



Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

20 July 2016

Report from the Director of Performance, Policy and Partnerships

For information

Wards affected: ALL

Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee's Annual Work Programme 2016-17

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the scope of the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee's draft work programme for the next municipal year 2016-17. The work programme covers a broad range of items and policy areas across housing, health, children's services, adult social care and public health and was selected by members of the committee based on criteria for effective scrutiny. It also sets out the remit for the committee and its responsibilities for scrutiny.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to discuss and agree the report and the work programme set out in Appendix 1.

3.0 Background

In March 2016 Full Council endorsed a proposal to adopt a new model for scrutiny and rather than one have two committees: Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee and a Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee. This is to ensure a stronger, more joined-up approach which has more impact on the quality of life of Brent residents, but retains a focus on specialised areas. Despite having two committees, there will be some areas such as scrutiny of the annual Budget in which members of the two committees will work together.

- 3.1 The purpose of the committee is to hold the Cabinet to account for its decisions, support policy development and provide scrutiny of external public bodies and services, including education, health and other partners as specified by the Localism Act 2011. It will also co-ordinate work with other local bodies which have scrutiny functions.
- 3.7 Scrutiny is a member-led process which looks at the performance of Brent Council and other organisations in the borough to ensure that they deliver
-

good quality services to local residents. The role is to challenge role effectively and the committee endorses the principles of effective scrutiny which have been developed by the Centre for Public Scrutiny. They are to provide a 'critical friend' challenge to Cabinet, be independent-minded, drive improvement in public services, and finally to provide a voice for concerns of the public and Brent's communities. The committee sets out to do this in a constructive way.

3.0 Remit

- 3.1 The Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee's remit is to scrutinise a broad range of services provided by the local authority including housing, public health, adult social care, children's services, cultural services, wellbeing and leisure as well as scrutiny of Brent's health partners in the NHS. Its remit covers the portfolio areas of the Cabinet Member for Housing, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and the Cabinet Member for Community and Wellbeing.
- 3.2 Under Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 local authorities are required to appoint at least one committee to provide overview and scrutiny. The Health and Social Care Act 2001 empowers local authorities to review and scrutinise matters relating to health and the NHS in their area. Therefore, the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee serves as Brent's statutory health scrutiny committee. Its remit includes scrutinising Brent Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS England, NHS Property Services, London North West London Health Care NHS Trust and Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust.
- 3.3 Two members of Brent Council, including the committee chair, sits on the North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee which examines Shaping a Healthier Future alongside elected members from six other local authorities in north-west London, including Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham, Harrow, Hounslow, Kensington and Chelsea, Richmond and Westminster.
- 3.4 The committee is also responsible for scrutinising the partnership work of Brent's Children's Trust and of the Brent Local Safeguarding Children's Board and the Brent Safeguarding Adults Board and receives their annual reports each year.

4.0 How scrutiny works

- 4.1 The committee will set up three task groups a year. They are an intensive and effective tool and offer members the opportunity to collate and assess evidence and make recommendations to Cabinet or partner organisations based on a substantial amount of collected evidence. The recommendations and evidence are written up in a report, which is a substantial document. Scoping papers, membership and terms of reference for task groups will be agreed by a committee report and they will focus on particular topics or issues of local concern. Task groups are not be limited to the members of the Committees.
-

4.2 Committee will hear a number of reports in its remit from which it can make recommendations to Cabinet. At committee there are in effect two types of approach to scrutiny. Firstly, pre-decision scrutiny where scrutiny examines the Cabinet's policies, objectives and programmes in order to help inform their development before they agreed. Pre-decision items are often identified through the forward plan. Secondly, there is post-decision scrutiny in which scrutiny examines the implementation of a Cabinet policy in terms of service delivery. This enables the Cabinet to review the effectiveness of its decision-making, helping it recognise any unforeseen consequences and assisting it in revising its policy and aims. However, committee is not limited to pre-decision and post-decision of Cabinet policy.

