

Committee	Date	Classification	Report No.	Agenda Item No.
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	8 th March 2011	Unrestricted		8.1
Report of: Acting Joint Service Head, Scrutiny and Equalities		Title: Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation Tracking Report: Update		
Originating Officer(s): Barry Clark / Afazul Hoque Scrutiny & Equalities		Ward(s) affected: All		

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on implementing the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the progress in implementing its recommendations.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972 (AS AMENDED) SECTION 100D

LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Background paper	Name and telephone number of and address where open to inspection
Recommendation Tracking Report – October 2010	

3 Report

- 3.1 As part of its regular work programme, Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) receives a regular, 6-monthly, tracking report to monitor progress in implementing past recommendations. This report had been monitoring all its recommendations since 2003/04, including those from the Committee and Working Group reviews, however as many of these have now been completed, they are no longer being monitored. This report incorporates all the action plans from those reviews undertaken since 2007/08.
- 3.2 This tracking report shows that overall, services are implementing the majority of the recommendations made by Overview and Scrutiny and that outcomes and ongoing work streams are in line with the spirit of the original recommendations. The report demonstrates that action plans have influenced key strategies and campaigns in a number of ways including actions being mainstreamed into ongoing service development through to specific initiatives.
- 3.3 Appendix 1 provides an update of the tracking system. It is organised by the broad themes from the Community Plan with the additional area of Excellent Public Services to focus on Value for Money, performance and customer services, however, none of the action plans for this year fall under this area.
- 3.4 As noted in the report of the October 2010 meeting, many of the updates will not change significantly from one tracking report to the next given the nature of the recommendations. For each recommendation there is an indication of whether monitoring should continue and, if so, when a detailed update will be sought.
- 3.5 Appendix 1 summarises the progress made in implementing the recommendations arising from the reviews. This summary highlights some of the challenges faced in implementing the recommendations.
- 3.6 As with other corporate monitoring reports, a traffic light system is used to indicate progress. Red highlights an area where there has been no progress or there is significant delay in implementing the recommendations. Yellow indicates that the recommendation is in the planning stage or that, although there is some progress, this is less than satisfactory. Green shows that the recommendation has been achieved or progress in its implementation is satisfactory.
- 3.7 The report shows that in terms of the 16 action plans being monitored, 14 are at green with two currently at yellow, this is due to these reviews being in the early stages of implementation or that have only recently been agreed by Cabinet.

4 Concurrent Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal)

- 4.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report

5 Comments of the Chief Financial Officer

- 5.1 This report details an update of the implementation of recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The reviews include value for money issues that allow monitoring of the use of resources by the Council and as evidence to the Audit Commission's assessment of how well it is managing and using its resources to deliver value for money and better and sustainable outcomes for local people.

5.2 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

6 One Tower Hamlets considerations

6.1 Equalities considerations are central to the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. A number of reports and reviews have specific equalities themes including the English for Speakers of Other Language (ESOL) and Anti-bullying challenge sessions which sought to respond to the issue of local and new residents' access to services.

7 Risk Management implications

7.1 There are no direct risk management implications arising from this Report.

8 Sustainable actions for greener environment

8.1 There are no implications arising from this Report

9. Crime and disorder implications

There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this Report. However, a number of reviews have focussed on reducing crime and disorder this includes the review of Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and Alcohol Misuse amongst Young People. In particular the review of Youth Offenders – Supporting Vulnerable Young People has made a number of recommendations to reduce crime by young people in the borough. A detailed response to these recommendations is outlined in appendix 7.

Appendix 1	Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation Tracking Update
Appendix 2	Affordable Homeownership
Appendix 3	Private Rented Sector
Appendix 4	Early Interventions, Child Protection
Appendix 5	Dangerous Dogs Challenge Session
Appendix 6	Anti-Bullying Challenge Session
Appendix 7	Youth Offenders – Supporting Vulnerable Young Adults
Appendix 8	Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers Challenge Session
Appendix 9	Parental Engagement in Secondary Education
Appendix 10	Reducing Worklessness amongst young adults between the ages of 18 - 24.
Appendix 11	Post 16 Participation Challenge Session
Appendix 12	Child Poverty
Appendix 13	Strengthening Local Community Leadership
Appendix 14	English for Speakers of other Language (ESOL) Challenge Session
Appendix 15	End of Life Care
Appendix 16	Reducing Childhood Obesity increasing the availability of healthy choices
Appendix 17	Alcohol Misuse Amongst Young People

Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation Tracking Update

'A great place to live'

Issue Licensing of Strip Clubs	Recommendation Date 5 November 2008	Green
Monitoring Status – Maintain annual monitoring		
Recommendation The review investigated the impact of Strip Clubs in Tower Hamlets and considered approaches to regulation and licensing of Clubs in the future, within an appropriate legal framework.	Response / Progress An update was provided to the Committee in October 2010 and will next be monitored in October 2011.	
Issue Choice Based Lettings	Recommendation Date 3 December 2008	Green
Monitoring Status – Maintain annual monitoring		
Recommendation This review looked into the Council's approach to Choice Based Lettings Scheme for the allocation of housing, with particular emphasis on overcrowding, homelessness, accessibility of the scheme for disabled and elderly residents and the medical assessment process.	Response / Progress An update was provided to the Committee in October 2010 and will next be monitored in October 2011.	
Issue Affordable Homeownership	Recommendation Date 2 nd December 2009	Green
Monitoring Status – Maintain annual monitoring		
Recommendation This review was established to consider the challenges local residents face in accessing affordable housing, and how the Council and our partners can work together to overcome these.	Response / Progress Out of the six recommendations in the action plan, four have made good progress with two not being implemented due to national and local policy changes. This action plan is attached in appendix 2.	
Issue Private Rented Sector	Recommendation Date 8 th September 2010	Yellow
Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring		

<p>Recommendation This review looked to identify key gaps and issues that exist within the Private Rented Sector in Tower Hamlets and recommend potential initiatives that would improve service delivery. In particular consider existing systems, procedures and initiatives which are currently in place to support landlords and tenants within the sector.</p>	<p>Response / Progress A comprehensive action plan was agreed by Cabinet in September 2010, and out of the 14 recommendations made 13 have made significant. Recommendation 13 has been postponed to 2011/12 due to the substantial volume in changes to Benefits. This action plan is attached in appendix 3.</p>
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‘A safe and supportive community’

<p>Issue Early Intervention, Child Protection</p>	<p>Recommendation Date 2nd December 2009</p>	<p>Green</p>
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Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring

<p>Recommendation This review was established to examine the Council’s existing early intervention services in relation to Child Protection and explores the case for extending services from a value for money and customer service perspective.</p>	<p>Response / Progress Out of the 14 recommendations made by the Working Group, 11 of them have made significant progress. Recommendations 5,6 and 7 updates are being sought. This action plan is attached in appendix 4.</p>
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<p>Issue Dangerous Dogs Challenge Session</p>	<p>Recommendation Date 3rd November 2009</p>	<p>Green</p>
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Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring

<p>Recommendation This challenge session was an opportunity for Members and residents to hear about work undertaken locally and regionally on tackling dangerous dogs. This was an opportunity for residents to highlight their main concerns.</p>	<p>Response / Progress All 6 of the recommendations made have been significantly implemented into service delivery. This action plan is attached in appendix 5.</p>
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<p>Issue Anti-Bullying Challenge Session</p>	<p>Recommendation Date 6th April 2010</p>	<p>Green</p>
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Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring

<p>Recommendation This challenge session was to consider bullying related issues at schools and to examine the effectiveness of the borough’s anti-bullying initiatives.</p>	<p>Response / Progress Progress has been made on all of the recommendations in the action plan. This action plan is attached in appendix 6.</p>
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<p>Issue Youth Offenders – Supporting Vulnerable Young Adults.</p>	<p>Recommendation Date 8th September 2010</p>	<p>Green</p>
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Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring		
Recommendation The review examined the causes of youth crime; looking at what interventions are already in place to combat youth crime and what further work the Partnership could do to reduce youth crime and lower youth re-offending rates.	Response / Progress Out of the 17 recommendations made by the Working Group all have either been completed or completed in the near future. This action plan is attached in appendix 7.	

