

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 21 June 2017 at 6.45 p.m., Room C1, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG

SUPLEMENTAL AGENDA PACK TWO

This meeting is open to the public to attend.

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For further information including the Membership of this body and public information, see the main agenda.

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

24 - 29

To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 29th March

7 .1 Appointment of Scrutiny Vice-Chair; Lead Members, Co-options to Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Establishment of Sub-Committees 30 - 41



OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, 26/04/2017

SECTION ONE (UNRESTRICTED)

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

HELD AT 6.10 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 26 APRIL 2017

ROOM C1, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG

Members Present:

Councillor John Pierce (Chair)

Councillor Abdul Asad

Councillor Amina Ali – Scrutiny Lead for Development and

Renewal

Councillor Clare Harrisson – Scrutiny Lead for Adult Health and

Wellbeing

Councillor Muhammad Ansar Mustaquim — Scrutiny Lead Member for

Governance

Councillor Helal Uddin Councillor Danny Hassell Councillor Andrew Wood

Co-opted Members Present:

Dr Phillip Rice – Church of England Representative

Fatiha Kassouri – Parent Governors Shabbir Chowdhury – Parent Governors Christine Trumper – Parent Governors

Other Councillors Present:

Mayor John Biggs

Councillor Rachael Saunders

Apologies:

Asad M Jaman – Muslim Faith Community
Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE – Scrutiny Lead for Resources

Councillor Julia Dockerill – Scrutiny Lead for Children's Services

Councillor Oliur Rahman

Others Present:

Steven Ashley – Independent Chair Local Children's

Safeguarding Board

Officers Present:

Andreas Christophorou – (Divisional Director,

Communications)

Sharon Godman – (Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy

and Partnerships)

Afazul Hoque – (Interim Service Manager, Strategy,

Policy & Performance)

Debbie Jones – (Corporate Director, Children's)
Nancy Meehan – (Interim Improvement Manager,

Children's Social Care)

Nasima Patel – (Divisional Director, Children's Social

Care, Children's)

Peter Quirk – (Senior Strategy, Policy &

Performance Officer)

Will Tuckley – (Chief Executive)

Stuart Young – (Interim Divisional Director, HR &

Transformation)

Graham White – (Acting Corporate Director,

Governance)

David Knight – (Senior Democratic Services Officer)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Asad M Jaman; (Muslim Faith Community); Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE (Scrutiny Lead for Resources); Councillor Julia Dockerill (Scrutiny Lead for Children's Services); and Councillor Oliur Rahman.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of disclosable pencuniary interest.

3. REQUESTS TO SUBMIT PETITIONS

Nil items

4. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS 'CALLED IN'

Nil items

5. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 Ofsted Single Inspection Framework Outcome 2017

The Committee received and noted a report that followed the outcome of the Ofsted Single Inspection of children in need of help and protection; children looked after and care leavers and the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

The inspection took place between 23 January and 16 February 2017 and the overall judgement being that Children's Services in Tower Hamlets are inadequate. The report provided the Overview & Scrutiny Committee with a summary of that inspection, the findings, the high-level response to date and an outline of the process to agree an improvement plan.

This was followed by questions and comments from Members which is summarised as follows:

The Committee:

