

Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Scrutiny Lead for Governance: Cllr White
OSC – 28th January 2019

Communications Challenge Session

- We held our communications challenge session on Wednesday 16th January.
- It was a good discussion and some useful recommendations came out of the session. Our guest speaker was from Hackney Council and this provided us with useful examples for best practise.
- Key themes from the session included:
 - **‘leadership driving cultural change’**- how resident engagement fits within the council and how communications is interfacing strategically and operationally with the council;
 - **‘ the role of elected members’** – including ward-specific communications from members to residents, and bringing residents into council decision making earlier;
 - **‘seldom-heard groups’** - looking at how we can better hear the voice of these groups, reviewing best practise from other boroughs and organisations, and ensuring we hear all voices rather than just speaking to the ‘gatekeepers’; and
 - **‘Empowering the service to be bold and innovative’** - commercialising our communications, capitalising on opportunities, and digitalisation work.
- Council officers have started drafting the report and recommendations, and this is due to go to OSC on 25th March.

Brexit Commission

- The Brexit Commission has now completed its research into the implications of Brexit on the borough, and has produced 25 key recommendations.
- The commissions’ report has been through a number of approvals already – including the Mayor and CLT- and will be going to MAB on 30th January.
- The official launch of the report will be at London City Hall on 14th February.