



**One Council  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
13 October 2010

**Report from the Director of  
Policy & Regeneration**

Wards Affected:  
ALL

**One Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work  
Programme**

**1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 This report sets out a list of options for the One Council Overview & Scrutiny Committee work programme. This list includes issues raised by members at the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2010, the results of a survey of all members undertaken in June 2010 and the results of the One Community Many Voices consultation event on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

**2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That Members discuss and agree a work programme for the One Council Overview & Scrutiny 2010/11

**3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 A well planned work programme is a critical component of a successful overview & scrutiny function. A programme of carefully selected topics can help engage the public, connect with the council's priorities, community concerns, and has the potential to add value to the work of the council. It is therefore important that this committee's work programme is developed and agreed by its members.
- 3.2 The committee can scrutinise different subject areas in different ways depending on the subject size and the depth of investigation required. This can be done by in depth task groups, issue specific meetings, or short discrete agenda items. In all cases the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the power to require the attendance of the council's Executive and officers to answer questions at their meetings. The Local Government and Public

Involvement in Health Act 2007 also gave overview and scrutiny committees power to require information from 'relevant partner organisations'.

3.3 It is possible that the committee will have more subject areas that it would like to consider than time and resources available. To help prioritise the committee should consider the following criteria:

- Whether overview and scrutiny investigation will lead to an effective outcome / impact
- The degree of fit with corporate or community strategy priorities
- Public concern
- Stakeholder or partner concern
- Scope for efficiency gains
- Whether it duplicates other work?
- Time and resources

3.4 To help the committee put together its work programme for 2010/11 a survey of all members was conducted in June 2010. In addition a consultation event One Community Many Voices was held on 28<sup>th</sup> September to launch the new overview & scrutiny structure and to seek suggestions from a wide range of people. The list attached at appendix A includes the outcomes of these consultation as well as suggestions made by members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee in 28<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

3.4 The committee will also need to follow up on the recommendations made via task groups completed in the last municipal year. These are:

- The Climate Change task group
- Transition services task group

3.6 Committee work programming is an on-going process and members are strongly encouraged to suggest items for review as and when they arise. Suggestions can come from;

- Ward issues that are also relevant across the borough,
- The local impact of a major national issue, for example the concerns about the impact on services of the economic climate
- Members of the public.

## **5.0 Financial Implications**

51 None

## **6.0 Legal Implications**

6.1 None

## **7.0 Diversity Implications**

7.1 None

**8.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)**

8.1 None

**Contact Officers**

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