- Noted that there were many lessons to be learned and the Ofsted inspection had looked at the experiences of some of the most vulnerable children and young people in Tower Hamlets. The inspection found that those children and young people are not always receiving the services they deserve. Therefore, the Council's response to the inspection findings needs to ensure that vulnerable children and families receive the best service possible;
- Noted that Ofsted's "Framework and evaluation schedule for the inspections of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers and Reviews of Local Safeguarding Children's Boards" ('the SIF') sets out a single assessment framework for assessing local authorities;
- Noted that a Children's Services Improvement Board (CSIB) has been established to take forward the improvement work. This will meet every six weeks and for the first time on 24th April 2017. It will be independently chaired by Alan Wood, a former DCLG appointed Commissioner and former Director of Children's Services. The Cabinet Member for Children's Services along with the scrutiny lead will also be on the CSIB. The Independent Chair will produce a report to the DfE three months from the date of the Direction and every quarter thereafter. In addition, it was noted that the DfE had appointed an Intervention Adviser, reporting and accountable to the Secretary of State, will be providing reports every six months following reviews to determine progress made improving its children's social care services;
- Noted that the merger of Adults and Children's Services Directorates into the Education Social Care and Wellbeing (ESCW) Directorate had, had an impact upon the ability of ESCW to ensure that purposeful work takes place to protect children in need of help and protection;
- Noted that social workers and managers must receive relevant training to counter child sexual exploitation, and that children identified as at risk of sexual exploitation are subject to risk assessment and should be offered responsive and appropriate help;
- Noted that management oversight and supervision must be strengthened and that all work is recorded appropriately to an acceptable standard:
- Noted that the Council needs the CSIB needs to exercise strong governance over the financial resources within the Children's Services Directorate. Whilst these finances will continue to be subject to the

- Council's normal budget management processes including reporting on a quarterly basis to the Cabinet and affording the Scrutiny Committee the opportunity to challenge and review (**e.g.** to ensure that the management and delivery of service has an appropriate "child" focus);
- Noted that at the time of the inspection 18 children had been reported to be living in private fostering arrangements. The inspectors had apparently found a lack of understanding of what constituted a private fostering arrangement. Assessments had it was noted apparently failed to consider whether children had been trafficked or abandoned by their parents. Basic safeguarding checks had not been conducted in most cases. Whilst the Private Fostering Panel, designed to review all private fostering arrangements, had not met for 12 months. As a result, the risks to children were unknown, leaving children in potentially harmful situations. However, the Directorate had taken immediate action to review each case when the inspectors had brought this to its attention;
- Noted that the Inspectors had commented that Tower Hamlets had good systems for identifying and recording those children who go missing from education. Also Headteachers in Tower Hamlets fully understand the processes for monitoring and reporting absenteeism from schools. Managers had good partnerships with other boroughs to share information about children coming to Tower Hamlets and children who were the authority's responsibility but had been placed out of the Borough;
- Noted that the Inspectors had stated that the Council had effective systems to oversee the missing child register. There are 133 children currently on the register, three of whom are "looked after".
- Noted that the local authority has a good partnership with local schools, which effectively implement the protocols and processes for referral when a child is missing. In addition, the local authority has wellestablished safeguarding arrangements for children who are found to be in unregistered schools;
- Noted that the Council collectively has a role in addressing those issues identified by the Inspectors (e.g. Need to know that reviews are being undertaken in a assiduous manner and to look at the quality of level of decision making);
- Noted that the Directorate would wish to work together with Scrutiny to ensure that the Service is being provided in a culturally sensitive manner to meet the needs communities who the Council seeks to serve (e.g. a greater customer focus and seeking families views on potential solutions);
- Agreed that it would wish to undertake a regular overview of the delivery of the children's social care services;
- Noted that the new Independent Chair of the Local Children's Safe
 Guarding Board expected to be invited to provide regular updates to
 Scrutiny so that there can be robust challenge of senior stakeholders
 on the effectiveness of services for the most vulnerable children in
 Tower Hamlets. Also the Committee needed to be confident that other
 partners are fully engaged the solutions to the challenges identified

- cannot be addressed by the Council on its own (**e.g.** the National Health Service and Metropolitan Police Service);
- Commented that it would expect going forward to have an overview of a wide range of issues, including the Children and Families Plan; and
- Commented that it would expect that the Performance Indicators in the Plan are accurate and pertinent.

6. SCRUTINY SPOTLIGHT

6.1 Chief Executive Organisational Culture and Governance

The Committee received a presentation from Will Tuckley (Chief Executive) that provided a short presentation outlining current approaches to cultural transformation and change and the links to the Council's governance framework and organisational development initiatives. In response to the presentation the Committee reviewed where the Council are on the change transformation journey; inquired about the key challenges; questioned what has changed as a result of the programmes to date (e.g. changes in member culture, impact of work to support develop officer/member relationships, and behaviours). A summary of discussions on the above may be summarised as follows.

