

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday, 24 September 2018 at 6.30 p.m., Room C1, 1st Floor, Town Hall,
Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG

This meeting is open to the public to attend.

Members:

Chair: Councillor Abdal Ullah

Vice Chair: Councillor Marc Francis

Lead for Resources

Councillor Sufia Alam

Lead for Children's Services

Councillor Mufeedah Bustin

Councillor Kahar Chowdhury

Lead for Health, Adults and Community

Councillor Dipa Das

Lead for Place

Councillor James King

Councillor Kyrsten Perry

Councillor Mohammed Pappu

Lead for Governance

Councillor Bex White

Councillor Andrew Wood

Co-opted Members:

Joanna Hannan

Representative of Diocese of Westminster

Dr Phillip Rice

Church of England Representative

Khoyrul Shaheed

Muslim Faith Community

Fatiha Kassouri

Parent Governors

Neil Cunningham

Parent Governors

Ahmed Hussain

Parent Governors

Deputies:

Councillor Peter Golds, Councillor Tarik Khan, Councillor Victoria Obaze and Councillor Val Whitehead

[The quorum for this body is 3 voting Members]

Contact for further enquiries:

David Knight, Democratic Services

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Web: <http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee>

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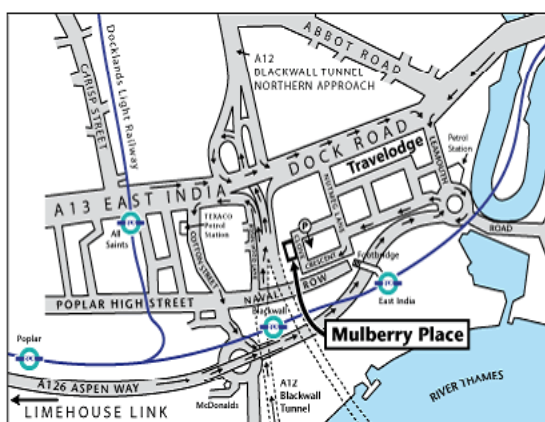
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SECTION ONE	WARD	PAGE NUMBER(S)
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE		
To receive any apologies for absence.		
2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST		9 - 12
To note any declarations of interest made by Members, including those restricting Members from voting on the questions detailed in Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992. See attached note from the Monitoring Officer.		
3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES		
3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 25th June, 2018	All Wards	13 - 18
To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on held on 25th June, 2018		
3.2 Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July, 2018	All Wards	19 - 24
To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on minutes of the meeting held on 11th July, 2018		
3.3 Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd July, 2018.	All Wards	25 - 40
To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 23rd July, 2018.		
4. REQUESTS TO SUBMIT PETITIONS	All Wards	
To receive any petitions (to be notified at the meeting).		
5. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE QUERY AND ACTION LOG 2018/19	All Wards	41 - 42
To note and comment on the Action Log.		

6.	UNRESTRICTED REPORTS 'CALLED IN'	All Wards	
	No decisions of the Mayor in Cabinet on 25 th July, 2018 in respect of unrestricted reports on the agenda were 'called in'.		
7.	SUPPORTING EDUCATIONAL ASPIRATION IN TOWER HAMLETS	All Wards	
7.1	Overview of the Council's Work	All Wards	
	To receive a presentation from Councillor Danny Hassell Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People on the Council's vision and the work to support children's educational aspirations.		
7.2	Research Data	All Wards	
	To receive a presentation from Juanita Haynes (Senior Intelligence and Performance Manager) on the analysis of the research data.		
7.3	Partnership work	All Wards	
	To receive a presentation on the partners' work from:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queen Mary University (Mike Wojcik, Chief Executive Officer of Queen Mary University of London Students' Union and Professor Stephanie Marshall, Vice Principal Education) • Tower Hamlets College, New City College Group (Alison Arnaud, Borough Principal) • Tower Hamlets Education Partnership (Tracy Smith, Executive Director) 		
8.	UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION	All Wards	
8.1	Children's Services Improvement Report	All Wards	43 - 64
8.2	OSC Work Programme Report	All Wards	65 - 90
9.	CABINET FORWARD PLAN	All Wards	91 - 110
	To review and plan around committee priorities		

10. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF UNRESTRICTED CABINET PAPERS All Wards

To consider and agree pre-decision scrutiny questions/comments to be presented to Cabinet.

(Time allocated – 30 minutes).

11. VERBAL UPDATES FROM SCRUTINY LEADS All Wards

(Time allocated – 5 minutes each)

12. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT All Wards

To consider any other unrestricted business that the Chair considers to be urgent.

13. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

In view of the contents of the remaining items on the agenda the Committee is recommended to adopt the following motion:

“That, under the provisions of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting for the consideration of the Section Two business on the grounds that it contains information defined as Exempt in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972.”

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL SECTION (Pink Papers)

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SECTION TWO

14. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Nil items

15. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS 'CALLED IN'

Nil items

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

To consider and agree pre-decision scrutiny questions/comments to be presented to Cabinet.

(Time allocated 15 minutes).

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

To consider any other exempt/ confidential business that the Chair considers to be urgent.

Next Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Monday, 29 October 2018 at 6.30 p.m. to be held in Room C1, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG

Agenda Item 2

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Members' Code of Conduct at Part 5.1 of the Council's Constitution.

Please note that the question of whether a Member has an interest in any matter, and whether or not that interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, is for that Member to decide. Advice is available from officers as listed below but they cannot make the decision for the Member. If in doubt as to the nature of an interest it is advisable to seek advice **prior** to attending a meeting.

Interests and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs)

You have an interest in any business of the authority where that business relates to or is likely to affect any of the persons, bodies or matters listed in section 4.1 (a) of the Code of Conduct; and might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of yourself, a member of your family or a person with whom you have a close association, to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward affected.

You must notify the Monitoring Officer in writing of any such interest, for inclusion in the Register of Members' Interests which is available for public inspection and on the Council's Website.

Once you have recorded an interest in the Register, you are not then required to declare that interest at each meeting where the business is discussed, unless the interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI).

A DPI is defined in Regulations as a pecuniary interest of any of the descriptions listed at **Appendix A** overleaf. Please note that a Member's DPIs include his/her own relevant interests and also those of his/her spouse or civil partner; or a person with whom the Member is living as husband and wife; or a person with whom the Member is living as if they were civil partners; if the Member is aware that that other person has the interest.

Effect of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest on participation at meetings

Where you have a DPI in any business of the Council you must, unless you have obtained a dispensation from the authority's Monitoring Officer following consideration by the Dispensations Sub-Committee of the Standards Advisory Committee:-

- not seek to improperly influence a decision about that business; and
- not exercise executive functions in relation to that business.

If you are present at a meeting where that business is discussed, you must:-

- Disclose to the meeting the existence and nature of the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, if later; and
- Leave the room (including any public viewing area) for the duration of consideration and decision on the item and not seek to influence the debate or decision

When declaring a DPI, Members should specify the nature of the interest and the agenda item to which the interest relates. This procedure is designed to assist the public's understanding of the meeting and to enable a full record to be made in the minutes of the meeting.

Where you have a DPI in any business of the authority which is not included in the Member's register of interests and you attend a meeting of the authority at which the business is considered, in addition to disclosing the interest to that meeting, you must also within 28 days notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest for inclusion in the Register.

Further advice

For further advice please contact:-

Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer. Tel 020 7364 4800

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority—</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p>
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)—</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where—</p> <p>(a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) either—</p> <p>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>(ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p>

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LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

HELD AT 6.30 P.M. ON MONDAY, 25 JUNE 2018

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

Members Present:

Councillor Abdal Ullah (Chair)

Councillor Marc Francis (Vice-Chair)	– Lead for Resources
Councillor Sufia Alam	– Lead for Children’s Services
Councillor Mufeedah Bustin	
Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	– Lead for Health, Adults and Community
Councillor Dipa Das	– Lead for Place
Councillor James King	
Councillor Kyrsten Perry	
Councillor Mohammed Pappu	– Lead for Governance
Councillor Bex White	
Councillor Andrew Wood	

Co-opted Members Present:

Joanna Hannan	– Representative of Diocese of Westminster
Dr Phillip Rice	– Church of England Representative

Other Councillors Present:

Mayor John Biggs

Officers Present:

Elizabeth Bailey	– Senior Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer
Janet Fasan	– (Divisional Director, Legal)
Afazul Hoque	– (Head Corporate Strategy & Policy)
David Knight	– (Principal Committee Services Officer)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received for this meeting.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

Councillor Ullah invited nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) for the duration of the Municipal Year. Accordingly, Councillor Mark Francis was nominated and seconded and it was:

RESOLVED

That Councillor Mark Francis be appointed Vice-Chair of OSC for the duration of the municipal year.

3. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

Nil Items

4. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 22nd March, 2018

The Chair **Moved** and it was:-

RESOLVED

That the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 22nd March, 2018 to be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings.

4.2 Minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 23rd May, 2018

The Chair **Moved** and it was:-

RESOLVED

That the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 23rd May, 2018 to be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings.

5. REQUESTS TO SUBMIT PETITIONS

Nil items

6. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE QUERY AND ACTION LOG 2018/2019

The Committee received and noted the Query and Action Log 2018/2019.

As a result of consideration on the Log the Committee indicated that It would wish to see scrutiny meetings held at venues throughout Tower Hamlets and to review the progress being made in implementing the Mayor's Transparency Protocol and the recommendations arising from the Overview and Scrutiny Transparency Commission report.

7. CHAIRS UPDATE

The Chair reminded the Committee that the Work Programming Workshop would be on the 30th June, 2108 at the Shadwell Centre and Sunita Sharma from the Centre for Public Scrutiny would be facilitating the session. This would include a Horizon Scanning session for each directorate so that members' could explore their prioritisation criteria (Including a strategic focus on outcomes and improved service delivery).

8. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS 'CALLED IN'

Nil items

9. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF UNRESTRICTED CABINET PAPERS

The Committee received and noted copies and those pre-decision scrutiny questions that had been received regarding the Cabinet agenda for the 27th June, 2018 and were asked to let the Chair have any comments that they might have on these questions by 12:00 noon on the 26th June, 2018.

10. SCRUTINY SPOTLIGHT

10.1 Mayor John Biggs

The Committee received a presentation from Mayor John Biggs highlighting a number of key issues in relation to his vision for the 2018/2019 Municipal year. The questions and comments from Members on the report may be summarised as follows:

The Committee:

- Noted the specific focus of the Mayor on the Work Path initiative; Affordable Housing, Investment in additional Police Officers and action on improved Air Quality;
- Noted that the Mayor was proposing potential changes in the governance arrangements;
- Commented that local and sub-regional areas have been working to make rapid improvements to health and care within existing powers and exploring how more local powers, resources and decision-making could accelerate the improvements that Londoners want to see at the most appropriate and local level. Different parts of London have diverse communities, health challenges and quality of health and care services. It is therefore entirely appropriate that consideration should

be given to different solutions being developed for different areas and that enabling tools, such as devolution, could be adopted at different pace and scale based on local appetite; and

- It was also noted that whilst transparency and accountability remain a matter of real interest and concern to local people, the Annual Residents Survey (ARS) 2017/18 results had shown that 79% of residents trust the Council 'a great deal' or 'a fair amount' - up 7 points on last year, and well above the trust rating for councils nationally (59%). 59% also had agreed that the Council is 'open and transparent about its activities' - up 7 points on last year. 72% are satisfied with the way the Council runs things - close to last year's rating and a historical high – and 78% felt the Council was doing a good job - up 6 points over the year. Despite this, it is still recognised that there is still further work to do, and that the Mayor remains committed to the Council becoming a more open and transparent organisation.

11. STRENGTHENING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IN 2018-19

The Committee received and noted a report that reviewed the overview and scrutiny arrangements of the Council against the national, regional and local context to assess its effectiveness to date and identify areas for improvement.

The questions and comments from Members on the report may be summarised as follows:

The Committee

- Noted that the report had made 14 recommendations intended to strengthen scrutiny in 2018-19 and outlined out how these will be implemented;
- Noted the Communities and Local Government Committee (the Select Committee) carried out the first comprehensive assessment of scrutiny arrangements, since their introduction by the Local Government Act 2000, and published its final report in December 2017 (the Select Committee Report);
- Was informed that the Select Committee Report, entitled 'effectiveness of local authority overview and scrutiny committees', makes 21 recommendations focusing on the themes of organisational culture, parity of esteem between scrutiny and the executive, independence, member training and skills, role of the public and scrutinising public services delivered by external organisations; and
- Was advised that in March 2018, the Government had published its response to the Select Committee Report and accepted most but not all of the recommendations aimed at the Government (Government Response);
- Noted that the Government Response notes that scrutiny plays a vital role in ensuring local accountability on a wide range of local issues and

comments that the Government is committed to ensuring that councils (i) are aware of the importance of scrutiny; (ii) understand the benefits of effective scrutiny; and (iii) have access to best practice to inform Councils' thinking;

- Indicated that it wished to see an increased focus on Air Quality and greater proliferation/maintenance of electric charging points has been specified by the Mayor in the coming year; and
- Noted that the Mayor feels that there is a need to actively engage with both the younger and senior citizens in the community to create a greater sense of sport engagement.

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

The Chair comments that it was disappointing that the upcoming Mela would not be broadcasted and that this was a missed commercial and awareness opportunity.

13. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

As 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.

14. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Nil items

15. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS 'CALLED IN'

Nil items

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

Nil items

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

Nil items

The meeting ended at 7.58 p.m.

**Chair, Councillor Abdal Ullah
Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

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LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

HELD AT 6.10 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 11 JULY 2018

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

Members Present:

Councillor Marc Francis	– Lead for Resources
Councillor Sufia Alam	– Lead for Children's Services
Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	– Lead for Health, Adults and Community
Councillor Dipa Das	– Lead for Place
Councillor James King	
Councillor Kyrsten Perry	
Councillor Mohammed Pappu	– Lead for Governance
Councillor Bex White	
Councillor Peter Golds	

Co-opted Members Present:

Ahmed Hussain (Co-Opted Member)	– Parent Governors
Fatiha Kassouri	– Parent Governors
Dr Phillip Rice	– Church of England Representative

Other Councillors Present:

Councillor Danny Hassell
Councillor Tarik Khan
Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan
Councillor Puru Miah

Apologies:

Councillor Abdal Ullah	
Councillor Mufeedah Bustin	
Councillor Andrew Wood	
Joanna Hannan	– Representative of Diocese of Westminster

Officers Present:

Elizabeth Bailey	– Senior Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer
Sharon Godman	– (Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy

Afazul Hoque	– and Partnerships)
Christine McInnes	– (Head Corporate Strategy & Policy)
Asmat Hussain	– (Divisional Director, Education and Partnership, Children's)
David Knight	– (Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer)
	– (Senior Democratic Services Officer)

1. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest were received.

2. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS 'CALLED IN'

2.1 Securing the future of early years services - local authority day nurseries

The Committee noted that a decision made by the Mayor in Cabinet on Wednesday, 27 June 2018 in respect of agenda item 6.3 'securing the future of early years services – local authority day nurseries' had been "called in" under the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules of the Council's Constitution by Councillors Puru Miah, Tarik Khan, Eve McQuillan, Shad Chowdhury and Gabriela Salva Macallan ('Call-in Members'). Councillors Gabriela Salva Macallan, Puru Miah and Tarik Khan, represented the Call-in Members at the Committee and presented the reasons for the Call-in:

The questions and comments from Members on the Call In may be summarised as follows:

The Committee:

1. Noted that the Mayor in Cabinet had decided that the Council consult on the proposal of a phased closure of the Local Authority Day Nurseries and that the feedback of the consultation be brought back to the Mayor for further consideration. The consultation proposal set out that Mary Sambrook Local Authority Day Nursery would close at the end of July 2018, followed by John Smith Local Authority Day Nursery and Overland in the first half of 2019;
2. Was advised that the Cabinet Report had been published on Friday, 22nd June, 2018 before the Mayor in Cabinet made his decision on Wednesday, 27th June, 2018. Accordingly, Call-in Members raised concerns that Councillors had insufficient time to (i) consider the report in full, (ii) carry out appropriate due diligence on a key decision and (iii) explore alternative options available;
3. Noted that the Call-in Members also raised concerns that the proposed consultation does not constitute full and meaningful consultation with residents e.g. the proposed consultation of twenty eight days combined with the start of the phased closure of the Local Authority Day Nurseries at the end of July, provided a very short period of time in

which to explore options, consult with parents and staff and consider feedback fully;

4. Noted that the Call-in Members had also highlighted that the consultation only proposed the options to close the Local Authority Day Nurseries or to maintain the status quo and had suggested that further options should be consulted on;
5. Was advised the Call-in Members therefore proposed that a working group of Executive and Non-executive Councillors should be set up and provided with sufficient information to explore more options to consult on, particularly around the financial viability of the Local Authority Day Nurseries. It was suggested that the working group work with unions, parents and obtain information from other Local Authorities could look at the funding gap and draw up alternative options. The Call-in Members then proposed consulting in September;
6. Also noted tabled information on a public consultation by Salford City Council on proposals to find a more cost effective way to deliver local authority nurseries. The Committee noted that the Salford City Council consultation proposed a 90 day consultation with parents, staff, schools and the private and voluntary sector.

