership, The Transport Partnership, and The Climate Change Partnership.
7. <b>New</b>	<b>Highway Maintenance and Improvement</b> To review the Council's plans and performance for highway maintenance and improvement.

<b>HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL</b>	
1.	<b>Monitoring the implementation of the Borough's Health and Well-Being Strategy</b>
2.	<b>Preparedness for Public Health Emergencies</b> To complete the work of the Working Group undertaking a detailed review of the preparedness of the Council and NHS organisations for handling public health emergencies
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 and the Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</b> This review will include the linkage with the Operating Framework and the national NHS priorities set by the Department of Health; also the progress of health service providers on infection control, particularly in relation to MRSA and C Difficile.
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>The New 'Healthspace' in Bracknell</b> To complete the work of the Working Group undertaking a detailed review of the PCT's plans and progress towards creating the new 'Healthspace' for Bracknell.
<b>Reviews to be considered when resources become available</b>	
6. <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.

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