The Committee:

- Noted that consideration needs to be given as to how the Scrutiny Process can best support cultural transformation and change;
- Noted that there has been better employee engagement with 18 Chief Executive Roadshows; Staff Conference; Staff Survey; Managers' Forums; Conversation groups and a range of communication channels;
- Noted that whilst there has been a high level of resident satisfaction highlighted in the Annual Residents Survey. There was still a need to ensure that the Council that services were delivered in a joined up fashion:
- Noted that through a mixture of external and internal recruitment there would be a blending of ideas within the officer corps;
- Noted that top three values voted for by staff are (i) Working together;
 (ii) Delivering service excellence; and (iii) Acting with honesty and integrity;
- Noted that the next steps in the cultural transformation would see: (i) A
 focus on delivery of priorities; (ii) The evidence our improvement
 journey with a focus on outcomes; (iii) strengthen the Council's
 partnership work with local people, partners and regional partners; and
 (iv) To be clear about the Council's values and ambition to drive
 through change and improvement.
- Noted that in future updates on comparative data over a number of years would be provided; and

 Noted that current approaches to cultural transformation and change and links to the Council's governance framework would feature in the inductions provided to Councillors.

7. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF UNRESTRICTED CABINET PAPERS

The Chair asked the Committee to submit any pre decision scrutiny of the unrestricted Cabinet papers prior to the 2nd May, 2017 meeting.

8. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

Nil items

9. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The agenda circulated contained no exempt/ confidential business and there was therefore no requirement to exclude the press and public to allow for its consideration.

10. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS 'CALLED IN'

Nil items

11. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL) CABINET PAPERS

Nil items

12. ANY OTHER EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

Nil items

The meeting ended at 9.30 p.m.

Chair, Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Agenda Item 7.1

Non-Executive Report of the:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

21 June 2017

Classification: Unrestricted

TOWER HAMLETS

Report of: David Knight, Committee Services Manager

Appointment of Scrutiny Lead Members, Co-options to Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Establishment of Sub-Committees

Originating Officer(s)	David Knight, Senior Committee Services Officer
Wards affected	All Wards

Summary

This report requests that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) agrees the following arrangements:

- Scrutiny Lead Members based on the Council's Directorates
- To note the co-opted members of OSC in accordance with legislation
- To note the Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committees in the following areas:
 - o Grants
 - Housing
 - Health

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- 1. Determine whether it wishes to continue to operate Scrutiny Leads with specific portfolios and if so to appoint Members to the posts as set out in Section 3 of this report.
- 2. Note the co-option to the membership of the OSC of representatives in respect of education matters, as set out at Paragraphs 3.3 to 3.9 of this report.
- 3. Note the terms of reference for the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee;
- 4. Note the terms of reference for the Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee
- 5. Note the terms of reference for the Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee; and
- 6. Appoint Members and agree Chairs for the above Sub-Committees as set out in **Appendix 1** to this report.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required, at its first meeting of the municipal year, to confirm its arrangements for Lead Scrutiny Members and Sub-Committees.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1 The Committee could determine different arrangements for carrying out the Scrutiny of the Council's executive decision making functions providing that all statutory requirements were met.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

3.1 At its first meeting of the municipal year the OSC are asked to approve its arrangements for Lead Scrutiny Members and Sub-Committees.