4.3 The Local Government Act 2000 requires every local authority to have a mechanism which allows for executive decisions made but not yet implemented to be 'called in' for consideration by scrutiny. Call-in is intended to be used in exceptional circumstances for decisions believed to be contrary to the authority's decision-making principles. Through the process of 'call-in' decisions can be considered by the Scrutiny Committees or scrutiny panel if deemed more appropriate. The remit of the committee's call-in is set out in 3.1.

4.4 A call in request can be made by the scrutiny committees; or if five non-Cabinet members of the council make a request. A call in request must be submitted within 5 days of the relevant decision being made or in the case of a decision made by officers within 5 days of the date on which the record of the decision is made publicly available in accordance with the Access to Information Rules.

5.0 2016-17 work programme

5.1 In order to be able to scrutinise effectively and to co-ordinate its activities with the Cabinet's forward plan of decision-making the committee has agreed its own work programme for 2016-17. These include the items it will discuss at committee and its three task groups for the municipal year. However, some committee time has been kept back to give the committee flexibility to be able to look at issues which might arise at very short notice. Therefore, the work programme may change to some extent.

5.2 To develop its work programme the members have decided on items which best suit the criteria for effective scrutiny in Brent. It is up to the committee to select the items for inclusion in its work programme, however ideas were brought together from a number of sources to assist members in their choices.

5.3 Ideas included suggestions from service areas, external inspections, performance and budget monitoring information, the Cabinet forward plan, consultation from the NHS about service changes. There are also a number of statutory items which have to be on the committee's work programme such as major reconfiguration of local health services and educational achievement.

5.4 Ideas and suggestions were judged against key criteria for inclusion in the scrutiny committee's work programme. These include:

- clear alignment with priorities set out in the Borough Plan and Brent 2020 Vision.
- outcomes and benefits which can be delivered by the intervention of scrutiny.
- is there a major council policy or strategy to be agreed by the Cabinet seeking contribution from scrutiny.
- subject is related to underperformance of a service where the intervention of scrutiny would enable an improvement in performance.
- the issue being scrutinised can directly be influenced by the actions of the council – i.e. is not a review of national policy over which the council is unlikely to be able to exert any influence.
- There is clear evidence that the subject is of significant public concern and merits the consideration of scrutiny.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

6.0 Legal Implications

6.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

7.0 Diversity Implications

7.1 There are no diversity implications immediately arising from this report.

Background Papers

None

Contact Officers

Pascoe Sawyers, Head of Strategy and Partnerships, 020 8937 1045
poascoe.sawyers@brent.gov.uk

PETER GADSDON
Director of Performance, Policy and Partnerships

**APPENDIX 1:
Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2016-17
20 July 2016**

Agenda	Item	Objectives for scrutiny	Cabinet Member/Member	Brent Council/Partner organisations
1.	Impact of the selective and additional landlord licensing schemes	Post-decision scrutiny on implementation of the landlord licensing schemes and impact on improving standards in private rented sector.	Cllr Harbi Farah, Cabinet Member for Housing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing. Jon Lloyd-Owen, Operational Director Housing and Culture Spencer Randolph, Head of Private Housing Services.
2.	Task Group report on Brent's housing associations	To discuss and agree report from Cllr Tom Miller's task group about housing associations in Brent.	Cllr Tom Miller Cllr Harbi Farah, Lead Member for Housing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing. Jon Lloyd-Owen, Operational Director Housing and Culture
3.	Update report on the implementation of an Ethical Lettings Agency	Post-decision scrutiny on implementing Ethical Lettings Agency agreed by Cabinet in July 2015.	Cllr Harbi Farah, Lead Member for Housing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing. Jon Lloyd-Owen, Operational Director Housing and Culture
4.	Scrutiny 2015-16 annual report	To agree Scrutiny's annual report.	Cllr Matt Kelcher Chair Scrutiny Committee	Peter Gadsdon, Director Performance Policy and Partnerships
5.	Scrutiny 2016-17 work programme	To agree Scrutiny committee's work programme for 2016-17.	Cllr Ketan Sheth Chair Scrutiny Committee	Peter Gadsdon, Director Performance Policy and Partnerships