The Committee then received and noted the response from the Lead Member which is summarised as follows:

The Committee:

- A. Noted that the need for the fair provision of services and that all children should benefit from the Early Years provision. The Lead Member stated that in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, 22,000 children under the age of five use the Council's Early Years provision. However, fewer than one hundred children use the Local Authority Day Nurseries, which is less than 1.6% of the Council's overall provision. While Early Years spend in the borough equates to the equivalent of £1,700 per child, Local Authority Day Nursery provision has the equivalent benefit of £15,000 per child;
- B. Noted that the Schools Forum, which manages the Dedicated Schools Grant, has decided that the financial pressure on the schools budget is so significant that it is unable to carry on funding this provision;
- C. Was informed that the children currently attending Local Authority Day Nurseries can be accommodated through alternative nursery provision; and
- D. Noted that the Lead Member was amenable to an extension of the consultation period beyond twenty eight days. In addition, alternative suggestions could be proposed by residents during the period of the consultation, which would be considered by the Mayor in Cabinet in public, at which point the decision could be subject to a 'Call-in'.

After hearing from the Call-in Members and the Lead Member, the Committee then considered the impact on children and parents, the need for due process for key decisions, the time and scope of the consultation and the need for affordable child care provision. The comments of the Committee are outlined as follows:

The Committee:

- I. Queried the impact on children and parents if the decision to consult is further delayed, including the potential for services to be run down. On balance, however, the Committee noted the importance for parents to have certainty around the availability of services in all three Local Authority Day Nurseries until the end of the “school” year and for staff to have some certainty about their jobs for a similar period;
- II. Considered the option of proceeding on the basis of the Mayor in Cabinet’s decision and noted comments from the Call-in Members that the timeframes would be unfair on parents with the first closure (Mary Sambrook) effectively proposed to take place at the end of July as the lower number of children are consolidated within the other two Local Authority Day Nurseries for the school summer holidays;
- III. Noted the Lead Members’ proposals to transfer children currently attending the Local Authority Day Nurseries to Children’s Nursery schools. The Committee reflected on the different types of provision at Local Authority Day Nurseries, which cater for children from 6 months old and supports children with special education needs, disabilities and English as a second language. While the Committee noted the unfilled places at the Nursery Schools, it was also noted that children under the age of three cannot access them;
- IV. Expressed concern about the ability to fully consider the Report, which was published just five days before the decision. The Committee was also concerned that none of the written pre-decision questions it referred on 25th June were answered at the Cabinet meeting on 27th June, and so were not available to inform the Mayor’s decision;
- V. Noted that there was no statutory requirement to consult on the decision to close the Local Authority Day Nurseries and that the Council had decided to do so under its best value improvement practice. However, the Committee considered that the proposed twenty eight day consultation period over the school holidays would not allow for full and meaningful consultation with staff and parents. The Committee felt that a consultation running into September or even early-October would be fairer for all stakeholders;
- VI. Noted that the consultation was limited to two options and that alternative suggestions could be proposed to explore funding options for the Local Authority Day Nurseries, similar to the Salford City Council consultation model. In particular, commented that the proposed binary choice between closure and continuation with the status quo with a yearly budget deficit of nearly £1 million is not a real choice;

- VII. The Committee agreed that, while full and meaningful consultation is necessary, the currently-projected budget deficit means that the Local Authority Day Nurseries cannot be allowed to drift on without a decision on their future. Clear parameters should be set around the timeframe to develop a meaningful alternative option within the next three months so that LBTH does not face significant additional costs in 2019/20, which might impact on other services. The burden of this deficit should not fall on Children's Services existing budgets;
- VIII. The committee agrees that the Dedicated Schools Grant should not be used to fund the LADNs beyond existing commitments;
- IX. Further, the Committee noted what it believes are inefficiencies in the Local Authorities Day Nurseries operating budget, including recharges from central Council support services (£472,000). These should also be closely scrutinised to ensure their appropriateness;
- X. The Committee also commented on the pressing need for affordable childcare and noted the impact this has in undermining national and local efforts to tackle child poverty in Tower Hamlets by encouraging parents into work. Accordingly, the Committee reiterated the need for further options to be brought forward to retain or even expand the provision of genuinely affordable childcare in the Borough.

In conclusion, the Chair Moved and it was **RESOLVED** that:

The decision should be referred back to the Mayor in Cabinet to reconsider the following:

1. The lengthen the period of the Consultation so that the consultation period ends at least two or three weeks after the end of the school holidays;
2. The scope of the consultation is widened to include an option other than closure or the unsustainable status quo, and to involve engagement mechanisms that encourage greater participation and feedback from a wider range of stakeholders and residents; and
3. The process of the Consultation so that feedback from the consultation is brought back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to feed into the Mayor's decision-making process.

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

As 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.

The meeting ended at 7.16 p.m.

**Chair,
Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

HELD AT 6.35 P.M. ON MONDAY, 23 JULY 2018

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

Members Present:

Councillor Abdal Ullah (Chair)	
Councillor Marc Francis (Vice-Chair)	
Councillor Sufia Alam	– Lead for Children's Services
Councillor Mufeedah Bustin	–
Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	– Lead for Health, Adults and Community
Councillor Dipa Das	– Lead for Place
Councillor James King	–
Councillor Kyrsten Perry	–
Councillor Mohammed Pappu	– Lead for Governance
Councillor Bex White	–
Councillor Andrew Wood	–

Co-opted Members Present:

Khoyrul Shaheed	– Muslim Faith Community
Ahmed Hussain	– Parent Governors

Other Councillors Present:

Councillor Danny Hassell

Apologies:

Joanna Hannan	– Representative of Diocese of Westminster
Dr Phillip Rice	– Church of England Representative
Fatiha Kassouri	– Parent Governors
Neil Cunningham	– Parent Governors

Officers Present:

Stephen Ashley	– Independent Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board
Elizabeth Bailey	– Senior Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer
Janet Fasan	– (Divisional Director, Legal)
Afazul Hoque	– (Head Corporate Strategy & Policy)

Nancy Meehan	– (Interim Divisional Director, Children's Social Care)
Neville Murton	– (Divisional Director, Finance, Procurement & Audit)
David Tolley	– (Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards)
Brian Snary	– Financial Accountant - Resources

1. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

The Committee noted that with reference to agenda item 10 the Pre-Decision Scrutiny of the Cabinet agenda should there be any formal discussion on the Cabinet report regarding Supporting the Local Economy - Proposed criteria for granting Business Rate relief (Cabinet Item 6.6 refers) then the following Members indicated that they would have to declare an interest:

- Councillor Mufeedah Bustin – Employed by a Borough charity;
- Councillor Kahar Chowdhury – Member of a Borough charity;
- Co-Opted Member - Khoyrul Shaheed – Member of a Borough charity;
- Councillor Abdal Ullah – Trustee of a Borough charity; and
- Councillor Bex White - Employed by a Borough charity.

2. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 25th June, 2018

It was agreed to defer consideration of these minutes until the next meeting.

2.2 Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July, 2018

It was agreed to defer consideration of these minutes until the next meeting.

3. REQUESTS TO SUBMIT PETITIONS

The Committee were advised that no requests to submit petitions had been submitted for tonight's meeting.

4. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE QUERY AND ACTION LOG 2018/19

The Committee received and noted the Query and Action Log 2018/19.

5. CHAIRS UPDATE

The Chair reminded the Committee that a copy of the Call in Criteria had been circulated to assist Members and going forward consideration would be given to the Cabinets Forward Plan.

6. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS 'CALLED IN'

The Committee was reminded that a decision had been made by the Mayor in Cabinet on Wednesday, 27 June 2018 regarding the need to 'secure the future of early years services – local authority day nurseries' and that this had been "called in" under the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules of the Council's Constitution. A summary of the main points of the discussion is outlined as follows:

The Committee:

- Noted that the Cabinet Report had been published on Friday, 22nd June, 2018 before the Mayor in Cabinet made his decision on Wednesday, 27th June, 2018. Those Members that had called in the report had expressed their concerns that there had been insufficient time to (i) consider the report in full, (ii) carry out appropriate due diligence on a key decision and (iii) explore alternative options available;
- Indicated that a report should only be published less than five clear days in advance of a meeting if the Chair was satisfied that it is was not possible to delay consideration until a later meeting;
- Indicated that it was important going forward that the guidance/terms of reference/protocols for the Call In process should be reviewed to ensure it is fit for purpose;
- including the time period for convening such a meeting; and
- Agreed the importance of agreeing a consensus at the meeting.

7. SCRUTINY SPOTLIGHT

7.1 Children's Social Care: Progress Update

The Committee received and noted a presentation from Councillor Danny Hassell the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People and Nancy Meehan the Interim Divisional Director, Children's Social Care that provided an update since the last Ofsted visit and the preparations being made for future visits on 15th and 16th August, 2018. The main points of the discussion are summarised below.

The Committee:

- Noted that quality assessments are subject to regular audits and dip samples and that there is an individual officer responsible to oversee each case;

- Was reminded of the Ofsted Judgement on the Council collectively but they had been highly impressed by what has been achieved since the Judgement and the Council had come together collectively to make a really decisive turnaround which is a credit to both the elected Members and the officers;
- Commented that the appointment Nancy Meehan as the Interim Divisional Director, Children's Social Care had made a massive difference to the journey that the Council is now on. However, wanted to receive more details as to where the Council expected to be in the short and longer term;
- Noted that the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People had been impressed by the way that LBTH as an organisation had come together to work on the changes required;
- Was informed that whilst Ofsted had seen the changes the aim was for LBTH to be rated as good especially around leadership/management so as to ensure the positive direction of travel would continue;
- Noted that the Mayor; Councillor Hassell and the Chief Executive had attended training on the restorative approach to child protection which had outlined the mechanism to address harm in a way that brings together the people affected and how it afforded them the opportunity to make it better and in particular to make the children safe;
- Commented that with regard to the retention of social workers had consideration been given to how other agencies had retained and developed Mental Health Social Worker/General Practitioners;
- Noted that LBTH was considering the offer for social workers at Year 2 and Year 4 as these milestones are considered that when social workers are most likely to consider leaving the authority;
- Noted that the Cabinet Member was happy to consider best practice regarding the recent local recruitment/retention campaigns aimed at Mental Health Social Worker and General Practitioners e.g. as a model upon which to base a recruitment campaign for all children's services;
- Noted that LBTH carries out case reviews at the 3; 6 and 9 month period to ensure that the required targets are hit on a sustained and regular basis;
- Noted that there is now a regular reporting up of the relevant data and it is clearer in the minds of both the managers and staff what needs to be done. Whilst there is robust and regular oversight of the process and staff know clearly what is required of them;
- Noted that maintaining the chronology of case records is now a requirement, which means that the children do not have to re-tell their story as they transit through the system. Whilst the dip sampling makes possible an effective oversight of this process and regular scheduled meetings with first line managers every 2 months is also being developed;
- Noted that whilst progress has been made there is still more work to be done. Although there have been changes in culture so that staff and their management see why (i) they have to follow a process for the good of the child and (ii) why have to do interventions at certain situation times and in certain ways.

7.2 Independent Chair of the Local Children's Safeguarding Board [LCSB]

The Committee received and noted a presentation from Steve Ashley the Independent Chair of the LCSB who provided an independent view on progress in Children's Safeguarding. The main points of the discussion are summarised below.

- Noted that there would be a 15-month transition period to replace outgoing local safeguarding children boards (LSCBs) with new arrangements **i.e.** the Department for Education had stated that the new regulations will be put in place by May 2018, with local authorities being required to have their new arrangements in place by September 2019.
- Noted that Sir Alan Wood had recommended a number of changes to the safeguarding system as part of his review of LSCBs in 2016;
- Noted on the back of those recommendations the current system is set to be replaced with a new way of investigating child deaths;
- Noted that the Local Children Safeguarding Boards (LCSBs) would be replaced with three local safeguarding partners (i) Police Service Borough Commander; (ii) Chief Executive Officer of the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and (iii) the Borough's Chief Executive;
- Noted that there was a need to have a focus upon the Early Help to support a child, young person or their family early in the life of a problem, as soon as such as situation emerges. Which the Committee was informed can be required at any stage in a child's life from pre-birth to adulthood, and applies to any problem or need that the family cannot deal with or meet on their own;
- Noted the Steve Ashley had established an Executive Board with a small group of senior people who were able to make decisions (i) Police Service Borough Commander; (ii) Chief Executive Officer of the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG); (iii) the Borough's Chief Executive and (iv) the Corporate Director of Children's Services with a streamlined focused process to hold people to account;
- Noted the importance of having designated senior officers to identify where the potential issues were and that they can take the staff with them to address the issues in a focused way;
- Noted the Department for Education (DfE) statutory guidance outlines what organisations and agencies who have functions relating to children must and should do to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and young people under the age of 18;
- Noted that Steve Ashley was happy to assist the OSC in any way he can including the running of workshops; and
- Noted that Councils cannot keep on spending in the current way given the budgetary pressures and that LBTH has done well to establish a separate fund to get the Council through to where it needs to be within the next 18 months' time then to consider if it is sustainable for the longer term.

The Chair thanked Steve Ashley for his presentation and agreed to invite him back to deliver a session with the Lead Member on safeguarding.

8. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

At this point the Vice-Chair Councillor Marc Francis took the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

8.1 Statement of Licensing Policy 2018 - 2023

The Committee received and noted a presentation from David Tolley Head of Trading Standards and Environmental Health on report that outlined the Council's review of the Statement of Licensing Policy. The main points of the discussion on this report maybe summarised as follows:

The Committee

- Noted that the reviewed Statement of Licensing Policy will ultimately go to full Council for adoption;
- Was informed that the Policy enables the administration by the Council of licences under the Licensing Act 2003;
- Observed that the purpose of the Policy is to define how the responsibilities under the Act are going to be exercised and administered;
- Noted that the statutory consultation requirements does consist of (i) the Chief Officer of Police for the Licensing Authority area; (ii) the Fire Authority for the area; (iii) those persons as the Licensing Authority consider to be representative of holders of existing licences; (iv) persons that the Licensing Authority considers to be representative of holders of existing clubs; (v) persons that the Licensing Authority considers to be representative of businesses and residents in its area; and (vi) Director of Public Health.
- Noted that with regard to the Boroughs Sexual Entertainment Venues (SEV's) and violence against young women and girls the Councils aim is to limit the number of venues to nil;
- Noted that in recent years LBTH have moved from 11 to 5 SEV's premises with 6 licenses, these premises are entitled to trade although they have to operate under certain conditions and they have to apply for these license annually and if considered it is inappropriate to continue to operate from those premises **e.g.** the demographic have change in an area from mainly commercial to residential then it would potentially no longer be appropriate for them to continue operate from that venue;
- Noted that with regard to all licence holders they should consider how they operate and test purposes of these businesses are carried out;
- Noted with regard to vulnerable adults **e.g.** street drinkers the aim is to cut down the level of off premises sales and monitor the compliance of these premises in this regard;

- Noted that Street drinkers are offered advice and support into treatment services to help them address their addictions, move out of the 'street lifestyle'; and
- Noted that residents and businesses had in the Brick Lane and Shoreditch East areas had expressed concern at issues that were detrimental to the quality of life which had resulted in the Council introducing Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO). However, these PSPO's it was noted have it seems displaced those issues into other areas and some feel that the PSPO's have not had the anticipated impact.

8.2 Overview & Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference, Membership, Quorum, Dates of meetings, Protocols and Guidance

The Committee received and noted a report presented by David Knight The Principal Committee Services Officer that set out the Terms of Reference, Membership, Quorum and Dates of meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) for the Municipal Year 2018/19. The report also set out suggested protocols and guidance to facilitate the conduct of the Committee's business and thereby meet its statutory and constitutional requirements. A summary of the discussions is set out below:

The Committee noted that:

- The adoption of the protocols and guidance set out in Appendix 1 will assist in the effective and efficient functioning of the OSC and therefore reduce the risk of poor delivery of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny function. However, the intention was to undertake a review of the protocols and guidance to ensure they were fit for purpose;
- At the Annual General Meeting of the full Council held on 23 May 2018, the Authority had approved the proportionality, establishment of the Committees and Panels of the Council and appointment of Members to these bodies. However, the Committee indicated that it would wish to see what could be done to improve the gender balance;
- It wished to give consideration to defining the roles of Members within the committee structure; and
- It wanted to seek clarity on the Call In process and that officers were working on a flow chart that explained how it works and why e.g. including a protocol for the submission of pre decision scrutiny questions to ensure that they are informing the Mayors Decision making process.

The Chair Moved and it was:-

RESOLVED to:

1. Note its current Terms of Reference, Membership, Quorum, and Dates of future meetings, as set out at Appendices 1, 2 and 3 to this report;

2. Agree the start time for scheduled OSC meetings during the remainder of the Municipal Year 2018/19 as 6:30 p.m.;
3. Agree to adopt the protocols as set out at Appendix 4 to this report;
4. Note the intention to undertake a review of the protocols and guidance to ensure they were fit for purpose; and
5. Note the guidance to facilitate the conduct of OSC business, in line with those statutory and constitutional requirements, as set out at Appendix 4 to this report.

9. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF UNRESTRICTED CABINET PAPERS

The Committee received and noted those questions to be at Cabinet by the Chair in relation to unrestricted business on the agenda – **See appendix 1**

10. VERBAL UPDATES FROM SCRUTINY LEADS

1. **Councillor Dipa Das Scrutiny Lead for Housing** advised the Committee that at the last meeting the Housing Scrutiny Committee had received presentations from Susmita Sen, Chief Executive of Tower Hamlets Homes and from Mark Baigent, Interim Divisional Director for Housing and Regeneration. In addition, there had been a private workshop between Members to set the forward plan for the Committee's work for the year;
2. **Councillor Kahar Chowdhury Scrutiny Lead for Health, Adults & Community** advised the Committee that at the last meeting the Sub-Committee had considered its Work Programme for the forth coming year and the Chair had had a meeting with Denise Radley (Corporate Director, Health, Adults & Community) on the scrutiny of health issues in the Borough; and
3. **Councillor Marc Francis Scrutiny Lead for Resources** advised the Committee that the Grants Sub-Committee had had its first meeting on 6th June, 2018 and had considered a range of issues including the scrutiny of budgetary matters such as the MTFS and CTRS. In addition, there would be a session at the end of August on the consultation regarding the CTRS.

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

Nil items

12. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

As 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.

13. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Nil items

14. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS 'CALLED IN'

Nil items

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

Nil items

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

Nil items

The meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.

Chair, Councillor Abdal Ullah
Overview & Scrutiny Committee

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Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting 23 July 2018 - Pre-decision Questions for Cabinet on 25 July 2019

Agenda Item – 6.3 – Anti-idling designation in LBTH	
Questions	Response
What is the cost of rolling out the proposals? (E.g. marketing of scheme; training officers)	There is no specialised training required for officers. A procedure note for officers has been drafted – no additional enforcement costs, publicity being funded via the 'gold campaign' Breathe Clean.
What evidence is there from other boroughs that an anti-idling scheme is more effective than other schemes at cutting emissions? (E.g. promoting stopping engines at traffic lights)	No objective evidence only anecdotal. Unnecessary vehicle engine idling is a concern to residents. The ability to issue FPN will reassure residents that the Council takes this matter seriously. Over 50% Nitrogen Dioxide emissions in LBTH comes from transport sources, any measures to reduce this is a positive. The government in its recent Clean Air strategy consultation has held up anti-idling initiatives by some local authorities as examples of good initiatives to reduce air pollution.
If enforcement will be carried out within the existing enforcement revenue budget, is there currently extra capacity within the relevant service area team, and if not, what will the Council enforce less as a result of this additional work?	This work can be absorbed into existing system for issuing FPNs as it is anticipated that only a few FPNs will be issued. Other London boroughs that already enforce the regulations do not issue any FPNs as drivers comply with the request to turn engine off. They do however consider that, the ability to issue FPN adds weight to the request to turn off engine and therefore increases the level of cooperation. Enforcement will be targeted around schools and idling hotspots locations in the borough.

Agenda Item – 6.4 – Supporting the Local Economy - Social Value Framework	
Questions	Response
<p>Is it cabinet’s opinion that this framework directly creates additional social value that might not have been created at all without the framework, or does it simply increase the extent to which pre-existing social value is accounted for in the procurement process? Can we be confident that this won’t simply be a paper exercise by those bidding for contracts to list what would have happened anyway?</p>	<p>The Framework will help to broaden the scope of social value benefits that are better aligned to council’s strategic plan priorities and these will be formally quantified as a monetary value.</p> <p>The wider social value benefits secured are a contractual obligation and the development of the toolkit and training for officers will ensure a consistent approach to monitoring and reporting on the delivery and impact of the community benefits secured for local community.</p>
Agenda Item – 6.5 – Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme	
Questions	Response
<p>Why has the Mayor decided to use Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 to help disabled non-dependents and other claimants in financial difficulty instead of establishing a dedicated Hardship Fund as was indicated at the Cabinet meeting in January 2017?</p>	<p>The report to Cabinet in January 2017 stated the following:</p> <p>“In order to recognise that there may be a number of people adversely affected by both changes to the LCTRS and other changes to the welfare system the Mayor has asked that an earmarked Tacking Poverty Reserve be created as mitigation against the overall effects associated with welfare changes. Dependent on the options chosen and therefore an assessment of the number of people affected and the potential risks, a sum of up to £5m has been provided in the Tacking Poverty Reserve; this sum will be reviewed and finalised in the February report</p>

	<p>recommending the budget to Full Council once the outcome from the LCTRS and other associated changes are known.”</p> <p>The Tackling Poverty Reserve was established to address a wide range of poverty related issues, rather than being limited to reducing the amount of council tax to be paid by those affected by the changes to the LCTRS. S13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 is specifically designed to act as a hardship fund to make discretionary hardship awards in the form of a council tax discount. It is also part of the council tax collection fund so is not a general fund revenue budget funded from reserves.</p>
Which other London boroughs use the Minimum Income Floor to calculate entitlement to Council Tax Support for self-employed claimants?	This information is not readily available and would require resourcing to establish and confirm the individual scheme arrangements in place within each London LA.
Which other London Boroughs apply the Conservative Government’s two-child limit on allowances in their Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme?	This information is not readily available and would require resourcing to establish and confirm the individual scheme arrangements in place within each London LA.
Further to the discussion about the CTRS Hardship Fund in Cabinet in January 2017, how many non-CTRS households have been granted relief from Council Tax by Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992?	<p>In 2017/18 there were 52 non CTRS cases awarded a discount under S13A.</p> <p>In 2018/19 there have been 56 non CTRS cases awarded a discount under S13A.</p> <p>All of the above cases were self-employed.</p>

Agenda Item – 6.6 – Supporting the Local Economy -Proposed criteria for granting Business Rate relief	
Questions	Response
Has any consideration been given to providing charities examples of how they can measure the monetary value of the tangible benefits of their services?	One of the key criteria is to ensure there is a benefit provided to local residents. This has not been translated into a measurement of the monetary value of that benefit as this may be difficult for some charities to calculate and may lead to inconsistency. If this is something that is raised as part of the consultation as something that would be considered useful we will consider how it may be possible, but it would not determine eligibility for rate relief.
Agenda Item – 6.7 – Site at 20 Alton Street	
Questions	Response
(para 3.6) How does this promote social well-being when the future use of the site will be by only one small part of the community (approximately 20% of Lansbury ward)? How will the Council ensure the new site is accessible by the whole community?	We understand that the group purchasing the site intend to offer a range of activities which will not necessarily be confined to the Lansbury Ward. The organisation is purchasing a long lease from the Council which will not only govern the relationship between the council and occupiers but will facilitate and permit sharing of the facility with other community groups through local hiring arrangements
(para 2.2) How is it protected under Town Planning for Community Use? The site is not protected in the Local Plan and no protection is shown on the Councils planning policy map. It is D1 space but to change it to another use simply requires planning approval which the Council has routinely done elsewhere?	Policy DM8 of the development plan protects and seeks to maintain D1 use of properties in the Borough. Additionally the lease includes user restrictions which strictly prohibit other non D1 use.
(para 6.4) What compensation is required to sell for residential purposes on an unrestricted freehold basis? How would this materially affect the value?	The informal view of planning colleagues is that the site is unlikely to be suitable for residential development. However if the purchasers of the long lease later wanted to develop the site for an alternative use outside

	of D1 then they could only do so if the Council provides its explicit agreement to vary the user restriction – for which we would seek to extract the additional value..
How was the value of this site determined?	The value was determined by an independent valuer for restrictive use of the site as a community facility and within D1 use.
Agenda Item – 6.10a – Quarterly Budget Monitoring Report	
Questions	Response
<p>Housing Revenue Account (HRA) 4 has this sentence <i>The Council has agreed an arrangement with the GLA to extend the period over which these right to buy receipts can be held and applied</i> I thought the Treasury were responsible for RTB receipts and that after 3 years if not spent had to be automatically returned to the Treasury? Is this sentence correct? How long can the GLA extend the period?</p>	RTB receipts unspent by boroughs within 3 years are paid to Treasury. Treasury then transfer to the GLA. The GLA offer is to ring-fence them for the borough for a further 3 years.
<p>Annex 2 Proposed Feasibility Studies - Does not include any of the studies etc. requested in the GLA Isle of Dogs and South Poplar Opportunity Area Planning Framework. Will these be added later?</p>	The feasibility studies are to identify solutions to ensure best use of council-owned assets in the general fund.
<p>Annex 4 Housing Capital Programme Phase 2 New Schemes 2017-2024 Adds up to 288 new homes by March 2023 but the Tower Hamlets Strategic Plan 2018-21 item 6.1b says "We are well on our way to delivering 1,000 new council homes with a further 1,000 in the pipeline". But if the pipeline is only 288 is there not a disconnect already? Is there another pipeline of projects?</p>	The new build programme is only part of the programme for the delivery of 1,000 new council homes which includes purchase of s106 properties, buy-backs of former council homes and delivery of modular homes and conversion of former community buildings for temporary accommodation. A similar number of new homes are in the phase 3 pipeline for which the consultation process will start early next year. The first 351 new council homes in phase 1, approved last year, are included in the 1,000 homes


Open Actions

Reference	Action	Assigned to:	Due Date	Response
23/07/18	Organise training with Steve Ashley on safeguarding children's	Charlotte Saini	24 September 2018	First training Session held on 18 September 2018. Second session to be held at a later date.
23/07/18	Circulate guidance 'working together to safeguard children 2018' from DfE	Elizabeth Bailey	24 September 2018	Circulated on 2 August and can be found at link below: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/729914/Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children-2018.pdf

Closed Actions

Reference	Action	Assigned to:	Due Date	Response
OSC 25/06/2018 Item 10	Update on the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy	Judith St John	23 July 2018	The Physical Activity and Sport Strategy is due to be considered by Cabinet on 26 September Cabinet


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<p align="center">Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p align="center">24th September 2018.</p>	 <p align="center">TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Debbie Jones, Corporate Director Children's Services</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>Children's Services Improvement- Quarterly Progress Report (Quarter 1 2018/19)– Cover Sheet</p>	

Originating Officer(s)	Charlotte Saini, Children's Services Improvement Manager
Wards affected	All wards

The Committee are asked to note the contents of the attached report that will be considered at Cabinet on 26th September 2018.

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Cabinet	 TOWER HAMLETS
26 September 2018	
Report of: Debbie Jones, Corporate Director Children's Services	Classification: Unrestricted
Children's Services Improvement- Quarterly Progress Report (Quarter 1 2018/19)	

Lead Member	Councillor Danny Hassell, Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People
Originating Officer(s)	Charlotte Saini, Children's Services Improvement Manager
Wards affected	All wards
Key Decision?	No
Reason for Key Decision	N/A
Community Plan Theme	A fair and prosperous community

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on progress in delivering improvements to Children's Services in response to the report published by Ofsted in April 2017 which rated our services 'inadequate'. The Council's improvement plan aims to achieve a standard of at least 'good' in summer 2019, when it is likely to be next inspected, which is the minimum our children and families deserve. The council has now had four monitoring visits from Ofsted.

The most recent visit, on 15-16 August 2018, focused on Permanency Planning and the Public Law Outline (PLO), i.e. how the council performs its obligations as a corporate parent. Inspectors evaluated the quality of care planning for children in care, in particular the achievement of timely permanence for all children who are unable to live with their birth parents. They assessed progress since the last inspection and focused on areas of practice that had required significant improvement. The Monitoring Visit letter was published on 10th September.

In summary, Ofsted found that: *"while there has been improvement in key areas since the last inspection, there are still considerable weaknesses in permanence planning and in assessments for children who cannot live with their parents. Overall, the quality of practice with these vulnerable children is improving, but it is still too variable. Senior leaders agree with inspectors' findings. They are determined to accelerate the pace of change and are taking appropriate action to address the significant deficits in the children in care services."*

Some key improvements noted by Ofsted include:

- Decisions about whether children should become looked after are now underpinned by effective and accessible legal advice;
- Improved performance management arrangements mean that senior leaders and frontline line managers are very knowledgeable about service performance;
- Long-term and short-term placement stability is beginning to improve;
- Better sufficiency planning is leading to increasing availability and choice of placements. The revised sufficiency strategy has successfully focused on the development of existing foster carers to increase capacity;
- The recently developed edge of care team (November 2017) has been instrumental in decreasing demand for placements, particularly for older adolescents, and in reducing overall numbers of children in care;
- The head teacher of the virtual school provides strong leadership and a clear strategic vision for improvement across all key stages and for children leaving care.

However, there are a number of areas where improvement is needed, for example:

- Management oversight of the permanence planning process is weak and options for permanence are not considered simultaneously, which prolongs uncertainty for children;
- When children come into care, only 22% of initial health assessments are completed within timescales. This has not improved since the inspection in 2017;
- Assessments for children in care are not updated routinely and too often, when cases are in court, the assessments focus on the concerns about the parents;

Ofsted noted that purposeful direct work with children to help them to understand why they are not living with their parents is improving but is not yet consistently good enough. In better cases, relationship-based direct work is tailored to children's needs and is age appropriate. This is a significant improvement.

Further feedback from this visit is provided in paragraphs 3.11 and 3.12 of this report.

The body of this report includes commentary on progress in the four themes of our improvement plan at the end of the first quarter in the second year of our improvement programme.

Whilst we are making progress in embedding the changes that have been made over the first year of our improvement programme, giving us a firm foundation for improvement, there remain challenges to ensuring that the service improves to meet a 'good' inspection standard and sustains this improvement. This is borne out by the findings from Ofsted at the Monitoring Visit in August, and gives us a clear framework on which to focus going forwards. Therefore, the focus in this final stage of the Improvement Plan (April 2018- early summer 2019) is, in addition to building on improvements made so far, to renew and refresh our focus on key areas which might risk progress.

Recommendations:

The Mayor in Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Endorse the progress made in delivering the children's services improvement programme.
2. Agree the next steps in the improvement journey which will be updated on in the next report.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 Corporate and political leadership of the Children's Services improvement agenda is a critical part of ensuring its success. Consideration of this report in Cabinet will support this leadership and help to facilitate public scrutiny of progress.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 There are no alternative options to consider.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 In April 2017, Ofsted published its report rating our services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers and the local safeguarding children board 'inadequate' overall (but with some areas requiring improvement.) Subsequently, Cabinet agreed an improvement plan on 27th June 2017 which was subsequently agreed by the Department for Education and Ofsted.
- 3.2 The improvement plan responds directly to the 15 recommendations identified in the Ofsted inspection report. It is an operational tool used by managers and frontline staff to drive our improvement activity which, crucially, focuses on the impact changes will have on vulnerable children. It is monitored and updated on a monthly basis by the Children's Services Improvement operational board, chaired by the Director of Children's Services, and every 2 months by our independently chaired Improvement Board. The Mayor, Chief Executive, Cabinet Member and Director of Children's Services meet fortnightly to review and address key issues and challenges. Quarterly updates are reported to Cabinet, Best Value Programme Board and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This fifth update report details progress made between April 2018 and the end of June 2018.
- 3.3 In July 2017 the Department for Education (DfE) appointed Lincolnshire and Islington councils as our Improvement Partners (IPs). The role of Improvement Partners is to support us in our improvement journey by acting as external expert advisors. They have provided regular reports on progress which are shared with

the DfE. The focus of their support included the following areas where they have specific expertise that the council could learn from:

- Early help
- Legal support
- Workforce strategy
- Leadership and governance
- Commissioning
- Finance
- Looked after children

3.4 Following the May 2018 monitoring visit by Ofsted, it was agreed, with both Lincolnshire and the DfE that the improvement support from Lincolnshire (the main improvement partner) would cease. Instead, it was agreed that Tower Hamlets would be able to secure support for specific areas identified as required from relevant authorities on an ad-hoc basis. We continue to receive support from the London Borough of Islington, and we are currently in the process of agreeing with the DfE that Leeds will also formally partner us with regard to the continued development of our practice model.

3.5 The council aims to achieve at least a ‘good’ rating for its Children’s Services within two years, by the time of the next inspection (likely to take place from the second quarter of 2019). This is an ambitious undertaking given the extent of failings identified in the Ofsted report and the level of change required. Our improvement plan sets out a three stage journey to achieving this aim. We have now entered the final stage of that journey, which is called ‘continuous improvement to a “good” children’s service’. This stage started in April 2018 and is likely to run until June 2019.

3.6 The table below shows overall progress in the aims that we set for this final stage. This work will ensure that the foundations put in place during stage 1 and embedded in stage 2 are built upon and improvement is sustained over the length of the programme:

Our aim	Progress and outcome
Stage 3 - Workforce has stabilised, permanent posts are filled and turnover has reduced	Workforce stability overall has improved during 2018. The annual rolling figure has reduced from a high of 23.3% turnover and 47 leavers in February to 19% and a further fall at the end of June to 16.9%. Recruitment initiatives have been increased with an acceleration of direct recruits and the conversion of agency workers to permanent staff.
Stage 3- Early Help featured as an aim in the first two stages of the improvement plan. It is proposed that a refreshed improvement plan includes Early Help as it is one of the key	The Early Help Redesign: Phase of one the Early Help Redesign is complete and the Early Help Hub went live on the 31 st of July 2018, under the redesigned configuration. Early Help will be running with full staffing capacity from September 2018.

