

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

13th March 2017



Report of: Shahzia Daya, Service Director: Legal and Democratic Services

Title: Scrutiny Work Programme – 2016/17

Ward: City Wide

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Recommendation

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) are asked to note the Scrutiny work programme attached as appendix A.

Summary

This report provides details of the work programme 2016/17 that was unanimously agreed by the Scrutiny councillors at the work planning workshop on the 9th September 2016.

The significant issues in the report are:

As the parent committee with overall responsibility for scrutiny, the OSMB will regularly receive the programme. The work programme shows details for each Commission;

- Overview and Scrutiny Management Board
- Resources
- Place
- People
- Neighbourhoods.



Policy

1. Under the Local Government Act 2000, Bristol City Council is required to establish an Overview and Scrutiny function.
- 1.1. Councillors from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) are responsible for agreeing a single Overview and Scrutiny work programme at the start of the Municipal Year

Consultation

Internal

2. The work programme was discussed and agreed by the Scrutiny Members at the workshop.
- 2.1 The Mayor and Cabinet Members attended the workshop. The Mayor presented a number of priorities areas to be considered for the work programme and the Cabinet Members participated in the discussions.

External

3. The People Scrutiny Commission has the statutory responsibility for health scrutiny and therefore colleagues from the Bristol Clinical Commissioning Group were invited to participate in the workshop discussion.
- 3.1 Items suggested by the Bristol Youth Council (BYC) have been incorporated into the work programme

Context

4. At the Scrutiny workshop on the 9th September 16 Members were presented with a range of potential scrutiny items and a variety of background information. Members discussed and created a work programme, supported by senior officers from each directorate and scrutiny policy advisors.
- 4.1 Scrutiny Chairs can agree necessary changes to individual work programmes when required. All amendments will be recorded and presented to OSMB. OSMB retain overarching responsibility for the work programme.

Proposal

5. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) are asked to note
 - a) The Scrutiny work programme attached as appendix A
- 5.1 The work programme will be presented to OSMB at regular intervals.

Other Options Considered

6. Not applicable.

Risk Assessment

7. Overview and Scrutiny plays a pivotal role in delivering local accountability. It is therefore essential to ensure there are effective overview and scrutiny arrangements in Bristol which can contribute positively to good governance, as well as potentially increase public confidence and involvement in the democratic process.

Public Sector Equality Duties

- 8a) Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following “protected characteristics”: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:
- i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
 - ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to -
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);
 - encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
 - iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.
- 8b) The Scrutiny function plays an important part in assisting the Council in meeting its public sector equality duties and ensuring that the views of different communities and members of the public are taken into account in the development and delivery of services. Scrutiny work streams need to ensure that assessments of equalities impacts are an integral part of their work both in terms of scoping topics, gathering evidence and formulating recommendations.

Legal and Resource Implications

Legal

9. Legal Services have been involved in the formulation of the strategic priorities that will form

the basis of the work programme. They will continue to be consulted as appropriate.

Financial

(a) Revenue

10. Not applicable

(b) Capital

10.1 Not applicable

Land

11. Not applicable

Personnel

12. Not applicable.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Work programme

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers: None.