20 September 2016

Agenda	Item	Objectives for scrutiny	Cabinet Member/Member	Brent Council/Partner organisations
1.	The future of Brent Housing Partnership	Pre-decision scrutiny before Cabinet report on Brent Housing Partnership.	Cllr Harbi Farah, Cabinet Member for Housing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing. Jon Lloyd-Owen, Operational Director Housing and Culture
2.	Brent Local Safeguarding Board 2015-16 report	Receive the report. Review Brent's arrangements for safeguarding children and young people	Cllr Wilhelmina Mitchell-Murray, Cabinet Member Children and Young People	Mike Howard, Independent Chair, Brent Local Safeguarding Children's Board
3.	Brent Adult Safeguarding Report 2015-16	Receive the report. Review Brent's arrangements for safeguarding older people.	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Michael Preston-Shoot, Independent Chair Brent Safeguarding Adults' Board
4.	Task Group scoping paper Signs of Safety	Agree task group scoping paper and TOR.	Cllr Ketan Sheth, Chair Scrutiny Committee	Peter Gadsdon, Director Performance Policy and Partnerships

23 November 2016

Agenda	Item	Objectives for scrutiny	Cabinet Member/Member	Brent Council/Partner organisations
1.	NHS estate in Brent	Evaluate impact of changes by NHS Property Services	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	NHS Property Services Brent CCG
2.	Community Pharmacies	Evaluate effect on community pharmacies of government changes from 2015.	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	NHS England Local Pharmaceutical Committee
3.	Task Group report Signs of Safety	Receive task group report on Signs of Safety	Cllr Wilhelmina Mitchell- Murray, Cabinet Member Children and Young People Task group chair	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director Children and Young People
4.	Task Group scoping paper CAMHS	To agree the scoping paper for CAMHS task group and TOR.	Task group chair	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director Children and Young People Brent CCG

1 February 2017

Agenda	Item	Objectives for scrutiny	Cabinet Member/Member	Brent Council/Partner organisations
1.	New Accommodation for Independent Living (NAIL) project	Update on implementation of NAIL project.	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing Dr Melanie Smith, Director of Public Health Brent CCG
2.	Air quality and public health	Evaluation of air quality and public health.	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing Dr Melanie Smith, Director of Public Health Brent CCG
3.	Task Group report CAMHS	Receive report from task group and discuss recommendations for Cabinet.	Cllr Wilhelmina Mitchell-Murray Task group chair	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director Children and Young People
4.	Task group scoping paper children's oral health	Agree scoping paper for task group and TOR	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing Task group chair	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing

29 March 2017

Agenda	Item	Objectives for scrutiny	Cabinet Member/Member	Brent Council/Partner organisations
1.	School Annual Standards and Achievement report	Receive report. Examine reasons for underachievement in Brent's schools among particular groups.	Cllr Wilhelmina Mitchell-Murray, Cabinet Member Children and Young People	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director Children and Young People
2.	Special educational needs (SEN)	Update and evaluation of SEN provision.	Cllr Wilhelmina Mitchell-Murray, Cabinet Member Children and Young People	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director Children and Young People

9 May 2017

Agenda Rank	Item	Objectives for scrutiny	Cabinet Member/Member	Brent Council/Partner organisations
1.	Brent's volunteer libraries	Volunteer libraries and draft cultural strategy.	Cllr Michael Pavey, Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing. Jon Lloyd-Owen, Operational Director Housing and Culture
2.	Primary Care Transformation	Review implications of primary care transformation for Brent	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Brent CCG
3.	Task group report children's oral health	Receive report from task group and discuss recommendations for Cabinet.	Task group chair Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing Dr Melanie Smith Director of Public Health