Our aim	Progress and outcome
<p>priorities identified by DfE, Ofsted, Independent Chair and the LSCB as impacting on progress of improvement</p>	<p>Early Help Pathways: The Early Help pathways streams continue to be developed for schools, health (vulnerable families' pathway) and youth justice.</p> <p>Early Help Strategy: Is being finalised with the intention to now include outlines of various Early Help pathways; and the Early Help offer.</p> <p>Early Help Enquiry Form: A single Early Help Enquiry Form is being developed by Early Help and it is currently being tested within the Early Help Hub</p>
<p>Stage 3- Performance indicators, audit and dip sampling show continuous improvement in quantitative and qualitative measures</p>	<p>Following the work done during stage 1 to improve performance management within the Children's Social Care service, the use of performance data, case audits and dip samples is becoming embedded as a fundamental part of the service improvement process. The detailed updates below give examples of where this is taking place to improve our support to children and their families. In their December and May monitoring visits, Ofsted fed back that they could see much more use of performance information by team managers to support social workers and tackle drift and delay. During their fourth monitoring visit Ofsted noted the continued improved use of data and information. For example, they found that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved performance management arrangements mean that senior leaders and frontline line managers are very knowledgeable about service performance. • Routine reporting, disseminated effectively to staff and elected members is augmented by monthly practice clinics which hold managers to account. • Case file audits are completed regularly but more work is needed to sustain the focus on the quality of practice and not just the process. <p>High level performance continues to be reported to CLT and the Improvement Board via the monthly Children's Services Improvement Summary report.</p>
<p>Stage 3- Focus on specific</p>	<p>Our refreshed improvement plan will contain</p>

Our aim	Progress and outcome
service and practice areas that have been identified as requiring deeper and/or accelerated improvements	<p>specific actions in relation to the Looked After Children’s Service in order to address the key areas where progress is weak or has not yet been sufficient. We are also seeking specific support from Islington and Leeds which will support us with this.</p> <p>The draft refreshed improvement plan will be presented to the Children’s Services Operational Group in September and then the Children’s Services Improvement Board.</p>

Stage 3- Continuous improvement to a ‘good’ Children’s Service.

- 3.7 Following a deep dive exercise with the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) in June we are currently refreshing and re-focusing our improvement plan to focus on key priorities relating to this final stage, to ensure that we continue on our trajectory to “good”. Key findings from that exercise were that progress is evident across a broad range of practice. However, the report does highlight a number of areas which are crucial to our overall improvement but where we cannot yet be certain that progress is embedded or of a sufficient level of quality. These areas are; a) How we embed and develop the new “Restorative Practice” model across the workforce (b) The strength of CP Chair and IRO oversight of practice and ensuring that it provides sufficient and appropriate challenge, and (c) The continued development of the Child Exploitation team and its wider agenda.
- 3.8 A plan is being developed based on research undertaken as to the characteristics that would be present in a “good” authority. We are currently assessing our own progress against these indicators and will be developing the next phase of our improvement plan as a result. We are still focused on achieving a “good” rating by the time of the next inspection while acknowledging that this is a significant ambition.
- 3.9 **Improvement Partners:** We continue to utilise the expertise and knowledge of a number of improvement partners who have the support of the DfE to assist us with the overall improvement plan. The London Borough of Islington will continue to offer their expertise in regard to the development of front-line managers and more generalised workforce development. Islington have a strong track record in developing their staff and we will be able to take a significant amount of learning from this partnership. In addition, we are also negotiating with the DfE to involve Leeds City Council in assisting us with the continued roll-out of our Restorative Practice model. Leeds has pioneered much of this work and are seen as a national example of best practice. Their support and guidance will remain valuable in developing and embedding our version of this model.
- 3.10 Our progress is being monitored by Ofsted through quarterly monitoring visits. The fourth of these visits took place on the 15th and 16th of August and focused on Permanency Planning and the Public Law Outline. Feedback was summarised

in the Executive Summary of this report, and it is clear that, although there are some clear improvements for looked after children, these are variable, and there are areas requiring a much stronger focus during the final phase of our improvement journey.

- 3.11 Ofsted noted some improvements in the looked after children's service, including around caseloads, IRO (Independent Reviewing Officer) management oversight, enhanced CAMHS pathways, sufficiency and the role of the Emergency Duty Team and Edge of Care Team. Children with Disabilities are more effectively supported by carers following additional training and support. Decisions about whether children should become looked after are now underpinned by effective and accessible legal advice, as clearly evidenced by the weekly focused and well-attended legal planning meetings. This is a vast improvement, as previously too many children, including those subject to the PLO, remained in situations of actual or potential harm for too long. The Virtual Schools Team is strong with has a clear strategic vision and works well with schools and children's social care. The independent placements overview panel (IPOP), chaired by a senior manager, scrutinises existing placements and considers requests for placement moves and for new placements, to ensure that they meet the needs of the children and young people. The IPOP has assisted in reducing the number of children in residential placements from 30 to 11.
- 3.12 However, there is more work to do around IROs supporting permanence with concurrent planning. In addition Ofsted stated that assessments for children in care are not updated routinely and too often, when cases are in court, the assessments focus on the concerns about the parents. Too many children have not had an assessment for a number of years. More effective management oversight is required. Permanence Planning is not yet systematic and contingency planning is not yet uniformly evident. Adoption is not routinely planned for at the earliest stages. In addition, the PAST and the children's placement team need to work together with the looked after children service sooner to ensure that family finding starts sooner. We need to ensure that there is clear accountability and responsibility for children subject to Special Guardianship Orders.
- 3.13 Our refreshed improvement plan will contain specific actions in relation to the Looked After Children's Service in order to address the key areas where progress has not yet been sufficient. We are also seeking specific support from Islington and Leeds which will support us with this. The draft refreshed improvement plan will be presented to the Children's Services Operational Group in September and then the Children's Services Improvement Board.
- 3.14 Early intervention is a focus for Tower Hamlets and will be a theme in a forthcoming monitoring visit after August, but not until the new Early Help Strategy has been launched.
- 3.15 In addition to the Ofsted monitoring visits, the last report outlined the findings from a DfE Review in February 2018, which broadly tallied with the findings of the Ofsted monitoring visits. Since then, in June 2018, the Local Government

Association (LGA) has undertaken a Peer Review of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets as a whole. Key findings from this review, in relation to children's services, were that the LGA noted the fast pace of improvement to date as detailed in previous Ofsted monitoring visits. The LGA also advised that there needs to be a continued corporate priority around children's services as the council continues its ambitious programme to get to good by the time of its next inspection.

- 3.16 It should also be noted that the DfE will be undertaking its second review of progress in October 2018. This review follows on from the review in February 2018 and findings will be outlined in the next quarterly report.
- 3.17 On 27th June 2017, the Mayor in Cabinet approved our summary improvement plan, setting out the 10 components of a successful Children's Service and our vision of what a 'good' service will look like. To give them focus, the objectives and actions that are being implemented to achieve this vision are grouped under 4 themes that directly relate to the findings of the Ofsted inspection.
- 3.18 Additional capacity was provided to the service to ensure that rapid progress could be made whilst maintaining day to day service provision. An experienced interim Divisional Director for Children's Social Care was appointed to implement operational improvements and provide leadership in our improvement journey. As we move into the final phase, recruitment has now been completed for a permanent Divisional Director of Children's Social Care and the postholder started in July 2018.
- 3.19 In addition, a new Divisional Director post was created and permanently recruited to which covers children's commissioning, including social care placements and early help, which further adds to capacity at senior management level. Additional capacity has also been put in place at service manager level.
- 3.20 £5.59m growth has been put into the children's budget for 2018/19 (this includes the Mayoral Priority Growth for Children's Services for the year is 0.447m). The total requirement to support children's services improvement over two years (2017/18 and 2018/19) was estimated at £4.2m, with an outturn for 2017/18 of £1.9m. This will need to be monitored as part of the ongoing monitoring and modelling to ensure that there is a sustainable funding position for children's services now and in the future.
- 3.21 The following paragraphs set out in more detail the progress that has been made in each of the four themes of our improvement plan.

Theme 1- Leadership, Management and Governance

- 3.22 The focus in this part of the plan has been to implement a robust governance structure with a supporting performance management framework, a workforce strategy and address sufficiency issues in relation to emergency and unplanned placements. This will contribute to the following components of our vision:
- A whole council vision for excellence;

- An outward facing organisation and culture;
- Corporate and political support and an ambition for excellence;
- Strong member- officer relationships based on trust and constructive challenge;
- A clear 'golden thread' from the political leadership through to the frontline;
- Strong and dynamic leadership throughout the organisation;
- A permanent and stable workforce with capacity and resources;
- Strong coherent partnerships at strategic and operational level.

3.23 Since January 2017, the Mayor John Biggs has worked with partners to reinvigorate the Tower Hamlets Strategic Partnership. The Partnership brings together key stakeholders to improve services and outcomes for local residents. It has been focused on strengthening partnerships and developing a vision and priorities for the next five years. The recently published Tower Hamlets Plan's (2018 – 23) key aim is to tackle inequality by building a strong, inclusive and fair borough. To achieve this aim partners agreed four priorities where partnership work is vital, these include:

- A better deal for children and young people: aspiration, education and skills
- Good jobs and employment
- Strong, resilient and safe communities
- Better health and wellbeing.

3.24 During 2018 – 19 the Chair of the Children and Families partnership, The Lead Member for Children, Schools and Young People, will begin work to develop a new deal for children and young people which will include hosting a Summit in the autumn to help shape and inform future priorities and action including the development of a new Children's Partnership Plan for 2019-2022. The council and its partners are keen to ensure there are opportunities for children and young people to play an important role in shaping the Summit as well as exploring and developing greater youth voice in decision making within the borough.

3.25 **Governance and performance management** arrangements were put in place as part of stage 1 of our improvement programme and these changes are now firmly embedded, as recognised by Ofsted in their May monitoring visit. Political leadership and knowledge of Children's Social Care has been developed through two seminars for all Members; including a seminar specifically on child sexual exploitation; practice visits for the Mayor, Lead Member and Scrutiny Lead; spotlight sessions at Overview and Scrutiny Committee; regular discussion at Cabinet and pre-Cabinet meetings; verbal briefings by the Director for opposition Members; and fortnightly meetings between the Mayor, Cabinet Member, Chief Executive and Corporate Director, alternately attended by the independent Improvement Board Chair. The Mayor and Cabinet Member have also benefitted from training and mentoring organised by the Local Government Association.

- 3.26 Given that the elections on May 3rd 2018 have brought in a number of new Members, including a new Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People, we are clear that in order to ensure political leadership and knowledge of Children's Social Care is sustained, the activities described above will need to be replicated for all new political members, with an enhanced programme of induction and support offered to the new Cabinet Member and any potential new appointments in relation to Scrutiny committees. To date an introductory session has taken place for all members in respect to Children's Social Care. A further session took place on the 9th August with a focus on contextual safeguarding (gangs, missing children, Child Sexual Exploitation, county lines). Training in autumn around children's safeguarding, in partnership with the Local Children's Safeguarding Board, is also planned in relation to the new cohort of Overview and Scrutiny Committee members.
- 3.27 **Staff recruitment and workforce stability** remains a key priority, and senior leaders have recognised that this is a risk which requires ongoing monitoring during the final stage of the improvement journey. We have put in place a range of strategies and measures which are pointing to an improved picture.
- 3.28 **Workforce stability** overall has improved during 2018. The annual rolling figure has reduced from a high of 23.3% turnover and 47 leavers in February to 19% and a further fall at the end of June to 16.9%. Within the teams there are also other signs of positive changes, with a significant decrease of turnover from 75% in January to 20% in June in the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) /Assessment and Intervention Team. This is a very positive picture and reflects the focus on improving practice and support in the team.
- 3.29 It must be emphasised that reducing turnover is one of most important aspect of workforce stability as it reflects disruption, cost and loss of experience when an experienced member of staff leaves the service. The improvements in the service, a good professional development offer and ongoing support are the most effective strategy to tackle turnover. Analysis has been undertaken to identify the career points at which exits occur and as a result those at the 3 and 7 year employment point are receiving a targeted career interview.
- 3.30 As at the end of June 2018, 61% of posts across the Children's Social Care service were filled by permanent staff. We are adopting a multi-channel approach to the increase in the permanent staff and a reduction in agency workers which is set out below.
- 3.31 Over 2018 we have worked hard on improving **Social Worker recruitment** and this is starting to yield results. Work is underway to ensure that LBTH has the most attractive offer to attract potential candidates. This includes:
- A review of salaries to ensure market comparability
 - A review of benefits
 - A refresh of the dedicated micro-site for recruitment
 - The development of a specific recruitment specialist post to drive the maximum pool of available candidates
 - Dedicated Principle Social Worker to focus on the Workforce Strategy

- Agreement from the Corporate Leadership Team to use the ‘grow your own’ approach to developing a stable workforce and to over-establish with agency staff during the development period
 - A clear strategy to manage caseloads and supervision to minimise stress and turnover and maximise retention and reputation
 - On-going recruitment campaigns to maximise the available pool of applicants.
- 3.32 During quarter 1 2018/19, a Social Worker Recruitment Specialist role has been successfully recruited to with the post holder starting in June 2018. This role provides a dedicated resource to children’s social care, and has already created a change in focus. We are confident that this will contribute to the more stable workforce. As of July 2018, there are currently twelve agency staff in the conversion process to become permanent worker, this has been a joint effort between the service creating the right conditions for the move and the direct approach of the new Social Worker Recruitment Specialist.
- 3.33 The Children’s Workforce Strategy Group has also met recently to review its membership and Terms of Reference in order to reflect the progress that has been made in this area and to re-focus activity on how recruitment fits with the other Strategic priorities such as the launch of the Social Work Academy.
- 3.34 The council has negotiated a primary role in the forthcoming Community Care jobs fair which includes participation in the panel on county lines and hosting one of the seminars, all of which will contribute to the brand of Tower Hamlets.
- 3.35 The procurement process for the work with agencies to recruit permanent social workers is now complete and the feedback from the agencies is positive regarding the profile of Tower Hamlets, interviews have been set up for the candidates supplied to date.
- 3.36 In July 2018 the Social Work Academy report to the Council’s Corporate Leadership Team set out the forecast timeline for workforce stability with an aim to stabilise turnover at no more than 15% and with an agency workforce of no more than 15%. The three strands of this strategy and the impact on the permanent workforce were set out in the report and are in the table below:

3 Pronged Recruitment Projection Snapshot						
		Year 0	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Activity Total
1	Hire Newly Qualified Social Workers (NQSW)		40	40	40	120
2	Convert Agency Workers to Permanent		6	4	2	12
3	Targeted recruitment of Experienced Social Workers		14	25	25	64
	Total Recruits		60	69	67	196

Projected Annual Staff Turnover (15%)	50 (19%)	39 (15%)	39 (15%)	39 (15%)	167
Net Recruits		21	30	28	79
Total Vacancies (Total posts 262)	114	93	63	35	
Total Vacancies in %	44%	35%	24%	13%	

3.37 The progress set out in the paragraphs above indicated that this should be achievable with the reduction in turnover, recruitment of ASYEs (Assessed Supported Year in Employment), improvement in the number of agency conversions and multi-channel approach to the recruitment of experienced social workers. We currently have 12 agency workers seeking conversion to permanent employees, if they are all successful this will meet the three year target at the end of year one and serves to illustrate that this forecast should be achievable.

3.38 Proposals for the development of a **Social Work Academy** were originally considered by the Council’s Corporate Leadership Team in March. The Business Case for the new Social Work Academy was presented at Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) in July 2018. The aim is to launch a Social Work Academy in partnership with local universities in October 2018 which will be the first programme of its type nationally to include a three-year NQSW (Newly Qualified Social Worker) Programme to ensure newly qualified social workers have a sustained wrap-around service as well as career mobility. The vision is to make Tower Hamlets an attractive place for professionals to seek and remain in employment. The ultimate aim of the academy is that it will cover both Children’s and Adults Services, however learning from other local authorities who have attempted to launch in this way indicates that a phased approach is more likely to succeed. Following discussion at CLT a project team has been commissioned to oversee this work and a dedicated project officer has now been assigned. We have now formed a Social Work Academy Board, chaired by the Divisional Director of Children’s Social Care, which will oversee the setting up of the Academy and ensure that the tight time-scales are adhered to. The Social Work Academy is due to be formally launched in October.

3.39 Our **sufficiency strategy** is driving forward change and the latest data indicates that children are coming into care at a much younger age than previously. This does not negate us from supporting older children and young people but we are responding to their care needs in a more inclusive manner. The Sufficiency Strategy continues to be supported by a dedicated project group and priorities for the next period are to continue to make progress in ensuring that we are commissioning placements in the most cost effective way. We are also moving forward with plans to develop an in-house specialist fostering provision which will be supported by our Emergency Duty Team (EDT), Edge of Care and Psychological Services. This type of placement is currently commissioned from external providers at a significant cost. Changes to EDT have also been implemented which has led to better support to our most high risk children including less placement breakdown. A report detailing progress around sufficiency is due at the Children’s Services Operational Group in September.

Theme 2- A robust model of social work practice.

