

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 24 MARCH 2022

Report title: Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2021/22

Wards: All

Portfolio: Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance: Councillor Andy Wilson

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Report summary

This report sets out the committee's draft work programme, provides an update on and record of actions or recommendations arising from previous meetings, and provides councillors with information relevant to the management of the committee.

Finance summary

There are no additional capital or revenue implications arising as a direct result of this report. The work programme will be undertaken within the existing budget provision for Scrutiny within Legal and Governance.

Recommendations

1. That the work programme as drafted and the status of actions (Appendix 1) be noted.
2. That members suggest items for future scrutiny for the 2022/23 municipal year.

1. Context

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) is responsible for overseeing and scrutinising the whole range of the Authority's functions and responsibilities, as well as other public service providers' work and its impact on the local community. The committee's remit extends to all matters which impact on the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of those who live, work, study or use services in the borough.
- 1.2 OSC also exercises the council's statutory scrutiny functions in relation to health, and crime and disorder. The committee has responsibility for the review and scrutiny of matters relating to the planning, provision and operation of health and related services in Lambeth (and any substantial variation thereof) in accordance with the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and relevant regulations. The committee is also the borough's designated 'Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee' in accordance with the Police and Justice Act 2006 and has responsibility for scrutinising the work of the Safer Lambeth Partnership.
- 1.3 At the AGM on 21 April 2021, Council agreed the committee membership and meeting dates for the 2021/22 municipal year. Further information can be found on the Council's website at: <http://moderngov.lambeth.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=113>
- 1.4 The Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee (CSSC) established in April 2017 is continuing in 2021/22 and is scheduled to meet three times over the course of the year, a reduction in meetings from previous years. Cllr Joshua Lindsey, the Chair of CSSC, also sits on OSC in order to ensure coordination of work between the two bodies, eliminate any potential duplication and feed in findings from CSSC into OSC, and vice versa, where relevant.
- 1.5 In addition, a new Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee (HSSC) is being established this municipal year with the remit to scrutinise the full range of housing management services which fall under the control of the Director of Housing, together with Private Sector Enforcement and Regulation. HSSC is chaired by Cllr Mary Atkins, OSC Vice Chair.

2. Proposal and Reasons

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is invited to consider its work programme at each meeting. Although some flexibility needs to be retained to enable items to be added at relatively short notice, planning the committee's work programme assists in the commissioning of reports and helps to ensure that planned work is considered in a timely manner.
- 2.2 The committee's draft work programme and action monitoring table are attached at Appendix 1. The work programme is updated following completion of any actions or recommendations arising or timetabling of new items. Only those actions which are amber or red rated from the 2020/21 round of meetings are included. The work programme should be monitored at each meeting to ensure that previous actions and requests have been completed in full.
- 2.3 Arrangements for meetings for the 2022/23 municipal year are yet to be confirmed but suggested areas for future scrutiny are set out in the appendix to this report, taking into account the committee's previous work and issues identified.

Scrutiny Commissions

- 2.4 All proposals for scrutiny commissions should be submitted to the Scrutiny Team and will be considered by the OSC Chair and Vice Chairs in the first instance. Councillors submitting a proposal for a commission are asked to provide outline information using the commission scoping

template. Commissions can only be progressed when adequate resource has become available in the Democratic Services Team. The table included in Appendix 1 summarises the status of all current commissions.

- 2.5 In December 2020 OSC agreed to establish a commission on Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) – specifically the processes used to introduce and evaluate such emergency measures and identifying lessons for future such situations. The commission met on 17 December 2020 to refine its terms of reference and agree an outline work plan and has since met a further seven times, taking evidence from the Deputy Leader of the Council (Sustainable Transport, Environment and Clean Air) and officers regarding the emergency LTN rollout in Lambeth; considering a variety of research papers, articles and reports on LTNs more widely; examining common themes in objections to LTN schemes; and hearing from two university professors with specialisms in active travel, and attitudes and behaviour change in relation to climate change initiatives. The commission’s draft report was agreed at the October meeting and was approved, along with the action plan, at Cabinet on 22 November 2021.

Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Our Healthier South East London JHOSC

- 2.6 Our Healthier South East London (OHSEL) Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) comprises representatives of the six boroughs across South East London - the London Boroughs of Bromley, Bexley, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark and the Royal Borough of Greenwich. The Joint Committee’s role is to scrutinise health services across South East London, in particular the proposals and consultation processes of the NHS Our Healthier South East London programme to ensure that improved, safe and sustainable health services are delivered across the region. The Council’s representatives are currently Cllr Marianna Masters, who is Vice Chair of the JHOSC, and Cllr Rezina Chowdhury. The first meeting of the municipal year took place online (informally) on 30 June 2021. Further information on the committee’s work can be found at: <https://cde.bromley.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=714> .