Issue Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers Challenge Session	Recommendation Date 5 th October 2010	Yellow
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Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring		
Recommendation This challenge session was to look at increasing Members and residents understanding of the work of the THEOs.	Response / Progress This is a new action plan and will be monitored in October 2011. The action plan is attached in Appendix 8.	

‘A prosperous community’

Issue Parental Engagement in Secondary Education	Recommendation Date 4 th November 2009	Green
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Monitoring Status – Maintain annual monitoring		
Recommendation This review was established to examine the current policy and practices and suggest improvements in supporting and encouraging parental engagement in secondary schools.	Response / Progress Out of the eight recommendations made all have made significant progress therefore annual monitoring will be maintained in the future. This action plan is attached in appendix 9.	

Issue Reducing worklessness amongst young adults between the ages of 18 – 24.	Recommendation Date 6 th October 2010	Green
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Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring		
Recommendation This review was established to look at how the Council can support young adults in improving their chances of securing employment.	Response / Progress This is a new action plan and will be monitored in October 2011. The action plan is attached in Appendix 10.	

Issue Post 16 Participation Challenge Session	Recommendation Date 9 th November 2010	Green
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Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring		
Recommendation This challenge session was undertaken to increase understanding of the national and local post 16	Response / Progress This is a new action plan and will be monitored in October 2011. The action plan is attached in Appendix 11.	

participation policies and to develop understanding of barriers to certain 16-18 year olds remaining at education.	
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‘One Tower Hamlets’

Issue Child Poverty	Recommendation Date 7 th October 2009	Green
Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring		
Recommendation The main aim of the review was to consider a community leadership model which contributes to creating One Tower Hamlets using child poverty as a case study.	Response / Progress Out of the 18 recommendations made in the action plan 15 of them have made progress. Recommendations 2, 11 and 12 updates are to follow. This action plan is attached in appendix 12.	

Issue Strengthening Local Community Leadership	Recommendation Date	Green
Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring		
Recommendation The review considered how the Democratic Process in particularly Scrutiny can be used to strengthen local community leadership. This was pertinent due to a number of national drivers for strengthening local leadership.	Response / Progress This is a new action plan and will be monitored in October 2011. The action plan is attached in Appendix 13	

Issue English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Challenge Session	Recommendation Date 5 th January 2010	Green
Monitoring Status – Maintain annual monitoring		
Recommendation This session was to consider ESOL provision in the borough with a focus on Tower Hamlets College.	Response / Progress All of the recommendations in this action plan have made significant progress. This action plan is attached in appendix 14.	

‘A healthy community’

Issue End of Life Care	Recommendation Date 7 th April 2010	Green
Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring		
Recommendation This main aim of the review was to look at how social care provision of end of	Response / Progress This is a new action plan and will be monitored in October 2011. The action plan is attached in	

life services meets the needs of local people and examine the co-ordination of health and social care at end of life and identify solutions to the barriers faced by local people in accessing end of life care.	Appendix 15.
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Issue Reducing Childhood Obesity increasing the availability of healthy choices Challenge Session	Recommendation Date	Green
Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring		
Recommendation The review investigated the steps that health partners and the Council needed to take to reduce childhood obesity. However given the seriousness of the childhood obesity problem in the borough, the challenge of this review was to identify ways in which we can reverse the tide of children eating fast food and accelerate the number of children eating healthy food.	Response / Progress This is a new action plan and will be monitored in October 2011. The action plan is attached in Appendix 16.	

Issue Alcohol Misuse Amongst Young People	Recommendation Date 4 th November 2009	Green
Monitoring Status – Maintain six-monthly monitoring		
Recommendation This review was established to explore the problem of alcohol misuse amongst young people.	Response / Progress Major progress has been made against the nine recommendations within the action plan. This action plan is attached in appendix 17.	

Issue Tobacco Cessation in Tower Hamlets	Recommendation Date 30 July 2008	Green
Monitoring Status – Maintain annual monitoring		
Recommendation This review was conducted by the Health Scrutiny Panel and examined the provision and impact of tobacco cessation services in Tower Hamlets. A total of 9 recommendations arose from the review, for both the PCT and LBTH.	Response / Progress An update was provided to the Committee in October 2010 and will next be monitored in October 2011.	