3.40 This theme is the main ‘core’ of our improvement plan and focuses on improvements in practice within the Children’s Social Care service. The

service manages all contacts received by the council where there are concerns about a child's welfare through to statutory assessments and interventions for children. This includes the placement and support of looked after children as part of the council's corporate parenting responsibilities. The theme contributes to the following components of our vision:

- A strong model of practice, with good checks and balances;
- Clear and embedded systems, processes and data.

- 3.41 The council's approach to practice improvement includes greater clarity in practice standards ('what good looks like'), management action on compliance with standards and recording, and the systematic use of data and case audits to lift quality and consistency. The percentage of cases with management oversight has remained relatively stable over quarter 1, just slightly below the upper target of 95%.
- 3.42 In June 2018, the numbers of children in need remained relatively stable and this has been the case over the past three months with a reducing trajectory. This is in line with targeting resources effectively. This is in line with effectively providing services that are tailored to the needs of the child and eliminating drift.
- 3.43 The improvements in case management across the service have resulted in an increase in the proportion of children in need that have a plan in place. This has risen month on month from 51% in June 2017 to 78.1% at the end of December, and as of the end of June 2018 this had climbed to 88.2%, just short of the lower target set. Performance has been consistently improving over the year, and as of June 2018, 96.7% of these plans had been reviewed within 6 months.
- 3.44 This remains a priority to ensure that all children in need have an up to date plan to provide assurance that their needs are being met. Because of the way that our case management system treats cases that are being stepped down from child protection plans, this figure will never show as 100%. At the same time, there has been an improving trend in the proportion of children being regularly visited by social workers.
- 3.45 In light of concerns about our local thresholds for social care intervention, in particular the extent to which these are were understood by partner agencies, a decision was taken through the Local Safeguarding Children Board to adopt the Pan London Child Protection thresholds to bring us in line with most other London boroughs and help to ensure consistency. A new thresholds document was drafted and consulted on in the autumn of 2017, and over 600 staff (including from partner agencies) attended training sessions and gave feedback on the draft thresholds model. The agreed new Thresholds document went live on 5 February 2018. It is evident from the work being completed in the MASH that the new threshold document is embedding and thresholds are being more consistently applied. As of June 2018 97% of all decisions are made with 24 hours of the contact being received and the majority (84%) of children are seen within five days of a referral being received.

- 3.46 Alongside this work, we have completed the first phase of engagement with staff and partners on a new model of social work practice following a decision to move away from the 'signs of safety' model, which had been poorly implemented. Following positive feedback from the introductory sessions, a decision has been taken to accept the recommendation of the Task and Finish Group to proceed with the implementation of Restorative Practice as our social work model. Restorative Practice has a strong international and national evidence base underlining its value. A number of high performing local authorities in the UK have embedded the approach to best effect including Leeds which became a good authority following an inadequate judgement alongside other local authorities such as Wolverhampton & West Berkshire.
- 3.47 Following the "Big Restorative Practice Discussion" four cohorts of three day training have taken place with a further 8 planned by the end of October. This means that by this time most of our social workers will have received the accredited training. Bespoke training is planned for the Mayor, Lead Member, Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services to ensure corporate buy-in and understanding at a senior level. We are developing plans to ensure that other staff and partners receive the training that they require. The Task and Finish Group has now become a Steering Group, chaired by a Service Manager from within Children's Social Care rather than an independent consultant, as was the case previously.
- 3.48 Whilst progress has been made across this theme, and the improvements seen during the first phases of our improvement programme have been sustained and built upon, there remain significant challenges in ensuring that social work practice is consistently robust. Although the improvements noted above are significant, and the overall trend is of improvement, including some exceptional performance, some performance is not yet at the level that would be expected from a 'good' service. The focus of our work over the next quarter and indeed for the rest of the year, as articulated in our improvement plan, is to ensure that the processes put in place during stages 1 and 2 are used to support continuing and sustained improvements. The work that is ongoing as part of theme 1 to address our workforce challenges will be key to this as they begin to deliver a more stable and skilled workforce.

Theme 3- A sufficient and skilled workforce

- 3.49 This theme focuses on improvements in management oversight and supervision across all services, and in our management of private fostering cases which were highlighted as an area of concern by Ofsted. It contributes the following elements of our vision:
- Strong and dynamic leadership throughout the organisation;
 - A strong model of practice, with good checks and balances;
 - A permanent and stable workforce with capacity and resources.
- 3.50 Since the last report, Management oversight has reduced slightly from March's figure (which saw 95.7% of cases having received management oversight in the past 8 weeks) to 94.8% in June 2018. This is still above the lower target and a significant improvement from 60% in April 2017. Training

for managers was delivered as part of our 'back to basics' programme, further supporting improvements in the quality of management oversight to ensure that it supports the delivery of consistently high quality social work practice.

- 3.51 As referenced earlier in this report (paragraph 3.37), Tower Hamlets is launching a Social Work Academy in partnership with local universities in October 2018 which will be the first programme of its type nationally to include a three-year NQSW (Newly Qualified Social Worker) Programme to ensure newly qualified social workers have a sustained wrap-around service as well as career mobility. The vision is to make Tower Hamlets an attractive place for professionals to seek and remain in employment.

Theme 4- Quality Assurance and audit

3.52 This theme supports the following components in our vision:

- Clear and embedded systems, processes and data;
- A strong model of practice, with good checks and balances.

3.53 Our quality assurance and audit programme was fully launched in August 2017 and we are continuing to use audit activity systematically to inform our improvement activity under theme 2. Ofsted commented in their second monitoring visit that the use of audit was becoming more embedded although they felt that some improvement was needed in its effectiveness to support the improvement journey. In addition to the full audit schedule, dip sampling continues to take place to support the understanding of social work delivery for children.

3.54 In reviewing the audits and moderations, specific themes emerged- some good and some requiring improvement. The learning from both will support CSC in developing practice. In addition, re-training is planned with staff in order to support the QA process and help people understand what "good" looks like.

3.55 During the course of the improvement journey so far, there have been areas which have shown **considerable improvement**, though taking away that there is still more to do. Those areas include:

- The pre-proceedings episodes, tracked from the legal planning meeting, have significantly reduced and are within the minimum range of the Children Act guidelines (12 – 16 weeks).
- When partner agencies support the family plan prior to and during the PLO process the outcome for children has been the most positive.
- In regard to ongoing work: in only a few cases, partners failed to work together effectively
- Management understanding and oversight is visibly recorded in case notes and reflective group supervision and 1:1 supervision is held regularly.
- A child's diversity is explored and understood in most cases.

- There is clear evidence of sustained improvement around compliance to statutory time-scales and processes. The majority of Audits and Moderations in June 2018 focus on the quality of care plans and have assessed cases as 'does not meet good' where the plans are not SMART and outcome focused.
- The voice of the child and direct work, is evidenced in most cases audited.
- It is evident that in the last 6 months the correct intervention is in place on a CP Plan, appropriate referrals are being made to partner agencies and assessments to understand his needs and how to meet them are underway.
- IRO oversight in relation to 'mid-way monitoring' and care planning is showing signs of improvement across the board, but coming from a low base.

3.56 There are some areas which require further improvement:

- The use of chronologies varies and there is not always a consistent standard maintained. Where they are present, they are not always updated or complete. In practice this means that themes and patterns in the child's journey are not identified and this has a direct impact on the quality of assessments and planning.
- Both of the pre-birth cases that were audited this month indicated training needs for CLA managers and social workers around pre-birth assessments, planning and CP procedures
- Delays in permanency planning were also identified as a concern and the need to consider at an earlier stage in the child's journey long term permanent plans.
- Notifications to IROs of children who move placement is largely absent. This has meant here is a lack of challenge to operational teams where children move. The Group Manager for the service is already working on an automatic notification process to allow for IRO scrutiny to be improved.

3.57 The above findings were borne out by the recent Ofsted visit, where inspectors noted that Case file audits are completed regularly but more work is needed to sustain the focus on the quality of practice and not just the process.

3.58 As part of embedding Quality Assurance at all levels, Ofsted recommended that we take forward "Practice Week", where senior leaders spend time with frontline social workers reviewing cases and shadowing their work with children and families in order to better understand their day to day experience. Practice Week takes place on a quarterly cycle, with the Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services taking part, alongside the Mayor, lead member for Children's Services and lead Overview and Scrutiny member for Children's Services, the divisional director and the LSCB chair. This includes attending social work visits, meeting student social workers, spending time with social work teams and observing professional meetings about children. These observations are informing our improvement activity going forward. The next Practice Week will take place in Autumn 2018, supported by the London Borough of Islington, and with a focus on the looked after children and leaving care service.

3.59 The council has embarked on a complete replacement and upgrade of its ageing IT infrastructure to provide a fast, flexible and reliable service for all service users. Over £16 million has been committed to deliver this extensive programme.

The Corporate Leadership Team agreed moving from Frameworki to Mosaic is a corporate priority under the Frontline Services work stream. Recognising that effective and reliable IT is critical for the Children's Services Improvement journey, Children's Services has been prioritised in the replacement and upgrade programme. Whilst this replacement programme is underway, short term actions have improved the availability and performance of IT to Children's Services. This continues to be reported to the Children's Services Improvement Board and will continue to be monitored at the highest level.

- 3.60 Ensuring that care leavers have up to date and reviewed pathway plans is another subject of this theme. Whilst the proportion of care leavers with a pathway plan has dropped slightly from 96% in January to 93% in June 2018, and the cohort has increased, we are still within the target range. There remains concern about the quality of pathway planning and a review of our support to care leavers has now concluded. The results of this review and recommended next steps were presented to the Children's Social Care Directorate Leadership Team in May 2018, following consultation with Leaving Care and Children Looked After Teams. The voice of young people who are in or have left care has been strengthened at the Corporate Parenting Board and is helping to shape this work, including the ambition to develop a post-16 service.

Next Steps

- 3.61 Cabinet will receive a further update on progress in three months' time. The key priorities for the next monitoring period will be:
- Ensuring stability and ease of transition of responsibilities from the interim Divisional Director to the new permanent Divisional Director. This is already underway and progressing.
 - Developing a refreshed improvement plan to take forward the key areas of work as identified in this report and outlined below:
 - i. Taking forward actions and strategies to ensure consistent high quality support and planning around looked after children
 - ii. Continuing work on our recruitment and workforce development strategy;
 - iii. Developing our training and development offer, including the development of a social work academy;
 - iv. Embedding the implementation of phase 1 of the new model for Early Help services;
 - v. Embedding the sufficiency strategy;
 - vi. Consolidating and building on the improvements we have made in performance and quality across the social care service;
 - vii. Implementing our new model of social work practice;
 - Delivering short, medium and long-term improvements to the council's ICT systems to ensure it is robust and reliable for social care staff.
- 3.62 It is likely that there will be two further monitoring visits, including one which re-focuses on the Looked After Children Service and Leaving Care and one in

spring re-focusing on early help and the front door services. Re-inspection will then take place within six months of the final monitoring visit.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Ensuring that we are providing good services to vulnerable children and their families will ensure that some of our most disadvantaged children are effectively supported to maximise their life chances.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Safeguarding children is a core focus of the improvement plan.
- 5.2 The Ofsted judgement rated our local safeguarding children board 'inadequate.' Work is underway to address this finding and improve the work of the board.
- 5.3 Work is ongoing to develop new safeguarding arrangements consistent with new regulations as set out in *Working Together 2018*.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 Significant additional resources have already been identified as part of the 2017-2020 MTFS; in particular total additional growth of £5.2m addressing pressure in a range of areas, most of which feature in the improvement plan.
- 6.2 Additional one-off investment funding via the Council's Transformation Reserve is being used to support the implementation of the Children's Services improvement plan. The estimated cost of this plan over 2 years is expected to be £4.2m (of which £1.9m was spent in 2017/18)
- 6.3 The level of one-off funding is based on a detailed assessment of the costs associated with the improvement plan and the improvements that will be achieved as a result of the investment have also been identified and are regularly monitored.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The framework for Ofsted inspections of Children's Services is set out in sections 135-142 of the Education and Inspection Act 2006 ('the Act') and associated Employment and Education Act 2006 (Inspection of Local Authorities) Regulations 2007 ('the Regulations'). Tower Hamlets was inspected in January 2017 under 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'), which sets out a single assessment framework for assessing local authorities during inspections conducted under section 136 of the Act. Local authorities are graded outstanding, good, requires improvement or inadequate in each of the areas inspected.

- 7.2 Under Ofsted’s “Framework, evaluation criteria and inspector guidance for the inspections of local authority children’s services” introduced in November 2017 (“the ILACS, information held about each local authority is used to inform decisions about how best to inspect that authority. This sets out that Ofsted will usually re-inspect an inadequate local authority using the same framework under which they were judged inadequate. However, Ofsted may also take a decision to re-inspect under the ILACS framework.
- 7.3 Ofsted will inform inadequate authorities if they no longer plan to undertake monitoring visits meaning a re-inspection should take place within six months. If the outcome of the subsequent re-inspection is better than inadequate, that authority will then begin to follow the pathway for local authorities which either require improvement, or are graded good.
- 7.4 The recommendations that the Mayor in Cabinet should endorse the progress made in delivering the children’s services improvement programme and agree the next steps in the improvement journey, are consistent with the Council’s duty to secure continuous improvement in its functions. Failure to make the necessary improvements to children’s services could result in the Secretary of State appointing a Children’s Services Commissioner or removing service control from the Council.
-

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- NONE


Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A

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Non-Executive Report of the:	
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
5 September 2018	
Report of: Will Tuckley, Chief Executive	Classification: Unrestricted
Draft Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2018/19	

Proposed Decision Path (indicate) – Delete Section Before Publication:

Originating Officer(s)	Elizabeth Bailey – Senior Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer
Wards affected	All wards

Executive Summary

This report sets out the draft work programmes for the Municipal Year 2018/19 for the following:

- Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee
- Housing Scrutiny Sub-committee
- Grants Scrutiny Sub-committee.

The draft Overview and Scrutiny work programme has been informed by a workshop session for committee members (including co-opted members) and consultation with senior officers.

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

1. Note and agreed the draft work programme
2. Note the specific equalities considerations as set out in Paragraph 4.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 This work programmes of the Overview and Scrutiny committee and its three sub-committees, appended to this cover report, set out focus areas that committee members have identified as important to scrutinise over this Municipal Year.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee may suggest additional areas to add value in improving service delivery to residents and support the Council's improvement journey.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 Developing the work programme

- 3.1.1 Members and co-opted members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Committee) attended a workshop on 30 June 2018 to begin the process of agreeing a work programme for the 2018/19 Municipal Year. This was facilitated by the Sunita Sharma from the Centre for Public Scrutiny and officers from the Strategy, Policy & Performance Team. To identify areas of focus for the Committee, the session included a reflection of:

- Scrutiny values
- Prioritisation methods and tools
- Council priorities and horizon scan
- How to engage residents and partners more effectively
- Outcomes the Committee wishes to achieve

- 3.1.2 Discussions were also held with officers across the Council to explore how Overview and Scrutiny could add value to service delivery. This included considering the timing of items and how to engage partners or independent experts.

- 3.1.3 Officers from the Strategy, Policy & Performance Team also invited comments from relevant officers across the Council to schedule performance and budget monitoring reports, Budget and Policy Framework Items, Ofsted updates and budget setting proposals.

- 3.1.4 Follow up discussions were also held with the Chair and Scrutiny Leads of the Committee and Chairs of the Health, Housing and Grants Scrutiny Sub-committees to prioritise, scope and agree the format of scrutiny activities for the year.

3.1.5 Residents will be asked for their views on focus areas for the work programme, which will be reviewed and, where possible, either incorporated into agenda items or added to the latter half of the work programme. Accordingly, some spare capacity has been built into the work programme, to allow for other items that may arise throughout the year.

3.2 Types of scrutiny

3.2.1 For reference, regular business items scheduled for consideration by the Committee fall into one of the following categories:

- **Scrutiny Spotlight Sessions:** a Cabinet Member and/or a senior leader from a stakeholder organisation (e.g. the Borough Commander) provides an overview of their work, including key risks within their portfolio, and is then questioned by members of the Committee;
- **Strategic Performance Monitoring:** regular strategic monitoring reports, such as the Corporate Performance Report and Budget Monitoring, are submitted to the Committee for scrutiny to ensure progress in delivering the Strategic Plan and to flag risks;
- **Tracking Recommendations:** throughout the year the Committee will review progress on the implementation of 'Action Plans' arising from previous reviews and challenge sessions;
- **Scrutiny Reviews:** led by a scrutiny lead member to examine a topic over multiple evidence gathering sessions, followed by a report with recommendations for service improvement. These are directly supported by an officer from Corporate Strategy, Policy and Performance Team, with input from the relevant directorates;
- **Scrutiny Challenge Sessions:** led by a scrutiny lead member, these take place during one 'deep dive' evidence gathering session and are followed by a report with recommendations for service improvement. These are directly supported by an officer from Corporate Strategy, Policy and Performance Team, with input from the relevant directorates;
- **Budget & Policy Framework Scrutiny:** The Committee has a mandatory consultation role on all items that are the responsibility of Full Council to agree rather than the Executive, including the budget;
- **Overview and Scrutiny Committee Updates:** an opportunity for scrutiny lead members to report back to the Committee on the work of the Sub-

Committees or any wider work they are involved in, for example Improvement Boards;

- **Overview and Scrutiny Committee Reports:** additional items that are either requested, or referred to the Committee for consideration and input;
- **Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny:** consideration of items due at the next Cabinet meeting, which allows the Committee to raise questions that it wishes the Executive to take into account when making a decision.