Lambeth Hospital JHOSC

- 2.7 In late 2019 a service change proposal was received from NHS Lambeth Clinical Commissioning Group and their provider, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust (SLaM) regarding the potential reconfiguration of mental health inpatient services at Lambeth Hospital; specifically the transfer of one psychiatric intensive care unit (PICU) and four acute wards to a new facility on the Maudsley Hospital site, located in the London Borough of Southwark. Following conversations with commissioners and colleagues in Southwark it was decided that this proposal amounted to a substantial reconfiguration proposal covering more than one local authority area (in accordance with the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013) and, as such, a JHOSC has been established between the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark to scrutinise the plans.
- 2.8 This JHOSC held its first meeting on 6 February 2020, during which the Terms of Reference and consultation plans were approved. Last year, the committee conducted a virtual tour of the Lambeth Hospital site and a fly-through of Douglas Bennett House, which will be built on the Maudsley Hospital site. In addition to the tour, information was provided on the need for change while updates were provided on the consultation process and the timeframe for decision making.
- 2.9 The consultation ran from 4 March until 31 May and the JHOSC met on 28 May 2020 to consider, and respond to, the proposals in more detail. A meeting on 30 June allowed further scrutiny, and recommendations to be made, before the South East London Clinical Commissioning Group made its final decision to relocate four acute wards and the Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) from

Lambeth Hospital to the Maudsley site. These proposals were supported by the JHOSC. However, an additional meeting was held in January 2021 to ensure monitoring of progress. Moving forwards, the Committee will continue to be briefed on developments informally and, if required, will hold further meetings ahead of the opening of Douglas Bennett House in early 2023.

- 2.10 The Council's representatives are Cllr Marianna Masters, the Chair, Cllr Joshua Lindsey and Cllr Rezina Chowdhury.

Borough Plan

- 2.11 Lambeth's Borough Plan sets out the outcomes and objectives that the Council is trying to achieve; these can be a useful tool for scrutiny members in their holding to account role; and, to support the consideration, identification, and prioritisation of work programme items. The Borough Plan is based around five big ambitions:
- a. enable sustainable growth and investment;
 - b. increase community resilience;
 - c. promote care and independence by reforming services;
 - d. make Lambeth a place where people want to live, work and invest; and,
 - e. be passionate about equality, strengthening diversity, and delivering inclusion.

Forward Plan

- 2.12 The Forward Plan lists all key decisions that the Council (including the Health and Wellbeing Board) will take over the coming months. A key decision is defined as an executive decision which will:
- (1) Require an amendment to the Community Plan Outcomes Framework or require a recommendation to Council to amend the Budget and Policy Framework; and/or
 - (2) Result in the local authority incurring expenditure, raising income or making savings in excess of £500,000; and/or
 - (3) Have a significant impact on:
 - (a) communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in Lambeth; or
 - (b) wellbeing of the community or the quality of service provided to a significant number of people living or working in an area; or,
 - (c) communities of interest

- 2.13 The plan is therefore a useful tool for identifying forthcoming decisions where the committee might add value. The Forward Plan can be found at:

<https://moderngov.lambeth.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RD=0&RPId=137&bcr=1>

3. Finance

- 3.1 There are no additional capital or revenue implications arising as a direct result of this report. The work programme will be undertaken within the existing budget provision for Scrutiny within Legal and Governance.

4. Legal and Democracy

- 4.1 There are no legal implications, but advice on specific work programme items may be provided in the future.
- 4.2 There are no further democratic implications arising from this report.

5. Consultation and co-production

- 5.1 All members of the council are entitled to suggest items for scrutiny work programmes in accordance with the council's scrutiny procedure rules (Constitution Part 3, Section 6). Suggestions are also invited specifically from scrutiny members as part of their community leadership role and from members of the public. The council's website includes a form for the submission of suggestions and for public notice questions.

6. Risk management

- 6.1 None.

7. Equalities impact assessment

- 7.1 An equalities impact assessment of the work programme has not been undertaken. Reports commissioned by the committee will be expected to address any equalities issues. Any recommendations arising from commissions will have equalities implications considered at the drafting stage.

8. Community safety

- 8.1 None.

9. Organisational implications

- 9.1 None.

10. Timetable for implementation

- 10.1 See Appendix 1.

Audit Trail

Name/Position	Lambeth directorate/ department or partner	Date Sent	Date Received	Comments in para:
Hamant Bharadia, Assistant Director Strategic Finance	Finance and Investment			
Andrew Pavlou, Legal Services	Legal and Governance			
Maria Burton, Democratic Services	Legal and Governance	22.02.22	22.02.22	

Report History

Original discussion with Cabinet Member	N/A
Report deadline	11.03.22
Date final report sent	11.03.22
Part II Exempt from Disclosure/confidential accompanying report?	No
Key decision report	No
Date first appeared on forward plan	N/A
Key decision reasons	N/A
Background information	Future Lambeth: Our Borough Plan 2016-2021 Forward Plan of Key Decisions Lambeth Council Constitution 09.06.21
Appendices	Appendix 1: OSC Work Programme 2021/22