

**TO: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION
28 MARCH 2013**

**WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE REPORT
Assistant Chief Executive**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Work Programme for 2012-13, with particular reference to Working Groups of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission

2 RECOMMENDATION

That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission:

- 2.1 **Reviews the progress by the O&S Commission and the O&S Panels against the work programme**
- 2.2 **Notes the progress achieved to date by the Commission's Working Groups.**

3 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

O&S Work programme

- 3.1 The O&S Work Programme for 2012-13, incorporating each Chairmen's assessment of progress, is at Appendix 1.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Working Group

- 3.2 The Working Group comprised Councillors Leake (Lead Member) Angell, Mrs Birch, Heydon, Virgo and Worrall. The Group held its first meeting on 23 February 2012, and, having completed its work, its report was adopted by the Commission in January 2013. The Executive decided on its response to the report's recommendations at its meeting on 12 March, and this is for consideration at item 8 on the agenda.

Communications Strategy Working Group

- 3.3 The Working Group, which comprised Councillors Leake (Lead Member), Gbadebo, Thompson and Wade, has now concluded. It met on 10 May to: receive a briefing, review an example of another council's communication strategy, consider the current communications arrangements, and to discuss prospective priorities and deliverables for the new strategy. At its final meeting on 17 July, the Working Group reviewed and provided comments on the draft Communications strategy, which were taken into account before the finalised strategy was approved by the Executive on 16 October.

Delegated Authorities

- 3.4 The Working Group, comprising Councillors Angell (Lead Member), Mrs Birch, Finnie, Gbadebo and Leake met for the first time on 7 February, to receive a briefing from

Unrestricted

officers and to consider the approach to take to the review. The scope and approach was agreed at the second meeting on 28 February, when the Working Group also commenced a programme of meetings with Directors to review each department's scheme of delegation and the extent of powers delegated to officers. Further meetings are being planned.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED/ ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS/ EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT/ STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES / OTHER OFFICERS/ CONSULTATION – Not applicable

Contact for further information

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Monitoring Of Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny in 2012/13

The Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Chairmen's assessment of the progress on the work programme for O&S in 2012/13 is shown below, where the symbols represent:



Completed or on course for completion













Delayed or completion at risk








Will not be completed as planned









| OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION | Status / Comment |
|---|---|
| Co-ordination of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels | |
| Routine monitoring of the performance of the Council's corporate functions | |
| Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan | |
| 2013/14 Budget Scrutiny | |
| Crime and Disorder Committee | |
| Policy Development | |
| a) To complete the Working Group contributing to the Council's plans for the Community Infrastructure Levy. | |
| b) To contribute to the update of the Council's Communications Strategy. | |
| c) To receive a briefing on the implications of the Localism Act for the Council, and to contribute to the formulation of the Council's plans for the 'Community Right to Challenge'. | |
| Delegated Authorities | |
| To review the scheme of delegation and the extent of powers delegated to officers. | Started, but completion will occur in 2013/14 |


| ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL | Status / Comment |
|---|------------------|
| Monitoring the performance of the Adult Social Care, Health and Housing Department | |

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| Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan |  |
| 2013/14 Budget Scrutiny |  |
| Modernising Older People's Services To complete the Working Group monitoring the proposed implementation of a wide range of measures intended to modernise and improve support for older people in the Borough. |  |
| Substance Misuse To complete the Working Group reviewing the Council's response, and that of its partners, to the Government's requirements contained in its 2010 Drug Strategy. |  |
| Policy Development |  |
| a) <u>Carers' Strategy</u> – To monitor the delivery of this Strategy (Panel discussion). |  |
| b) <u>Joint Autism Strategy</u> – To review the implementation of the Strategy (Panel discussion). |  |
| c) <u>Personalisation</u> – An update at a Panel meeting, and depending on the outcome and the availability of resources, to review a further strand of the personalisation of Adult Social Care. |  |
| d) <u>Adult Social Care White Paper</u> – to receive briefings on the progress of the White Paper and monitor its implementation |  |
| e) The implementation of the new national structure for <u>Housing and Council Tax benefits</u> . |  |

| CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL | Status / Comment |
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| Monitoring the performance of the Children, Young People and Learning Department |  |
| Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan |  |
| 2013/14 Budget Scrutiny |  |
| Schools Governance A Working Group to review the comments by Ofsted about governance in Bracknell Forest Schools, and the arrangements being made to ascertain and |  |

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| achieve effective governance in all schools. | |
| Policy Development To contribute to the formulation of the Council's new Early Intervention and Prevention strategy. |  |

| ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL | Status / Comment |
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| Monitoring the performance of the Environment, Culture and Communities Department |  |
| Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan |  |
| 2013/14 Budget Scrutiny |  |
| Monitoring significant departmental issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of the Local Development Framework. • The implementation of the Supporting People Programme Action Plan on an annual basis. • The implementation of Community Planning. • The procurement of environmental works |  |
| Highway Maintenance To complete the review of the Council's plans and performance for highway maintenance. |  |
| Commercial Sponsorship To complete the Member Reference Group exploring the possible procurement of a commercial sponsorship scheme. |  |
| Public Transport Subsidies and Concessionary Fare Support To review the proposed reductions to public transport subsidies and concessionary fare support. The Working Group might re-form to contribute to the development of a Bus Strategy for the Borough. |  |
| Policy Development (the O&S input will be conducted at Panel meetings) a) <u>Local Transport Plan</u> – To review the outcome of public consultation, and to contribute to the |  |

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| <p>development of future policy, with a particular focus on highway improvements.</p> <p>b) <u>The Environmental Management of Schools</u> – To receive progress updates.</p> |  |
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| HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL | Status / Comment |
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| <p>Health and Wellbeing Strategy</p> <p>To contribute to the development of the Council's statutory 'Health and Wellbeing' strategy [Working Group].</p> |  |
| <p>Policy development and monitoring the implementation of the major changes from the 2012 Health and Social Care Act</p> <p>To contribute to the Council's and NHS policy development, and monitor in particular: the transfer of the Public Health responsibilities from the PCT to the Council; the creation of the GP Clinical Commissioning Group, Local HealthWatch and the new Health and Wellbeing Board; and establishing the new arrangements for Health Overview and Scrutiny. [Panel updates and a Working Group]</p> |  |
| <p>Monitoring the performance and budget of the Berkshire Primary Care Trust and the NHS trusts serving Bracknell Forest</p> <p>[Panel updates] Member briefing sessions will be held on Stroke treatment and Mental Health issues, which may in due course lead to focussed reviews.</p> |  Ongoing |
| <p>Responding to NHS Consultations</p> <p>The Health O&S Panel is a statutory consultee for any substantial variation in NHS services affecting the Borough. A major consultation is expected to occur on 'Shaping the Future', concerning hospital and community health services in East Berkshire. [Working Group]</p> |  |