3.3 Aims and focus areas

3.3.1 The Chair of the Committee identified the following three focus areas, which have been incorporated into the first half of the work programme:

3.3.2 Education

3.3.3 Employment

3.3.4 Community Safety

3.3.2 The Committee has identified Children’s Services as a priority area and will continue to monitor the Council’s improvement agenda through the quarterly Children’s Services Improvement Progress reports.

3.3.3 In addition, the Committee has also scheduled performance monitoring and budget monitoring reports as standing items. To support the Committee, training is also being organised in these areas with the Centre for Public Scrutiny and the Independent Chair of the Local Children’s Safeguarding Board.

3.4 Focus areas by Directorate

3.4.1 The table below sets out agenda items currently included in the draft Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme by directorate (minus pre-cabinet scrutiny, scrutiny lead updates and work programme planning) and lists the identified lead officer. Please note that some of these items have already been received by the Committee at its June and July meetings.

Directorate	Item	Scrutiny Type	Lead Officer
Adults, Health & Community Services	Community Safety in the borough (Borough Commander)	Scrutiny Spotlight	Divisional Director, Community Safety: Ann Corbett
	Community Safety: Safer neighbourhood board (Jon Shapiro, Chair of the Safer Neighbourhoods Board)	Scrutiny Spotlight	Divisional Director, Community Safety: Ann Corbett

Directorate	Item	Scrutiny Type	Lead Officer
	Tackling ASB & CCTV strategy	Scrutiny Spotlight	Divisional Director, Community Safety: Ann Corbett Divisional Director, Public Realm: Robin Payne
	Safeguarding Adults Board Independent Chair, Christabel Shawcross	Scrutiny Spotlight	Interim Divisional Director, Adult Social Care: David Jones
Place	Improving Youth employment	Spotlight Session	Divisional Director, Growth and Economic Development: Vicky Clark
	Apprenticeships: East London Business Alliance (ELBA)	Spotlight Session	Divisional Director, Growth and Economic Development: Vicky Clark
	TH Education Business Partnership	Spotlight Session	Divisional Director, Growth and Economic Development: Vicky Clark
	Street cleanliness and waste collection and recycling	Spotlight Session	Divisional Director, Public Realm, Robin Payne
	Statement of Licensing Policy	Budget & Policy Framework	Divisional Director, Planning & Building Control, Owen Whalley
	Night Time Economy Scrutiny Review	Tracking recommendations	Divisional Director, Growth and Economic Development: Vicky Clark
Education & Children's Services	Children's Safeguarding	Scrutiny Spotlight	Divisional Director , Children's Services: Richard Baldwin
	Local Children's Safeguarding Board Independent Chair (Steve Ashley)	Scrutiny Spotlight	Divisional Director , Children's Services: Richard Baldwin
	Educational aspiration in the borough: what the research tells us	Scrutiny Spotlight	Divisional Director, Education & Partnership: Christine McInnes
	Borough's approach to supporting educational aspiration (Executive Director of the Tower Hamlets Education Partnership)	Scrutiny Spotlight	Divisional Director, Education & Partnership: Christine McInnes
	Transition to tertiary education	Scrutiny Spotlight	Divisional Director, Education & Partnership: Christine McInnes
	Educational attainment and aspirations (Teacher, parent and pupil view)	Scrutiny Spotlight	Divisional Director, Education & Partnership: Christine McInnes
	Children's Improvement Plan Updates	OSC Reports (quarterly)	Divisional Director , Children's Services:

Directorate	Item	Scrutiny Type	Lead Officer
			Richard Baldwin
	Youth Service challenge Session	Tracking Recommendations	Divisional Director, youth & Commissioning: Ronke Martins-Taylor
Governance	Mayor's priorities for the year	Spotlight	Head of Mayor's Office: David Courcoux
	Overview and Scrutiny in Tower Hamlets 2018-19 – Strengthening Overview and Scrutiny	OSC Report	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman
	OSC Work Programme 2017/18	OSC Report	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman
	Quarterly Strategic Performance Report	Strategic Performance Monitoring (x4)	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman
	Mayor's Spotlight (Chief Executive in attendance)	Spotlight	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman
	Corporate Peer Challenge and action plan (to be scheduled)	Spotlight	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman
	Community Cohesion Challenge Session Report	Tracking Recommendations	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman
	Mayoral system Review	Spotlight	Head of Legal Operations: Janet Fasan
	OSC Annual Report 2017/18	OSC Report	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman
Resources	Quarterly Budget Monitoring Report	Strategic Performance Monitoring (x4)	Divisional Director, Finance, Procurement & Audit: Neville Murton
	Budget Scrutiny	Budget & Policy Framework	Divisional Director, Finance, Procurement & Audit: Neville Murton
	MTFS Updates	Budget & Policy Framework	Divisional Director, Finance, Procurement & Audit: Neville Murton
	Complaints and Information Governance Annual Report	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Divisional Director, Customer Services: Shazia Hussain
	Social Value Act Scrutiny challenge session	Tracking recommendations	Divisional Director, Finance, Procurement & Audit: Neville Murton

3.4.2 MTFS updates will take place at agreed times throughout the year, whilst the usual extraordinary meetings for budget scrutiny in January and (provisionally) February remain in the Committee’s calendar. Budget proposals for the 2018/19 financial year that require public consultation will be circulated to the committee on email to allow for sufficient pre-cabinet decision scrutiny.

3.5 Scrutiny Reviews and Challenge Sessions

3.5.1 In addition to business received at ordinary Committee meetings, the Committee will conduct a series of Scrutiny Reviews and Challenge Sessions over the course of this year, with reports and recommendations scheduled for formal sign-off by the Committee as and when they become available. The proposed Scrutiny Reviews and Challenge Sessions still need finalising, but the agreed shortlist for the Committee and its Sub-Committees during 2017/18 are listed below.

Directorate	Topic	Review/Challenge	Scrutiny Lead Member
Place	Improving air quality through green spaces	Review	Cllr Das
Education & Children’s Services	Sufficiency strategy (to be confirmed)	Challenge	Cllr Alam
	Youth service access for girls (to be confirmed)	Challenge	Cllr Alam
Governance	Communications	Challenge	Cllr Pappu
Resources	LBTH Council Tax Support Scheme 18/19	Challenge	Cllr Francis
	Tackling Poverty	Challenge	Cllr Francis
Cross-cutting (Housing and Health)	How housing associations engage with and support the health agenda	Review	Cllr Chowdhury
	Performance	Challenge	Cllr Pappu

3.5.2 This shortlist will need further refinement to ensure there is sufficient member and officer capacity to complete the reviews and challenges sessions by the end of the Municipal Year. With this in mind Scrutiny Lead members should limit their non-Committee work to a maximum of one review or two challenge sessions, if there is available officer support to deliver the work.

3.6 Scrutiny sub-committee

3.6.1 The three Sub-Committees that sit beneath the Committee (Health, Housing & Grants) have greatly expanded the level of scrutiny within the Council,

allowing for more focussed work on these key areas whilst also releasing time for the main Committee to attend to issues of strategic importance to the Council, for example supporting the Children's Services Improvement journey.

- 3.6.2 The Council is in the currently handing over the hosting of the Inner North East London Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (INEL JHOSC) to the London Borough of Newham Council but the Scrutiny lead for Health will continue to contribute to this forum. INEL JHOSC does not have an annual work programme as such, as it is only meant to meet when consideration of health reforms impacting the sub-region occur.
- 3.6.3 The Housing and Health Scrutiny Sub-committees have each been through a work planning process involving the Chair, members and key stakeholders. The proposed programmes for the year are set out in Appendix 3 (Health Scrutiny Sub-committee), 4 (Housing Scrutiny Sub-committee) and 5 (Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee).
- 3.6.4 As with the Overview and Scrutiny work programme, there is a need to retain some flexibility in these so that extraordinary items can be added when needed.

3.7 Training and Development

- 3.7.1 To support Committee members in their roles, Corporate SPP will work with the Centre for Public Scrutiny, via the Council's consortium arrangement with Grant Thornton, to tailor a training and development and support programme for 2018/19, with a focus on: budget scrutiny, children's scrutiny and effective questioning skills. This includes one to one coaching sessions to support Councillors around their chairing or scrutiny questioning skills and development. In addition, Corporate SPP will arrange additional training with the Independent Chair of the Local Children's Safeguarding Board to support the Committee's scrutiny of children's safeguarding.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Public Sector Equality Duty (as set out in the Equality Act 2010) aims to embed equality considerations into the day to day work of public bodies, so that they tackle discrimination and inequality and contribute to making society fairer.
- 4.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and scrutiny sub-committee work programmes include key equality considerations of the Strategic Plan, including reducing inequality, promoting community cohesion and enabling community engagement. Identifying and prioritising issues, which are

important to local residents, will play an important role in developing the work programme to drive service improvement. Specific items to be covered by the Committee in 2018/19 in this area include: reviewing the borough's approach to supporting education and employment aspirations, reviewing implementation of the challenge session recommendations on cohesion and the Social Value Act.

- 4.3 Key to addressing equalities issues, is making scrutiny more accessible to residents. Accordingly, the October meeting is planned to be held in the community to providing greater opportunities for residents to contribute during meetings.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),
- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.

- 5.2 The work programme is developed to help the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's carry out its role in helping to secure continuous improvement for the Council, as required under its Best Value duty, including through scrutinising performance. To this end, the Committee will receive a quarterly Corporate Performance Report.

- 5.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a mandatory consultation role on all items that are the responsibility of full Council as set out in the budget and policy framework. Accordingly, budget and policy framework items will continue to be included in the work programme throughout the year.

- 5.4 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the report or recommendations, although the Committee and its sub-committees are likely to consider items concerning to the environment. The Committee has scheduled a Spotlight session on street cleanliness and waste and recycling and an update on the implementation of the Night Time Economy Action Scrutiny review. Further the Housing Scrutiny Sub-committee is planning a scrutiny review on improving the use of green spaces in estates.

- 5.5 There are no direct risk management implications arising from the report or recommendations. The Committee will expect that Cabinet Member Scrutiny Spotlight sessions highlight key risks within their portfolio areas, and quarterly monitoring reports pertaining to Corporate Performance and Budget Monitoring will also allow for the Committee to remain informed of key risks to the Council.
- 5.6 There are no direct crime and disorder reduction implications arising from the report or recommendations. However, a key focus of the Committee's work programme is community safety, with a focus on initiatives to tackle anti-social behavior. Accordingly, the Committee will consider items pertaining to community safety and review of the developing CCTV strategy and a spotlight session with the Police Borough Commander.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 This report sets out the Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme for the Municipal Year 2018/19. It also includes draft work programmes for the Health, Housing and Grants Scrutiny Sub-committees.
- 6.2 It is envisaged that the work programme will be delivered through existing resources and therefore there are no additional financial implications arising from the recommendations within this report. However, in the event that additional resources may be required to deliver particular aspects of the work programme, these will need to be considered as part of the council's budget setting and medium term financial strategy.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 Section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 requires authorities to set up an Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a strategic and co-ordinating role over the Council's scrutiny function and in that regard, the Committee sets its own work programme.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None.

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Committee Membership
- Appendix 2: Draft Overview & Scrutiny Committee work programme 2018/19
- Appendix 3: Draft Health Scrutiny Sub-committee work programme 2018/19

- Appendix 4: Draft Housing Scrutiny Sub-committee work programme 2018/19
- Appendix 5: Draft Grants Scrutiny Sub-committee work programme 2018/19

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

- N/A

Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2018/19	
Councillors	
Councillor Abdal Ullah	Chair
Councillor Marc Francis	Vice Chair; Scrutiny Lead for Resources (chair of Grants Scrutiny Sub-committee)
Councillor Sufia Alam	Scrutiny Lead for Children’s Services
Councillor Mufeedah Bustin	
Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	Scrutiny Lead for Health (Chair of Health Scrutiny Sub-committee)
Councillor Dipa Das	Scrutiny Lead for Place (Chair of Housing Scrutiny Sub-committee)
Councillor James King	
Councillor Krysten Perry	
Councillor Mohammed Pappu	Scrutiny Lead for Governance
Councillor Bex White	
Councillor Andrew Wood	
Co-optees	
Neil Cunningham	Parent Governors
Ahmed Hussain	Parent Governors
Dr Phillip Rice	Church of England Representative
Fatiha Kassouri	Parent Governor
Joanna Hannan	Representative of Diocese of Westminster
Khoyrul Shaheed	Muslim Faith Community

Appendix 2 – Draft Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2018/19

Meeting date	Type of scrutiny	Item	Desired outcome	Directorate	Lead Member	Lead Officer	Scrutiny Lead
25 July	Spotlight	Mayor's priorities for the year	To understand the Mayor's priorities for the year to help feed into the work programme	Governance	Mayor, John Biggs	Head of Mayor's Office: David Courcoux	Cllr Pappu
	OSC Report	Overview and Scrutiny in Tower Hamlets 2018-19 – Strengthening Overview and Scrutiny	To review and approve the report and action plan	Governance	N/A	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman	Cllr Pappu
23 July 18	Budget & Policy Framework Licensing Policy	Statement of Licensing Policy	To review the Statement of Licensing Policy changes and understand the impact	Place	Cllr Blake	Divisional Director, Planning & Building Control, Owen Whalley	Cllr Das
	Spotlight	Children's Safeguarding	To better understand where performance in terms of service delivery needs to be improved and the challenges the Council is facing	Children's Services	Cllr Hassell	Interim Divisional Director, Children's Social Care, Nancy Meehan	Cllr Alam
	Spotlight	Independent chair of the LCSB	To gain an independent perspective of current performance and areas of improvement.	Children's Services	Cllr Hassell	Interim Divisional Director, Children's Social Care, Nancy Meehan	Cllr Alam
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Q1 Corporate Budget Monitoring Report	To monitor the Council's finances to ensure these align with Council priorities and provide residents with value for money.	Resources	Cllr Ronald	Divisional Director, Finance, Procurement & Audit: Neville Murton	Cllr Francis
	Pre-Cabinet	Cabinet reports	To review Cabinet decisions and make strategic recommendations	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
24-Sep-18 Supporting educational aspiration in Tower Hamlets	Spotlight	Aspiration in the borough: what the research tells us	To understand residents' views on aspiration around: 1. Education 2. Employment	Children's Services	Cllr Hassell	Divisional Director, Education & Partnership: Christine McInnes	Cllr Alam

Meeting date	Type of scrutiny	Item	Desired outcome	Directorate	Lead Member	Lead Officer	Scrutiny Lead
	Spotlight	What is the borough's approach to supporting educational aspiration? (Tracy Smith, Executive Director of the Tower Hamlets Education Partnership)	1. To understand how the Council is working in partnership with schools to support young people's aspirations 2. To understand the challenges and areas for improvement 3. To recommend areas of consideration to Cabinet / TH Partnership		Cllr Hassell		Cllr Alam
	Spotlight	Transition to tertiary education (Alison Arnaud, TH College)	To understand initiatives deployed by tertiary education to support young people's aspirations and provide effective critical friend challenge on what is working and what can be improved.		Cllr Hassell		Cllr Alam
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Children's Services Improvement - Quarterly Progress Report Quarter 1 2018/19	To monitor implementation of the improvement plan		Cllr Hassell, Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People	Divisional Director, Children's Social Care, Richard Baldwin	Cllr Alam
	Pre-Cabinet	Cabinet reports	To review Cabinet decisions and make strategic recommendations	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
	OSC Work Programme Report	OSC Report	To review and approve the OSC work programme for 2018/19	Governance	N/A	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman	Cllr Pappu
	Planning	Cabinet forward plan	To review and plan around committee priorities	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
29-Oct-18 Educational aspirations: resident engagement – to be held in a school	Spotlight	Educational attainment and aspirations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Teacher's perspective x 2 • Parent governors • Parents 	To understand perspectives of aspirations (primary to secondary schools) to go onto higher education or vocational courses and the challenges faced from: a) head teachers, b) parent governors, c) parents and d) pupils.	Children's Services	Cllr Hassell	Divisional Director, Education & Partnership: Christine McInnes	Cllr Alam

