

**TO: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION
19 MARCH 2015**

**WORK PROGRAMME AND PANEL ACTIVITY 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 2014-15 and Panel activity, with particular reference to Working Groups of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission.

2 RECOMMENDATION(S)

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 Group.**

3 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

O&S Work programme

- 3.1 The O&S Work Programme for 2014-15, incorporating (where available) each Chairman's assessment of progress, is at Appendix 1.

Business Rates Working Group

- 3.2 This Working Group, comprising Councillors Angell (Lead Member), Leake, Heydon and Virgo, commenced on 19 May 2014 and has completed its work. The Working Group's report was agreed and adopted by the Commission at its meeting held on 29 January 2015 and sent formally to the Leader of the Council for the Executive's response, which is awaited.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED / ADVICE RECEIVED FROM
STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS / EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT /
STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES / CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Not applicable.

Background Papers - None.

Contact for further information

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Monitoring Of Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny in 2014/15

The Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Chairmen's assessment of the progress on the work programme for O&S in 2014/15 is shown below, where the symbols represent:



Completed or on course for completion.



Delayed or completion at risk.



Will not be achieved in 2014-15.

Comments by O&S Commission Chairman

Routine activities and progress have been maintained. A letter from the Chief Executive of the West London Mental Health NHS Trust, Mr Steve Shrubb, has been received confirming maintenance of all Broadmoor sirens until the new Hospital opens in 2019.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION		Status / Comment
1.	Co-ordination of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels	
2.	Routine monitoring of the performance of the Council's corporate functions	
3.	Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan	
4.	2015/16 Budget Scrutiny To review the Council's budget proposals for the Chief Executive's Office and the Corporate Services Department for 2015/16, and plans for future years. To include a discussion with the Borough Treasurer during 2014 on the evolving budgetary position.	
5.	Crime and Disorder Committee To include an annual meeting with representatives of the Community Safety Partnership.	
6.	Other Policy Development To make an input to the review of the <u>Economic Development Strategy</u> .	
7.	Business Rates To review the impact of Re-Localisation of Business Rates, and the connection with economic development initiatives.	

Comments by Adult Social Care and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairman

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ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL		Status / Comment
1.	<p>Monitoring the performance of the Adult Social Care, Health and Housing Department</p> <p>To include receiving statutory plans and reports (such as the annual reports on complaints received), monitoring the action taken by the Executive to earlier reports by the Panel, and being briefed on the implications of new legislation, including the Government's Care Bill.</p>	
2.	<p>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</p>	
3.	<p>2015/16 Budget Scrutiny</p> <p>To review the Council's Adult Social Care and Housing budget proposals for 2015/16, and plans for future years.</p>	
4.	<p>The Council's Role In Regulated Adult Social Care Services</p> <p>To complete the review of the Council's role in regard to care governance and managing safeguarding in regulated services.</p>	
5.	<p>Forestcare</p> <p>A review of the lifeline alarms and other services provided under Forestcare.</p>	

Comments by Children, Young People and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairman






The last Panel meeting of this administration was held on Wednesday 4th March. The agenda included the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Panel from 10th December 2014. The performance monitoring gave particular attention to the outcomes of Ofsted School Inspections, Special Educational Needs provision, child sexual exploitation and current head teacher recruitment.

The main theme of the meeting was education with an excellent Virtual Schools Annual report, a detailed report concerning the Pupil Premium about how the money has been used and the School Places Plan for 2014-19.

The Panel considered the draft Substance Misuse panel working group report, and all comments and observations are going to be incorporated before it is sent to the Executive for a response.





I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Panel for their support and interest in the young people of our borough. Their challenge and knowledge has meant

that provision for our young people has improved. Many thanks to all those Panel members who took part in reviews, and helped form our reports, that changed and enhanced our support to all young people in the borough.

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL		Status / Comment
1.	<p>Monitoring the performance of the Children, Young People and Learning Department</p> <p>To include receiving statutory plans and reports (such as the annual reports of the Local Safeguarding Children Board, and on complaints received). Monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of Looked After Children, and the implications for service delivery and resources; • Schools' performance, particularly secondary schools; • The action taken by the Executive to earlier reports by the Panel 	
2.	<p>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</p>	
3.	<p>2015/16 Budget Scrutiny</p> <p>To review the Council's Children, Young People and Learning budget proposals for 2015/16, and plans for future years.</p>	
4.	<p>The Provision of School Places</p> <p>To complete the review of the Council's arrangements for planning and providing places for children in Bracknell Forest's schools.</p>	
5.	<p>Substance Misuse</p> <p>Further to the 2012-13 review by the Adult Social Care and Housing O&S Panel, to review actions to minimise substance misuse by children and young people.</p>	


Comments by Environment, Culture and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairman

The Commercial Sponsorship Member Reference Group established by the Panel has reviewed the commercial sponsorship trial and it has been recommended to the Panel that a full procurement be undertaken in order to implement a permanent commercial sponsorship contract. The Group has completed its work for the time being and is being stood down.

ENVIRONMENT CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL		Status / Comment
1.	<p>Monitoring the performance of the Environment, Culture and Communities Department</p> <p>To include the performance of the Leisure operations, review of any inspection reports or self-evaluations; monitoring the action taken by the Executive to earlier reports by the Panel, and monitoring significant departmental developments.</p>	
2.	<p>Exercising pre-decision scrutiny by reference to the Executive Forward Plan</p>	
3.	<p>2015/16 Budget Scrutiny</p> <p>To review the Council's Environment, Culture and Communities budget proposals for 2015/16, and plans for future years.</p>	
4.	<p>Cultural Services</p> <p>To complete the review of the Council's cultural services offering, in the context of pressure on public finance, with particular reference to libraries and assistance for South Hill Park.</p>	

Comments by Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairman

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HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL		Status / Comment
1.	<p>Implementing the new Approach to Health Scrutiny</p> <p>To deliver the new approach to health scrutiny as recommended by the Panel's Working Group on the Francis report. This might in due course lead to a focussed review in 2014/15 or later years.</p>	
2.	<p>2015/16 Budget Scrutiny</p> <p>To review the Council's budget proposals for public health in 2015/16, and plans for future years.</p>	