

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION  
19 JULY 2007**

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**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2007/08  
(Head of Performance and Scrutiny)**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This paper invites the Overview and Scrutiny Commission to adopt a programme of Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) work for the Commission and O&S Panels in the municipal year 2007/08

**2 SUGGESTED ACTION**

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission are invited to approve the draft Overview and Scrutiny work programme at Appendix 1 to this report, for subsequent consultation with the Executive and the Corporate Management Team (as required by Article 6.02 (i) of the Council's Constitution).

**3 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 At their meeting on 7 June 2007, the O&S Commission considered the indicative work programme in the 2006 Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny and agreed to return to this issue once the O&S Panels had considered which topics they wished to review in depth during 2007/08. All of the O&S Panels have met and concluded on their proposed review topics, in consultation with the Directors concerned. Those conclusions are summarised in the Appendix.
- 3.2 Following finalisation of the work programme, the detailed scope of each of the reviews will be designed by member working groups.
- 3.3 The work programme for the Joint East Berkshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, of which Bracknell Forest BC is a member, is determined separately by that Committee.

Background Papers

2006 Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny.  
Minutes of Overview and Scrutiny Commission and Panel meetings.

Contact for further information

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**DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME FOR OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY, 2007/08**

<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>
3.	<b>Audit Committee duties</b>  To include the review of plans and the reports of both internal and external audit.
4.	<b>Periodic review of the Council's strategic risk management arrangements</b>
5.	<b>Bracknell Forest Partnership</b>  To receive a briefing on the Overview and Scrutiny implications of the Local Area Agreement and determine how to expand the O&S coverage of BFP partner organisations in the light of new legislation and government guidance on governance of Local Strategic partnerships.
6.	<b>2008/09 budget scrutiny</b>  Note – each of the O&S Panels will also scrutinise the budget proposals in their departmental areas.
7.	<b>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</b>
<b>ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL</b>	
1.	<b>Review of Adult Treatment Plan (Drugs and Alcohol Action Team)</b>
2.	<b>Monitoring the performance of the Social Services and Housing Department</b>
3.	<b>Monitoring the implementation of the action plans for Supporting People and Adult Social Care</b>  This arises from the 2006 Commission for Social Care Inspection.
4.	<b>Review of action taken in response to the Panel's report on Anti-Social Behaviour</b>
5.	<b>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</b>
6.	<b>Carers</b>  A working group to undertake a detailed review of the Council's arrangements for carers in order to ascertain, for example, the number of carers, the nature of their needs and whether they are adequately supported.

7.	<p><b>Care Homes</b></p> <p>To invite a regulatory manager from the Commission for Social Care Inspection and a representative of the Berkshire Care Association to a Panel meeting to provide background information on their roles in preparation for a prospective detailed review by a working group. This may include visits to care homes and services in the Borough. A presentation on the work of the Adult Protection Co-ordinator may be included.</p>
8.	<p><b>Social Care Modernisation Agenda</b></p> <p>A working group to undertake a detailed review of the Council's implementation of the social care modernisation agenda which provides for adults with learning difficulties and seeks to offer them greater choice and independence in their lives, as led by the national pilot, 'In Control'. A visit to BROCC may be included.</p>
<b>ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL</b>	
1.	<b>Monitoring the performance of the Environment and Leisure Department</b>
2.	<b>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</b>
3.	<b>Contributing to the development of the Community Arts Development Plan</b>
4.	<p><b>Strategic review of waste</b></p> <p>A working group to undertake a review of either, or both of, the new waste Private Finance Initiative RE3 contract and the experience of the first year of Alternative Bin Collection.</p>
5.	<p><b>Street cleaning / street scene</b></p> <p>A working group to undertake a detailed review of the Council's performance in this area, possibly including representation from the Town/Parish Councils.</p>
<b>HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL</b>	
1.	<b>Contributing to and agreeing the Council's development of a Health and Well-Being Strategy for the Borough</b>
2.	<b>Monitoring the remediation of under-funding of health care in the Borough, as revealed by the Chief Executive of the Berkshire East PCT</b>
3.	<p><b>Extended Schools/Children's Centres</b></p> <p>A working group to undertake a detailed review of Extended Schools/Children's Centres jointly with the Lifelong Learning and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel.</p>
4.	<p><b>Patient focus</b></p> <p>A working group to undertake a detailed review centred on the issue of patient focus,</p>

	which is a principal area of concern for residents, perhaps concentrating on waiting lists, obtaining General Practitioner appointments, and the GP out of hours service.
5.	<b>In conjunction with the Joint East Berkshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, monitoring the performance of the Berkshire East PCT</b>
6.	<b>Contributing to the annual 'Health Check' process and responding to consultations by the PCT and NHS Trusts operating in the Borough.</b>
<b>LIFELONG LEARNING AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL</b>	
1.	<b>Monitoring preparations for, and outcome of, the 2007 Joint Area Review</b>
2.	<b>Monitoring the performance of the Education, Children's Services and Libraries Department</b>
3.	<b>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</b>
4.	<b>Refreshed Children and Young People Plan 2007</b>  A working group to review the refreshed Children and Young People Plan with a view to prioritising for a thorough review 1 of the 25 areas identified in the Plan as being in need of improvement.
5.	<b>Extended Schools/Children's Centres</b>  To undertake a review of Extended Schools/Children's Centres jointly with the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel.
6.	<b>School Exclusions</b>  To receive feedback on the effectiveness of the new school exclusion procedures put in place following the Panel's earlier review of school exclusions and pupil behaviour policy at the March 2008 meeting of the Panel.

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