Scrutiny Lead Members and Portfolios

- 3.2 The OSC has traditionally appointed Scrutiny Lead Members with portfolios aligned to the authority's directorates. At its meeting on 18 May 2016, Council approved Special Responsibility Allowances for 5 Scrutiny Lead positions. It is therefore suggested that for the 2017/18 Municipal Year, the OSC consider the appointment of Lead Scrutiny Members for those agreed portfolios as set out below:
 - Lead for Adults and Health Services (including Chairing the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee)
 - Lead for Communities, Localities and Culture
 - Lead for Children's Services
 - Lead for Place (including Chairing the Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee)
 - Lead for Resources (including Vice-Chair of the Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

Co-option of Education and other Representatives to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 3.3 Section 9FA (4) of the Local Government Act 2000 provides that an overview and scrutiny committee of a local Council may include persons who are not members of the Council. This provision empowers, rather than obliges, local authorities to have co-opted members on their overview and scrutiny committees.
- 3.4 However Schedule A1 to the LGA 2000 also has effect in relation to the Council's executive arrangements. Paragraph 7 of Schedule A1 makes provision for overview and scrutiny committees to have church representatives. The Council must have a Church of England co-opted member on its overview and scrutiny committee if the committee's functions relate wholly or partly to education functions and if the Council maintains one or more Church of England Schools. Similarly, the Council must have a

Roman Catholic representative on its overview and scrutiny committee if the committee's functions relate wholly or partly to education functions and if the Council maintains one or more Roman Catholic schools.

- 3.5 Paragraph 7 of Schedule A1 to the LGA 2000 also deals with appointment of the church representatives. The Church of England representative must be nominated by the Diocesan Board of Education for any Church of England diocese which falls wholly or partly in Tower Hamlets. The Roman Catholic representative must be a nominated by the bishop of any Roman Catholic diocese which falls wholly or partly in Tower Hamlets.
- 3.6 Paragraph 8 of Schedule A1 to the LGA 2000 sets out power for the Secretary of State to make regulations requiring local authorities to have representatives of parent governors at maintained schools included on their overview and scrutiny committees. The Secretary of State has made the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001. Regulation 3 provides that a local education Council shall appoint at least two, but not more than five, parent governor representatives to any overview and scrutiny committee that has functions which relate wholly or partly to any education functions which are the responsibility of the Council's executive. The Regulations specify the process for electing representatives.
- 3.7 Consistent with the statutory provisions, the Council's Constitution provides in Part 3 "Responsibility for Functions", for the membership of the overview and scrutiny committee to include a Church of England representative, a Roman Catholic representative and two Parent Governor Representatives. The Constitution also provides for the committee to have a non-voting Muslim faith representative, although this is not a statutory requirement.
- 3.8 The Constitution as amended (Part 4 "Rules of Procedure", Section 4.5 "Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules", Paragraph 4 "Education Representatives" Rule 4.1 states that "The Overview and Scrutiny Committee must include in its membership the following voting representatives in respect of education matters:
 - One Church of England diocese representative;
 - One Roman Catholic diocese representative; and
 - Three parent governor representatives elected under the procedures contained in the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001."

Rule 4.2 states that "The Committee may also include a Muslim representative in a non-voting capacity."

Rule 4.3 states that "These members may speak but not vote on any other (i.e. non educational) matters. "

3.9 The OSC is requested to agree the co-option of nominated representatives in respect of education matters as set out in the table below.

Role	Co-Optee
Church of England Diocese representative	Dr Phillip Rice
Roman Catholic Diocese representative	Christine Trumper
Parent Governor representative	Shabbir Chowdhury
Parent Governor representative	Nozrul Mustafa
Parent Governor representative	Fatiha Kassouri
Muslim Community Representative (non-voting)	Asad M Jaman

4. <u>COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER</u>

4.1 This report recommends the Overview and Scrutiny Committee appoint Lead Scrutiny Members to positions that carry Special Responsibility Allowances at a level agreed by the Council. This is within agreed budgets.

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

5.1 Most of the relevant statutory and constitutional provisions are set out in the body of the report. It is also proposed that independent members be co-opted to the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee. Section 9FA (4) of the Local Government Act 2000 confirms that a sub-committee of an overview and scrutiny committee may include persons who are not members of the authority. This is consistent with section 102(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 which makes similar provision in relation to committees and sub-committees.

6. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 The establishment of proper scrutiny arrangements helps ensure effective decision making by the authority which supports the Council's One Tower Hamlets aspirations.

7. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The establishment of proper scrutiny arrangements helps ensure best value is achieved from the Council's decision making.

8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

8.1 None specific to this report.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The appointment of Scrutiny Lead Members, Co-option of representatives in respect of education matters and establishment of the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee is necessary for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to meet its statutory and constitutional obligations and in particular the functions conferred on the Council by the provisions referred to in the body of the report.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 None specific to this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

None

Appendix

• Appendix 1 - Appointment to Cttees.

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)
List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report
List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- These must be sent to Democratic Services with the report
- State NONE if none.

Officer contact details for documents:

• [Or state N/A]

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS 2017-2018 NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING ON 17 MAY 2017

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

(Nine members of the Council plus six co-opted members)

(NB Scrutiny Lead Members and Chairs of Sub-Committees to be appointed by the O&S Committee)

Labour Group (5)	Independent Group (2)	Conservative Group (1)	People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)	Co-Opted Members (for information – to be appointed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee)
Cllr Denise Jones				
Cllr Clare Harrisson	Cllr Muhammad Ansar	Cllr Andrew Wood		Dr Phillip Rice -
Cllr Danny Hassell	Mustaquim		Cllr Rabina Khan	Church of England
Cllr Ayas Miah	Cllr Oliur Rahman			Diocese
Cllr Helal Uddin		Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	representative
	Substitutes:-			·
Substitutes:-		Cllr Peter Golds	Cllr Abdul Asad	Asad M Jaman -
	Cllr Ohid Ahmed	Cllr Chris Chapman		Muslim Faith
Cllr Rajib Ahmed	Cllr Gulam Kibria Choudhury	,		representative
Cllr Dave Chesterton	Cllr Md Maium Miah			
Cllr Candida Ronald				Parent Governor
				representatives:-

Fatiha Kassouri

HEALTH SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

(Nominations for information - Panel to be appointed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee)
(Six members of the Council)

Labour Group (3)	Independent Group (1)	Conservative Group (1)	People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)	Co-opted Members:-
Cllr Clare Harrisson Cllr Shiria Khatun Cllr Dave Chesterton Substitutes:- Cllr Rajib Ahmed Cllr Denise Jones Cllr Candida Ronald	Cllr Muhammad Ansar Mustaquim Substitutes:- Cllr Mahbub Alam Cllr Md Maium Miah	Cllr Peter Golds Substitutes:- Cllr Andrew Wood	Cllr Abdul Asad Substitutes:- Cllr Shafi Ahmed	To be appointed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as required • David Burbidge (Healthwatch Tower Hamlets) • Tim Oliver (Healthwatch Tower Healthwatch Tower Hamlets)

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GRANTS SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

(Nominations for information - Panel to be appointed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee) (Six members of the Council)

Labour Group (3)	Independent Group (1)	Conservative Group (1)	People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)	Ungrouped (0)
Cllr Ayas Miah Cllr Clare Harrisson Cllr Candida Ronald Substitutes:- Cllr Danny Hassell Cllr John Pierce Cllr Dave Chesterton	Cllr Mahbub Alam Substitutes:-	Cllr Peter Golds Substitutes:- Cllr Andrew Wood	Cllr Shafi Ahmed Substitutes:-	N/A

HOUSING SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

(Nominations for information - Panel to be appointed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee)
(Six members of the Council)

Labour Group (3)	Independent Group (1)	Conservative Group (1)	People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)	Ungrouped (0)
Cllr Helal Uddin Cllr Dave Chesterton Cllr Shiria Khatun	Cllr Gulam Robbani	Cllr Andrew Wood Substitutes:-	Cllr Rabina Khan	N/A
Substitutes:- Cllr Rajib Ahmed Cllr Marc Francis Cllr John Pierce	Substitutes:-	Cllr Chris Chapman	Substitutes:-	

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