Meeting date	Type of scrutiny	Item	Desired outcome	Directorate	Lead Member	Lead Officer	Scrutiny Lead
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pupils 					
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Q2 Corporate Budget Monitoring Report	To monitor the Council's finances to ensure these align with Council priorities and provide residents with value for money.	Resources	Cllr Ronald	Divisional Director, Finance, Procurement & Audit: Neville Murton	Cllr Francis
	Pre-Cabinet	Cabinet reports	To review Cabinet decisions and make strategic recommendations.	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
	OSC Updates	Scrutiny Lead verbal updates	To improve knowledge of current work of service areas and potential areas for further scrutiny.	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
26-Nov-18 Employment aspirations	Spotlight	Improving Youth employment: setting the scene	To understand the Council's work around supporting educational aspirations, including: a) Growth strategy b) work with schools, local businesses and other partners c) young work path development d) Development of post 16 offer e) pilot activity f) apprenticeships in house	Place	Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman, Cabinet Member for work and Economic Growth	Divisional Director Growth and Economic Development: Vicky Clark	Cllr Das
	Spotlight	Apprenticeships: East London Business Alliance (ELBA)	To understand partnership initiatives, uptake around apprenticeships; employment outcomes; future plans and what has worked well or areas that could be improved.		Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman, Cabinet Member for work and Economic Growth	Divisional Director Growth and Economic Development: Vicky Clark	
	Spotlight	TH Education Business Partnership	To understand initiatives of the partnership and individual partners to support employment aspirations in the borough and discuss what has worked well and areas that could be improved.		Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman, Cabinet Member for work and Economic Growth	Divisional Director Growth and Economic Development: Vicky Clark	
	Pre-Cabinet	Cabinet reports	To review Cabinet decisions and make strategic recommendations.	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
	Planning	Cabinet forward plan & work	To review and plan around committee priorities	Various	N/A	N/A	Various

Meeting date	Type of scrutiny	Item	Desired outcome	Directorate	Lead Member	Lead Officer	Scrutiny Lead
		programme review					
17-Dec-18 Mayor's spotlight	Spotlight	Mayor's Spotlight (supported by the chief Executive)	To hold the Mayor to account	Governance	Mayor, John Biggs	Chief Executive: Will Tuckley Corporate Director	Cllr Pappu
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Quarter 2 Corporate Performance Report	To review the Council's performance against the strategic goals and provide critical friend challenge to service delivery				
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Complaints and Information Governance Annual Report	To review trends and issues to inform work programme	Resources	Cllr Ronald	Divisional Director, Customer Services: Shazia Hussain	Cllr Francis
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Children's Services Improvement - Quarterly Progress Report Quarter 2 2018/19	To monitor implementation of the improvement plan	Children's Services	Cllr Hassell	Divisional Director, Children's Services: Richard Baldwin	Cllr Alam
	Pre-Cabinet	Cabinet reports	Review Cabinet decisions and make strategic recommendations, where relevant	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
	OSC Updates	Scrutiny Lead verbal updates	To improve knowledge of current work of service areas and potential areas of further scrutiny	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
14-Jan-18 Budget Scrutiny	Budget & Policy Framework Licensing Policy	Budget Scrutiny Training	To provide critical friend challenge to the budget setting process in line with the Council's priorities	Resources	Cllr Ronald	Divisional Director, Finance, Procurement & Audit: Neville Murton	Cllr Francis
28-Jan-18 Community Safety	Spotlight	Community Safety in the borough (Borough commander)	To understand challenges and key areas of work undertaken to tackle community safety	Health, Adults and Community	Cllr Begum	Divisional Director, Community Safety: Ann Corbett	Community safety - Cllr Chowdhury Cllr Das

Meeting date	Type of scrutiny	Item	Desired outcome	Directorate	Lead Member	Lead Officer	Scrutiny Lead
	Spotlight	Community Safety-Safer Neighbourhood Board	To improve knowledge of initiatives to tackle ASB, understanding residents' concerns and challenges.		Cllr Begum	Divisional Director, Community Safety: Ann Corbett	
	Spotlight	Tackling ASB & CCTV strategy	To understand a key initiative being developed by the Council, understand challenges for strategy to address and recommend areas of consideration / development approaches		Cllr Begum	Divisional Director, Public Realm: Robin Payne	
	Tracking recommendations	Youth Service Challenge session	To track actions implementation of recommendations of scrutiny challenge session.	Children's Services	Cllr Hassell	Divisional Director, Youth & Commissioning: Ronke Martins-Taylor	Cllr Alam
	Pre-Cabinet	Cabinet reports	Review Cabinet decisions and make strategic recommendations, where relevant	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
	Planning	Cabinet forward plan & work programme review	To review and plan around committee priorities	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
04-Feb-18 Budget Scrutiny reserve meeting	Budget & Policy Framework Licensing Policy	Budget Scrutiny	If required: to review and suggest recommendations on the 2019/20 budget	Resources	Cllr Ronald	Divisional Director, Finance, Procurement & Audit: Neville Murton	Cllr Francis
25-Feb-19 Adults Safeguarding	Spotlight	Independent Chair of Adults Safeguarding Board (Christabel Shawcross)	To better understand where performance in terms of service delivery needs to be improved and the challenges the Council is facing	Health, Adults and Community	Cllr Jones	Interim Divisional Director, Adult Social Care: David Jones	Cllr Chowdhury
	Tracking recommendations	Social Value Act Scrutiny challenge session	To track actions implementation of recommendations of scrutiny challenge session	Resources	Cllr Ronald	Divisional Director, Finance, Procurement & Audit: Neville Murton	Cllr Pappu

Meeting date	Type of scrutiny	Item	Desired outcome	Directorate	Lead Member	Lead Officer	Scrutiny Lead
	Tracking recommendations	Cohesion Challenge Session recommendations	To track actions implementation of recommendations of scrutiny challenge session.	Adults, Health & Community Services	Cllr Jones	Sharon Godman	Cllr Pappu
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Q3 Corporate Budget Monitoring Report	To monitor the Council's finances to ensure these align with Council priorities and provide residents with value for money	Resources	Cllr Ronald	Divisional Director, Finance, Procurement & Audit: Neville Murton	Cllr Francis
	Pre-Cabinet	Cabinet reports	Review Cabinet decisions and make strategic recommendations, where relevant	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
	Planning	Cabinet forward plan & work programme review	To review and plan around committee priorities	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
25-Mar-19 Environment	Spotlight	Street cleanliness and waste collection and recycling	To review service delivery	Place	Cllr Edgar	Divisional Director, Public Realm	Cllr Das
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Quarter 3 Corporate Performance Report	To review the Council's performance against the strategic goals and provide critical friend challenge to service delivery	Governance	Mayor, John Biggs	Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman	Cllr Pappu
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Children's Services Improvement - Quarterly Progress Report Quarter 3 2018/19	To monitor implementation of the improvement plan	Children's Services	Cllr Hassell	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman	Cllr Alam
	Pre-Cabinet	Cabinet reports	Review Cabinet decisions and make strategic recommendations, where relevant	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
	OSC Updates	Scrutiny Lead verbal updates	To improve knowledge of current work of service areas and potential areas of further scrutiny	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
23-Apr-19 Mayoral	Spotlight	Mayoral System	To review the current Mayoral system	Governance	Mayor, John Biggs	Head of Legal Operations: Janet Fasan	Cllr Pappu

Meeting date	Type of scrutiny	Item	Desired outcome	Directorate	Lead Member	Lead Officer	Scrutiny Lead
System	Tracking recommendations	Night Time Economy Scrutiny Review	To track actions implementation of recommendations of scrutiny review.	Place	Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman, Cabinet Member for work and Economic Growth	Divisional Director, Growth and Economic Development: Vicky Clark	Cllr Das
	OSC Report	OSC Annual Report 2018/19	To review and approve report	Governance	N/A	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman	Cllr
	Pre-Cabinet	Cabinet reports	Review Cabinet decisions and make strategic recommendations	Various	N/A	N/A	Various
	Planning	Cabinet forward plan & work programme review	To review and plan around committee priorities	Various	N/A	N/A	Various

Appendix 3 – Draft Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee Work Programme 2018/19

Meeting	Type of Scrutiny	Item	Desired Outcomes	Lead Officer
Thursday 20 September 2018 Paper Deadline: Tuesday, 11th September, 2018	Spotlight	Domestic Violence (Deep Dive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To review the provision in place to identify and manage residents at risk of domestic violence. Develop an understanding of domestic violence reporting levels and how the council supports this To review ‘turn away’ rates in Tower Hamlets and develop recommendations to improve access to refuge services. To understand the impact universal credit has had on domestic violence and the council’s response to this. Review the provision of domestic violence services for residents with no recourse to public funds. 	Ann Corbett Divisional Director Community Safety
	Spotlight	NHS 111 Clinical Assessment Service	Understand what the new NHS 111 Clinical Assessment Service means for Tower Hamlets residents following recent changes to the contract provider.	David Jones (Interim Divisional Director Adult Social Care)
	Spotlight	Pain Management	To develop an understanding of the systems Barts Health has in place to support patients with their pain management.	Jackie Sullivan , Executive Managing Director (Royal London and Mile End Hospitals)
	Planning	Health Scrutiny Work Programme 2018/19	Agree the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee work programme for 2017/18.	N/A
Tuesday 4th December 2018 Paper Deadline: Friday, 23rd November, 2018	Spotlight	Quality of residential and home care provision in LBTH (deep dive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an understanding of what the Improved Better Care fund is and how the council is using it. Review the quality of home care and residential care provision in the borough. Develop an understanding of how the new home care contract is performing from a council, provider and resident perspective. To review the findings from the ‘Evaluation of the impact of the Adult Social Care charging scheme on Adult Social Care service users’ 	Warwick Tomsett Joint Director of Integrated Commissioning
	Budget scrutiny	Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To review budget proposals and understand how 	Denise Radley Corporate Director

Meeting	Type of Scrutiny	Item	Desired Outcomes	Lead Officer
			<p>the health and social care budget will be spent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop an understanding of the new funding increases in Health and review how the NHS are considering using the increased resources available to them. 	for Health, Adults and Community
	Scrutiny Report	Adult Social Care Survey	Develop an understanding of social care performance through analyses of resident feedback.	David Jones (Interim Divisional Director Adult Social Care)
	Spotlight	Transition from NHS to private hospital	To understand the process and key issues for patients transferring from an NHS hospital to a private hospital.	David Jones (Interim Divisional Director Adult Social Care)
Tuesday 12th February 2019 Paper Deadline: Friday, 1st February, 2019	Spotlight	Alcohol and Substance misuse (Deep dive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop an understanding of the relationship between substance misuse and health in Tower Hamlets. To review the substance misuse prevention services in place in Tower Hamlets. To review the quality of current treatment services to support people with alcohol and substance misuse issues, and make recommendations to inform the commissioning of the new service. 	Ann Corbett Divisional Director Community Safety, LBTH David Jones (Interim Divisional Director Adult Social Care)
	Tracking Recommendations	Reablement Scrutiny Review Action Plan	Review the action plan produced for the Reablement Scrutiny Review and ensure it is being implemented successfully.	David Jones Interim Divisional Director Adult Social Care
	Spotlight	Screening & Immunisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review screening and immunisation rates in Tower Hamlets to address concerns over the boroughs poor performance. Provide recommendations to increase the screening and immunisation rates in Tower Hamlets. 	Somen Banarjee, Director of Public Health
Tuesday 30th April 2019 Paper Deadline:	Spotlight	Adults Safeguarding (Deep Dive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an understanding of how Adults Safeguarding is managed strategically and delivered operationally. Review the performance of the Adults Safeguarding Board. Review the cultural understanding of safeguarding across LBTH staff - "safeguarding is everyone's 	David Jones Interim Divisional Director Adult Social Care

Meeting	Type of Scrutiny	Item	Desired Outcomes	Lead Officer
Wednesday, 17th April, 2019			<p>business”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide recommendations on how LBTH can improve and embed safeguarding management and practice within LBTH. 	
	Spotlight	Social aspects of people living with Cancer	Develop an understanding of how residents are supported and managed to live with a cancer diagnosis.	David Jones Interim Divisional Director Adult Social Care
	Spotlight	Suicide Prevention Strategy (2018-2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide scrutiny of the Suicide Prevention Strategy at the end of its first year of implementation • To review the quality of the plans in place and how effectively they are being implemented • <i>Fulfil recommendation by House of Commons Health Committee that ‘Effective local scrutiny of a local authority’s suicide prevention plan should reduce or eliminate the need for intervention by the national implementation board.</i> 	Somen Banerjee Director of Public Health

Appendix 4 – Draft Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee Work Programme 2018/19

Meeting	Type of Scrutiny	Item	Desired Outcomes	Lead Officer
Tuesday 11 September date to change Current housing supply	Planning	2018/19 Work Programme	To approve the Committee's work programme for the year	N/A
	Tracking recommendations	Under occupation Scrutiny Review	To track implementation of recommendations from 2016/17 review	Divisional Director, Housing, Mark Baigent
	Spotlight	Voids, Empty & Second Homes	To review how many (Council & RP) voids there are and how quickly they are brought back into use; and incentives to reduce the number of empty and second homes	
	Spotlight	Common Housing Register & allocations policy	To review waiting lists and the prioritisation criteria and process in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mental health conditions • over-crowded conditions • under-occupation. To provide critical friend challenge to ensure allocations are fair and transparent	
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Standing item	To review performance in delivering the Strategic Plan and the key risks	
Tuesday 20 November Quality housing	Spotlight (possible scrutiny review)*	Sub-letting	Review of the extent of sub-letting on Council properties, improve understanding of challenges and work around reducing sub-letting	Divisional Director, Housing, Mark Baigent
	Spotlight	Fire safety	To update the Committee on the Council's work on fire safety, including a report on Dame Judith Hackitt's report; and an update on the Fire Safety Scrutiny Review Report and Action Plan	Divisional Director, Housing, Mark Baigent/ Divisional Director, Planning & Building Control, Owen Whalley
	Spotlight	Local Plan/Revised NPPF/new London Plan/Isle of Dogs and South Poplar Opportunity Area Planning Framework	To review these developments in Planning and their cumulative impact on development in Tower Hamlets	Director, Planning & Building Control, Owen Whalley

Meeting	Type of Scrutiny	Item	Desired Outcomes	Lead Officer
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Standing item	To review performance in delivering the Strategic Plan.	Divisional Director, Housing, Mark Baigent
Tuesday 29 January		Budget scrutiny	To review housing budget allocation, including: a) housing revenue account b) housing vehicles To understand how the Council is delivering affordable housing and provide critical friend challenge around developing a sustainable model of delivery	Strategic Director, Tom McCourt / Divisional Director, Housing, Mark Baigent
Affordability/ finances	Budget scrutiny			
	Spotlight	Preventing homelessness update	To review the Council's work towards preventing and reducing the amount of homelessness	Divisional Director, Housing, Mark Baigent
	Spotlight	Service charges for leaseholders	To understand complaint areas	
	Spotlight	Universal Credit & Rent Arrears and (THH & RP responses)	To better understand the scale of impending changes and the support to tenants	
Tuesday 9 April	Spotlight	<i>Social Housing Green Paper - if published in time</i>	To understand the priorities, challenges, opportunities and risks for the future of social housing and the likely impact on services	Divisional Director, Housing, Mark Baigent
Planning and Infrastructure / future demand	Spotlight	Improving conditions in the private rented sector	To review the initiatives being taken by the Council to improve conditions in the private rented sector	Director, Planning & Building Control, Owen Whalley
	Spotlight	Build Out Review	To discuss the findings of Sir Oliver Letwin's Review, Government's response and the likely impact on services	Director, Planning & Building Control, Owen Whalley
	Spotlight	Infrastructure to support new housing	To review the Council's infrastructure delivery plan and developments and provide critical friend challenge to how the Council will meet future demand	Director, Planning & Building Control, Owen Whalley
	Strategic Performance monitoring	Standing item	To review performance in delivering the Strategic Plan.	Divisional Director, Housing, Mark Baigent

Draft Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee (GSSC) Work Programme 2018/19

Meeting	Type of Scrutiny	Item	Desired Outcomes	Lead Officer
4th June 2018	Grant Determination Report Review	Tower Hamlets Affordable Housing Grants Programme – Burdette Road	To review award of RTB Receipts grant Funding of £2.3m	Divisional Director, Housing, Mark Baigent
	Grant Determination Report Review	TH Affordable Housing Grant – Continuous Market Engagement	To review award of RTB Receipts grant Funding of £210k	
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Event Fund Report Quarters 2-3 2017/8	To monitor performance according to the council's strategic priorities	Divisional Director, Sports, Leisure and Culture, Judith St John
	Grant Determination Report Review	SME Energy Reduction Grants Programme	To review grant funding of £220,000	David Esdaile/Abdul Khan
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	MSG Quarterly Update Report – Period 9	To monitor performance according to the council's strategic priorities	Head of Benefits Services, Steve Hill
	Scrutiny Report	MSG Extension Report	Committee to note report and agree to extend programme to Sept 2019	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman
	Grant Determination Report Review	Historic Buildings Grants – Oxford House	To review issue of formal offer of grant to max value of £95,903.00	Director, Planning & Building Control, Owen Whalley r
30th July 2018	Grant Determination Report Review	Maximising Health Infrastructure - Island Medical Centre	To review grant funding of £985,838 to NHS Tower Hamlets CCG	Director, Public Health, Somen Banerjee
	Grant Determination Report Review	Marnier Family and community space	To review release of £34,000 S106 resources to LBTH Public Health	Director, Public Health, Somen Banerjee
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	MSG Quarterly Update Report – Period 10	To monitor performance according to the council's strategic priorities	Head of Benefits Services, Steve Hill
	Grant Determination	PLACE Ltd Modular Temporary Accommodation	To review award of grant funding of £11m to PLACE Ltd through Sub -agreement	Divisional Director, Housing, Mark Baigent

Meeting	Type of Scrutiny	Item	Desired Outcomes	Lead Officer
	Report Review	GLA Sub Grant Agreement		
20th September	Strategic Performance Monitoring	MSG Quarterly Update Report – Period 11	Note Report and to consider recommendations	Head of Benefits Services, Steve Hill
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	MGS Revised Monitoring Arrangements	Note Report and to consider recommendations	Head of Benefits Services, Steve Hill
	Budget & Policy Framework Scrutiny	Commissioning Framework	To examine and discuss role of GSSC – focussing on added value, linking to commissioning framework. Looking at benefits of projects meeting the objectives set and shaping future projects	Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance: Sharon Godman
7th November	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Event Fund – Report Qtr 4 & Annual report 2017/18	To monitor performance according to the council's strategic priorities	Divisional Director, Sports, Leisure and Culture, Judith St John
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Event Fund – Report Qtr 1/Royal Wedding / Big Lunch 2018/19	Note Report and to consider recommendations	Divisional Director, Sports, Leisure and Culture, Judith St John
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	MSG Quarterly Update Report	Note Report and to consider recommendations	Head of Benefits Services, Steve Hill
2nd January	Strategic Performance Monitoring	MSG Quarterly Update Report –	Note Report and to consider recommendations	Head of Benefits Services, Steve Hill
6th March 2019	Strategic Performance Monitoring	Event Fund Report – Qtr 2 2018/19	To monitor performance according to the council's strategic priorities	Divisional Director, Sports, Leisure and Culture, Judith St John
	Strategic Performance Monitoring	MSG Quarterly Update Report –	Note Report and to consider recommendations	Head of Benefits Services, Steve Hill
1st May 2019	Strategic Performance Monitoring	MSG Quarterly Update Report –	Note Report and to consider recommendations	Head of Benefits Services, Steve Hill

*This work programme reflects the items in the GDSC forward plan in addition to items that GSSC are considering as part of their own work programme. This table therefore represents the work programme and forward plan for GSCC.



