

### **Brent Council Constitution**

#### **Part 5 (Excerpt), Page 19**

### **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

#### Membership

- The committee is comprised of 8 councillors.
- None of the members shall be members of the Executive.
- The Chair (and Vice Chair) shall be appointed by the Council in accordance with Standing Orders.
- The Chair shall be a member of the Opposition.

#### Terms of reference

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee shall perform the following functions, either directly or through its sub-Committees. These functions are subject to the limitations set out below.

1. To scrutinise the decisions made or other action taken in connection with the discharge of any of the authority's Executive functions.
2. To scrutinise the performance of the Executive, both in relation to individual decisions and over a period of time.
3. To review and scrutinise the decisions and performance of the Council.
4. To assist the Council and the Executive in the development of the Authority's Policy Framework and Budget by in-depth analysis of policy issues.
5. To conduct research and community and other consultation, in the analysis of policy issues and possible options.
6. To consider and recommend mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options.
7. To consult with external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by partnership and collaborative working.
8. To review the performance of partners and other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by requesting them to address the Overview and Scrutiny Committee about their activities and performance.
9. To carry out Best Value reviews if requested to do so by the Executive.

10. To review the decisions and performance of the Executive and other parts of the Council and to make reports and/or recommendations to the Council in connection with the discharge of Council functions and to the Executive in connection with the discharge of Executive functions, or to their respective committees or sub-committees as the case may be.

11. To make reports and/or recommendations to the Council and/or the Executive or their committees or sub-committees on matters which affect the Council's area or the inhabitants of that area.

12. To agree its annual work programme and that of its sub-committees and to recommend these (along with that of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee), to Full Council.

13. To exercise overall responsibility for any finances and resources made available to it, and to ensure a proper distribution of resources between itself, its sub-committees, and the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

14. To report annually to Full Council on its workings and the workings of its subcommittees and the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate.

15. To establish Task Groups.

16. To appoint to sub-committees.

17. If necessary, to carry out any function of any of its sub-committees.

18. To perform any other functions allocated to Overview and Scrutiny Committees under any legislation, including any Police and Justice Act which may be enacted by Parliament.

19. To co-ordinate the work of, and resolve any disputes between, the sub-Committees, the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee and/or the task groups.

20. To act as the primary point of contact between the Executive and the Overview and Scrutiny structure.

### Limitations

(a) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its sub-committees will not normally, and not without special reason, scrutinise decisions made in respect of matters concerning individual applications for consent, permission, approval or grants, particularly individual decisions on planning, licensing, registration, etc.

(b) The Overview & Scrutiny Committee may only consider matters relating to school education in so far as is necessary to enable it to properly consider an issue or matter relating to some other function or functions of the Council, including the overall direction and/or performance of the Council.

## **HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE**

### Membership

- The sub-committee is comprised of 8 councillors.
- None of the members shall be members of the Executive.
- The Chair (and Vice Chair) shall be appointed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in accordance with Standing Orders.

### Terms of reference

To carry out all or any of the functions of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in relation to health matters and to review the performance or general activities of health providers in the area.