

Committee: Overview and Scrutiny	Date: 24 th July 2012	Classification: Unrestricted	Report No.	Agenda Item No.
Report of: Cllr Ann Jackson, Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee		Title: Overview and Scrutiny Committee Outline Work Programme 2012-13		
Originating Officer: Sarah Barr – Senior Strategy Policy and Performance Officer One Tower Hamlets Service Chief Executive’s Directorate		Wards: All		

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This paper sets out the Overview and Scrutiny Committee’s (OSC) draft outline work programme for 2012-13 (Appendix One). This was developed through a series of meetings with officers as well as 1:1 meetings and a workshop with OSC members.
- 1.2 The table at Appendix One shows the topics or issue put forward, the proposed methodology, the scrutiny lead as well as some additional information on scope. The methodologies include a scrutiny review, likely to be carried out throughout the year; a one-off ‘challenge session’ or other public event; a ‘spotlight’ or presentation at a committee meeting; or for Scrutiny lead members to follow up on a topic through 1:1 meetings with officers and desk-based research.
- 1.3 Once the outline work programme has been agreed by OSC, relevant Scrutiny lead members, service heads and managers will work together to develop the scope of each piece of work in more detail. The final work programme will be submitted for formal agreement by OSC at the meeting in September.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:
 - Consider and comment on this draft outline of the work programme for 2012-13

3. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL SERVICES)

- 3.1 Rule 8 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, contained in the Council's Constitution, provides that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be responsible for agreeing the overview and scrutiny work programme for the year. The recommendations in the report are consistent with that rule.
- 3.2 The activities included in the work programme appear consistent with the functions of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as set out in Article 6 of the Council's Constitution.
- 3.3 In determining the work programme, the Committee should have due regard to the Council's public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. The Council is required to have due regard, when exercising its functions, to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who don't.

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

- 4.1 This report describes the Overview and Scrutiny work programme in 2012-13.
- 4.2 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 Reducing inequality, promoting community cohesion and building community leadership are all central to the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. While all pieces of work undertaken by the Committee will have a clear focus on understanding the differing needs of our diverse community, a number of the pieces of work put forward in the outline work programme raise specific equalities issues including the impact of welfare reform on local residents, addressing youth unemployment and scrutiny of the allocation of social housing to people with mental health conditions.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 There are no direct risk management actions arising from this report.

7. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

7.1 The outline work programme highlights two pieces of work which focus specifically on topics which are highly relevant to building a greener environment: Encouraging cycling in the borough and recycling.

8. EFFICIENCY STATEMENT

8.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee contributes to the efficiency of the council, particularly through its scrutiny of the budget process where the committee ensures services are achieving value for money.

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
None	n/a

Appendix One: Overview and Scrutiny Committee Draft Work Programme 2012-13

Topic	Methodology	Scrutiny Lead	Notes
Budget	TBC	Cllr Jackson/Cllr Uddin	As the budget is set for this year, approach will be different from 11/12. Focus on delivery and impact of savings, preparations for further cuts in 2015/16.
Scrutiny Reviews			
Youth unemployment	Review	Cllr Jackson	To include graduates as well as school leavers. Consideration of arts and cultural industries as career path.
Post-16 attainment	Review	Cllr Whitelock	Consider including role and quality of careers service in scope.
Co-regulation and accountability of registered housing providers	Review	Cllr Islam	To include scrutiny of new processes for tenants complaints and support for councillors around these.
Supporting the third sector – transparency and value for money in allocation of mainstream grants	Review	Cllr Uddin	
Challenge sessions and public engagement events			
Impact of welfare reform	Scrutiny of task group approach and challenge session on identified gaps	Cllr Jackson/ALL	
Mental ill health and	Public challenge	Cllr Islam/Cllr	Aim is to raise awareness of issue, and find solutions.

housing need	session	Saunders	
Crime and enforcement	Public challenge session	Cllr Gardiner	To gather public view on crime and enforcement performance issues.
Scrutiny spotlights at OSC			
Strengthening local democracy	Presentation by Isabella Freeman/Louise Stamp	Cllr Jackson/Cllr Archer	Presentation on postal vote refresh, annual canvass, individual voter registration
Street cleanliness and recycling	Gathering data and spotlight at committee meeting	Cllr Gardiner	Comparing resident views with performance data.
Policing	Presentation on changes to Police commissioning and spotlight on Borough Commander	Cllr Gardiner	Andy Bamber presenting on changes at July 3 rd meeting. Borough Commander to be invited to attend OSC in autumn 2012.
Scrutiny lead to engage through one to one discussion with Corporate Directors			
Housing Strategy	Scrutiny lead to focus on, and presentations at committee	Cllr Islam	To understand and contribute to development of strategy. Highlight any issues and concerns to committee.
DWP Work Programme performance	Scrutiny lead to follow up	Cllr Islam	Consider collaboration with other local authorities. Getting data on Work Programme a national issue.
New partnership structures and the role of the Councillor Call for Action	Scrutiny lead to follow up	Cllr Jackson	Links to the scrutiny review of community leadership led by Cllr Jackson in 09-10.
Prostitution –	Scrutiny lead to	Cllr Gardiner	

effectiveness of new partnership approach	follow up		
Role of the Chief Executive in a mayoral system	Scrutiny lead to follow up with Monitoring Officer	Cllr Archer	
Promoting cycling and cycle safety	Scrutiny lead to follow up	Cllr Jackson	Consider take-up of Barclays cycle hire scheme in borough.
Allocation of assets for community use	Scrutiny lead to follow up	Cllr Islam	