THE FORWARD PLAN

Published: 1 September 2018

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The Forward Plan is published 28 days before each Cabinet meeting.

In addition, new issues and changes to existing issues will be published on the website as soon as they are known.

The web pages also contain past Forward Plans and publication deadlines for future Plans. To visit the web pages go to www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/forwardplan or for smart phone/tablet users scan the QR code to the right with your device camera.



Tower Hamlets Council **Forthcoming Decisions Plan**

What is this document?

The Forthcoming Decisions Plan (or 'Forward Plan') contains information on significant decisions that the Council expects to take over the next few months.

As a minimum this will include notice of:

- All **Key Decisions** to be taken by the Mayor, Cabinet or Cabinet Sub-Committees
 - This could include decisions taken at public meetings or taken individually at other times.
- Budget and Policy Framework Decisions (for example the Budget Report itself and major policies to be agreed by Council as set out in the Constitution)

Key Decisions

The Council is required to publish notice of all key decisions at least 28 days before they are taken by the Executive or Commissioners. Key decisions are all those decisions which involve major spending, or savings, or which have a significant impact on the local community. The precise definition of a key decision adopted by Tower Hamlets is contained in Article 13.03 of the [Constitution](#). Key Decisions can be taken by the Mayor outside of meetings, the Mayor in Cabinet or by a Cabinet Sub-Committee.

Publication of Forthcoming Decisions

Individual notices of new Key Decisions will be published on the website as they are known on the 'Forthcoming Decisions' page, whilst this 'Forward Plan' collating these decisions will be published regularly, as a minimum at least, 28 days before each Cabinet meeting. The Plan will be published on the Council's website and will also be available to view at the Town Hall and Libraries, Ideas Centres and One Stop Shops if required.

Urgency

If, due to reasons of urgency, a Key Decision has to be taken where 28 days' notice have not been given. Notice will be published (on the website) as early as possible and Urgency Procedures as set out in the Constitution have to be followed.

Make your views known

The most effective way for the public to make their views known about a Forthcoming Decisions is to contact the lead officer, or Cabinet Member (where stated), listed. You can also view the Council's [Consultation Calendar](#), which lists all the issues on which the Council and its partners are consulting.

Information about the Decision Makers

Further information on the Mayor and Members of the Cabinet can be found on the Council [website](#).

Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private

The Council is also required to give at least 28 days' notice if it wishes to consider any of the reports on the agenda of an Executive meeting (such as Cabinet) in private session. The last row of each item below will indicate any proposal to consider that item in private session. Should you wish to make any representations in relation to item being considered in private please contact Democratic Services on the contact details listed on the front page.

The notice may reference a paragraph of Section 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act. In summary those paragraphs refer to the following types of exempt information (more information is available in the Constitution):

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority handling the information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matters arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:-
 - a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

Contact Details for this Plan

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Forward Plan September 2018

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Title of Report	Site at 20 Alton Street E14 6BZ (IO 81182)	Ward Lansbury	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	Approve the grant of a 99 year lease to Lansbury Estate Muslim Association (LEMA) for 20 Alton Street Agree that the Acting Corporate Director Place agree any final detailed terms for the 99 year lease and instruct solicitors to proceed to prepare the draft lease		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet Not before 26/09/18		
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in		
Cabinet Member	Mayor		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	There has been consultation with the Mayor LEMA has consulted the users of the facility Written reports		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Anaclette Austrie, Nicole Layton (Executive Assistant, Corporate Director) Tel: 020 7364 4096 anaclette.austrie@towerhamlets.gov.uk, PA to Mark Baigent Nicole.Layton@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	apart from the case file no		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		

Title of Report	Ailsa Street Land Disposal - Revised Terms (IO 81266)	Ward Lansbury	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	The Mayor will be asked to agree to variations to the terms of the disposal of Council-owned land, from those agreed at cabinet in November 2017		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet Not before 26/09/18		
Community Plan	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in		

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Theme	
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Air Quality, Mayor
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Public meetings, exhibition, usual planning consultation system</p> <p>The development proposals have been subject to public consultation including statutory planning consultation. The Council has resolved to grant planning permission for the redevelopment</p> <p>The wider Poplar Riverside Housing Zone objectives have been subject to consultation with local stakeholders</p> <p>Discussions will be held with the Mayor and Lead Members prior to the report going to MAB</p>
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	no
Contact details for comments or additional information	Nicole Layton, Anaclette Austrie PA to Mark Baigent Nicole.Layton@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Executive Assistant, Corporate Director) Tel: 020 7364 4096 anaclette.austrie@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	none
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	Partly Exempt (Part of the report will be exempt) Part of the report will set out financial elements of the proposed revised terms.
Title of Report	61 Vallance Road - Grant lease
	Ward Spitalfields & Banglatown
	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	The report recommends that the Council grants a sublease to ADA

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/09/18
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in
Cabinet Member	Mayor
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Asset Management have worked closely with the head teacher and governing body of the adjacent primary school to make sure the lettings does not give rise to any safeguarding issues. There has also been consultation with Children's Services colleagues as 61 Vallance Road is part of a school PFI contract.

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	By email and phone conversations, and meetings with stakeholders		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Anaclette Austrie, Caleigh Freeman (Executive Assistant, Corporate Director) Tel: 020 7364 4096 anaclette.austrie@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Business Management Support) caleigh.freemant@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Online case file		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Council day care nurseries – consultation on proposed closure	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	Cabinet agreed on 27 June 2018 to hold a resident consultation on the proposal for a phased closure of the council's three day care nurseries. This item is to consider the report on the responses to the consultation and to decide whether to proceed with the proposal.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/09/18
Community Plan Theme	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident consultation by online survey and meetings with parents and other stakeholders • Schools Forum in meetings • Staff consultation in writing and in meetings with staff and unions <p>Already undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident consultation on the previous proposal (September to November 2017) • Schools Forum (March to May 2018) • Resident consultation on the current proposal (July to September 2018) <p>To be undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools Forum (continuing)

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	• Staff consultation		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	Yes, based on resident consultation responses and for staff. Will be undertaken during July to September 2018		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Pauline Hoare, Christine McInnes, Sarah Steer (Lead Officer, Early Years) pauline.hoare@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Divisional Director, Education and Partnership, Children's) christine.mcinnnes@towerhamlets.gov.uk, Business and Admin Services Manager sarah.steer@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Cabinet 27 June report (see Supplemental Agenda) and decisions: http://democracy.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=720&MIId=8825 Details of the proposal and link to the consultation: https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/education_and_learning/childcare_and_early_years_educ/Information_about_LA_Day_Care_Nurseries.aspx		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Implementation of traffic management orders on HRA land	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This report recommends the Council carries out consultation considering the introduction of TMO's under the road traffic regulations ACT 1984(RTRA 84) on all LBTH Housing land as a means of enforcing parking control.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/09/18
Community Plan Theme	
Cabinet Member	
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Consultation carried with residents. Further consultation to be carried with residents as part of the process to implement Traffic Management Order on Council HRA Land.
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	yes. EqIA was completed.

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Contact details for comments or additional information	Caleigh Freeman (Business Management Support) caleigh.freemant@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?			
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Approval to proceed with the Compulsory Purchase Order for an empty residential property in LB Tower Hamlets	Ward Bow West	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This report seeks approval to proceed with the compulsory purchase order (CPO) for a street property which has been empty for seven years and is a blight on the local area.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/09/18
Community Plan Theme	
Cabinet Member	
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	The owner of the property, DLT/Asset management and local neighbours
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No
Contact details for comments or additional information	Caleigh Freeman (Business Management Support) caleigh.freemant@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Appendices setting out property history and details of contact with the owner.
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	Partly Exempt (Part of the report will be exempt)

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Title of Report	Pan-London Homeless Prevention Procurement Hub ("Capital Letters")	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	To approve the LBTH becoming a member of the proposed Capital Letters company being set up collaboratively by London Councils to procure leased temporary accommodation.		

Decision maker	Cabinet		
Date of decision	26/09/18		
Community Plan Theme			
Cabinet Member	Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	N/A None required		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?			
Contact details for comments or additional information	Mark Baigent (Interim Divisional Director, Housing and Regeneration) mark.baigent@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	OSC Brexit Challenge Session Report - Action Plan	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No
Summary of Decision	<p>This report contains the Action Plan based on the recommendations of the Scrutiny Challenge session held on 7th of December 2017 and its link with the work of the Brexit Commission that was officially announced at the 25th July 2018 Cabinet meeting.</p> <p>The majority of these actions will form part of the Brexit Commissions work and will be delivered by end of the municipal year 2018-19.</p>		

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Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/09/18		
Community Plan Theme	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	TBC		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Sharon Godman (Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Partnerships) sharon.godman@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Appendix 1 – OSC Brexit Challenge Session Report (including Recommendations) •Appendix 2 – Brexit Challenge Session – Action Plan (Updated) 		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Contracts Forward Plan 2018/19 – Quarter Two	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the Contracts Forward Plan at Appendix 1 to the report. 2. To confirm that all contracts can proceed to contract award after tender. 3. To authorise the Divisional Director, Legal Services to execute all necessary contract documents in respect of the awards of contracts referred to in recommendation 2 above. 4. To note the procurement forward plan 2018-22 schedule detailed in Appendix 2 to the report 		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/09/18		
Community Plan Theme			
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector		
Who will be consulted	Where required, consultation with service users and stakeholders will be		

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before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>undertaken as part of the project and budget approval process.</p> <p>Necessary consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the council's policies and procedures.</p>		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No. Contact specific EQIA is expected to be completed by respective contract owners as part of the Directorate approval.		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Zamil Ahmed, Ekbal Hussain (Head of Procurement) zamil.ahmed@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Financial Planning Manager, Resources) ekbal.hussain@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Report and appendices include details of all contracts to be awarded.		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Children's Services Improvement Programme, Quarterly Progress Report (Quarter 1 2018/19)	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No
Summary of Decision	<p>This report provides an update on progress in delivering improvements to Children's Services in response to the report published by Ofsted in April 2017 which rated our services 'inadequate'. The Council's improvement plan aims to achieve a standard of 'good' at its next inspection, in 2019.</p> <p>Endorsement is sought for the progress made in delivering the Children's Services improvement Programme.</p>		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/09/18
Community Plan Theme	
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Children's DLT, CLT, MAB</p> <p>The report will also go to the Best Value Improvement Board on 17 September and Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 24thSeptember.</p> <p>Not specific to this report</p>

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Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	Not applicable specifically for this report		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Charlotte Saini (Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer, Education, Social Care and Wellbeing) charlotte.saini@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	None		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?			
Title of Report	Future Management of the Integrated Community Equipment Service	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This report considers the options for the future management of the Council's integrated Community Equipment Service (CES). The service loans a variety of disability related equipment to children, adults and older people within Tower Hamlets. The equipment helps service users to maintain and maximise their independence, enables them and their carers to be safely supported and improves their quality of life.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/09/18
Community Plan Theme	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Clinical Commissioning Group Joint Commissioning Executive
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	Yes
Contact details for comments or additional information	David Jones (Interim Divisional Director, Adult Social Care) david.jones@towerhamlets.gov.uk

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What supporting documents or other information will be available?	None		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	Fully Exempt (the whole report will be exempt)		
Title of Report	Food Law Enforcement Service Plan	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	To approve the Tower Hamlets Food :Law Enforcement Plan 2018/19 and food sampling Policy attached as an appendix		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/09/18		
Community Plan Theme			
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Environment		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	N/A No required		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	yes - completed 18/6/18		
Contact details for comments or additional information	David Tolley, Caleigh Freeman, Kathy Qayum, Anaclette Austrie (Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards) david.tolley@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Business Management Support) caleigh.freemant@towerhamlets.gov.uk, kathy.qayum@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Executive Assistant, Corporate Director) Tel: 020 7364 4096 anaclette.austrie@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	No		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Chrisp Street Regeneration Scheme:CPO Resolution, dealings with the Council	Ward Lansbury	Key Decision? Yes

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	land/interests and Street Market Management Arrangements		
Summary of Decision	Approve a resolution for a single Compulsory purchase order (CPO) under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in relation to the Chrisp Street Regeneration Scheme.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/09/18		
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in		
Cabinet Member	Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Residents and stakeholders. Previous methods included meetings, exhibitions, on-site visits, newsletters, a 'project shop' information and drop in store, website and on-going letters concerning decants and land assembly. The residential and commercial property owners and tenants affected by the proposal will be contacted directly by the council and developer/registered provider (POPLAR HARCA/CSDL)		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	Yes. An equality analysis checklist and report has been completed which assesses the impacts to the protected characteristics. The report supports the implementation of the measures proposed to facilitate delivery of the overall regeneration: overall the impacts of the scheme are considered to be positive.		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Anaclette Austrie, Caleigh Freeman (Executive Assistant, Corporate Director) Tel: 020 7364 4096 anaclette.austrie@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Business Management Support) caleigh.freemant@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Section 226 Country Planning Act 1990		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	Partly Exempt (Part of the report will be exempt) Exempt appendix		
Title of Report	Mile End Park Leisure Centre Lease	Ward Mile End	Key Decision? No
Summary of Decision	This report relates to the need to execute a lease for the Mile End Park Leisure Centre and Stadium for the leisure management contract extension for the period 2019-2022		

Decision maker	King George's Field Charity Board
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Date of decision	31/10/18		
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place			
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	Yes		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Lisa Pottinger (Head of Sport & Physical Activity) lisa.pottinger@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?			
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Planning for School Places – 2018/19 Review and Recommendations	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This report is the annual review of planning for school places.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 28/11/18
Community Plan Theme	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	The proposals for specific schemes will be subject to separate consultations and procedures in line with the statutory requirements for establishing additional school places. The proposals for specific schemes will be subject to separate consultations and procedures in line with the statutory requirements for establishing additional school places.
Has an Equality Impact	No

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Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	
Contact details for comments or additional information	Terry Bryan, Lisa Stidle, Sarah Steer (Head of Pupil Admissions & Exclusions), (School Organisation & Place Planning Manager) lisa.stidle@towerhamlets.gov.uk, Business and Admin Services Manager sarah.steer@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	None
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted
Title of Report	Homelessness Strategy - 2018 - 2023
	Ward All Wards
	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	The report recommends the adoption of a new Homelessness Strategy to run from 2018 to 2023. The Strategy will set out how the Council will tackle homelessness with emphasis on fulfilling the Council's duties under the 2017 Homeless Reduction Act, reducing Rough Sleeping in line with national and regional targets, increasing the supply of available housing and meeting the needs of specific groups impacted by homelessness.

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 28/11/18
Community Plan Theme	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities
Cabinet Member	Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Through key Homeless Service provider via the Homelessness Partnership Board Mail out and Presentation to all Registered Providers through the Tower Hamlets Housing Forum Bespoke workshops with residents directly impacted by Homelessness On line Consultation with the general public with draft document and survey Internal briefings including Health, Adults and Communities DLT
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	Yes - by 17 September 2018

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<p>Contact details for comments or additional information</p>	<p>Mark Baigent (Interim Divisional Director, Housing and Regeneration) mark.baigent@towerhamlets.gov.uk</p>
<p>What supporting documents or other information will be available?</p>	<p>Appendices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homelessness Evidence Base Evaluation of Consultation Equality Impact Assessment Details of Homelessness Partners and Board Overview and Scrutiny – Effectiveness of Health and Social Care provision for homeless residents – 2018 <p>Health and Homelessness Scrutiny Review</p>
<p>Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?</p>	<p>No, Unrestricted</p>

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