

**Report of the Director of Human Resources,  
Performance and Communications  
to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee  
on Tuesday 7th June 2016**

**Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) Work Programme 2016/17**

**1.0 Introduction & Background**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline Barnsley Council's Overview and Scrutiny arrangements and to provide information for discussion to develop the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's (OSC) work programme for 2016/17.
- 1.2 In the current climate, the need for sound effective decision making has never been more important. Elected Members who sit on Barnsley's scrutiny committees have a vital role to play as 'scrutineers', providing a valid mechanism of challenge to monitor decision making, tackle poor performance and to ensure value for money is delivered by the Council and its partners.

**2.0 Barnsley's Scrutiny Arrangements**

- 2.1 Due to a pending review, the Council's Safeguarding Scrutiny Committee has not been appointed to for the 2016/17 Municipal Year; however the work of that committee will be subsumed into the work of the OSC. Dates scheduled for the Safeguarding Scrutiny Committee in the Council diary will be used for additional OSC meetings; however these will have a safeguarding topic focus.
- 2.2 The OSC will continue to have three Member-led Task & Finish Groups (TFGs) which will carry out in-depth investigations. These groups will comprise of 6-8 Members from the OSC who opt to participate in these groups.
- 2.3 Area Councils have also had an increasing performance monitoring role. This has been done through performance monitoring the services and contracts that are commissioned by the Area Councils and also to, where appropriate, performance monitor area-based and borough-wide services provided locally.

**3.0 Work Programme Development Considerations**

- 3.1 It is important that the Scrutiny work programme is forward planned to identify key issues requiring scrutiny, as well as being reactive and allowing for the work programme to evolve should issues require scrutiny at short-notice. Over the next municipal year, 12 OSC meetings will be held, 6 of which will have a safeguarding topic focus. The scrutiny work programme will be updated on an ongoing basis to allow for the timely discussion of topics. Each agenda usually contains 1 or 2 topics for consideration, the scope of which will be discussed in more detail as appropriate.
- 3.2 It has previously been agreed that the OSC would receive a copy of the Council's Quarterly Corporate Plan Performance Report, which contributes to the reactive work programme of the OSC by the timely identification of areas requiring scrutiny. Both internal and external providers can be invited to discuss performance issues around any areas identified by the OSC.

3.3 As Corporate Parenting is the responsibility of all Members, it was agreed at the meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015 that the Corporate Parenting Panel Annual report would be considered by the OSC on an annual basis. In addition, it is recommended that educational attainment across the Borough is discussed on an annual basis which would include specific information on Looked After Children. Also, in relation to Safeguarding, it is recommended that annually, both the Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) annual report and Barnsley Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) annual report are considered. Therefore, all these issues have been scheduled into the work programme below.

3.4 The table below shows the proposed OSC meetings for the 2016/17 Municipal Year:

<b>Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC)</b>	
<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>
2016/17 Municipal Year	
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2016	1. Barnsley GP Services 2. Scrutiny Work Programme 2016-17
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2016 (safeguarding topic focus)	1. Adult Social Care Target Operating Model (TOM)
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2016	1. Q4 Corporate Plan Performance Report 2015/16 2. Corporate Parenting Panel Annual Report
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 (safeguarding topic focus)	1. Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2015-16
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2016	1. Q1 Corporate Plan Performance Report 2016/17 2. ?
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2016 (safeguarding topic focus)	1. Barnsley Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2015-16
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2016	1. Educational achievement across the Borough as well as a specific report on Looked After Children 2. Q2 Corporate Plan Performance Report 2016/17
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2017 (safeguarding topic focus)	1. Support to families in Barnsley including the Troubled Families Programme and changes from Children's to Family Centres. 2. Update on the 0-19 Service
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	1. Update on the Devolution Deal 2. ?
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2017 (safeguarding topic focus)	1. Update regarding licensing training and safeguarding 2.
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	1. Q3 Corporate Plan Performance Report 2016/17 2. ?
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2017 (safeguarding topic focus)	1. CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) (12 months on)
2017/18 Municipal Year	
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	1. Q4 Corporate Plan Performance Report 2016/17 2. Scrutiny Work Programme 2017-18

- 3.5 As highlighted previously, in addition to the Scrutiny Committees, there are 3 Task and Finish Groups (TFGs) which can undertake in-depth investigations into topics. During 2015/16, the Work Readiness TFG specifically looked at what services and initiatives are available with regards to preparing adults to be 'work ready' and how successful they are. Following this investigation, Members recommended a TFG during the 2016/17 municipal year considers how Barnsley can increase the availability of higher level skills and jobs. The Work Readiness TFG also recommended that the OSC facilitates consideration of BMBC's Annual Adult Skills and Community Learning Service Self Assessment Review (SAR) which could be considered by this newly proposed TFG for this year.
- 3.6 As a result of the work of the Fly-Tipping TFG during 2015/16 an officer action group has been formed to implement and further develop the action plan recommendations. Therefore it is suggested that the Fly-Tipping TFG continues during 2016/17 to monitor the implementation of the action plan, facilitates the Elected Member actions identified, as well as undertake further investigation of services being delivered.
- 3.7 The OSC has statutory powers to investigate the Council's activities around flood risk management, however this has not been considered for some time. Therefore, as a result of this and recent problems experienced around the country, it is recommended that a TFG undertakes a detailed investigation into the Council's Flooding Resilience.
- 3.8 The recommended topics for the Scrutiny TFGs for 2016/17 would therefore be as follows:

<b>Scrutiny Task and Finish Groups (TFGs)</b>
1. Higher Level Skills and Jobs
2. Fly Tipping
3. Flooding Resilience

- 3.9 In addition to the topics identified above, other issues / services which Members may wish to consider are listed below. These are a combination of topics which have either been suggested by Members, are highlighted in the Council's Forward Plan of key decisions or are issues / services which have not been covered for some time:
- Health and Social Care Integration: The Local Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) – newly being developed across the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw area alongside other footprints identified across England to ensure that health and care services are built around the needs of the local population and are sustainable over the next 5 years.
  - Community Safety Partnership / Neighbourhood Policing / Police non-emergency 101 Number
  - CQC Inspection of South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust which delivers local health services (took place March 2016 - report due during 2016-17)
  - Alcohol Strategy / Substance Misuse / Legal Highs
  - Public Health Strategy 2015-18
  - Men's Health

## **4.0 Today's Meeting**

- 4.1 Today's meeting provides an opportunity for OSC Members to identify areas of concern which impact upon the whole Borough and input into the development of the draft work programme for 2016/17 including topics for the TFGs. This report identifies topics which Members may wish to consider; however during the meeting Members may wish to share other ideas and make recommendations as to what key topics should be covered and why during 2016/17.
- 4.2 Following discussion at the meeting, work will be undertaken to finalise and seek agreement for the work programme.

## **5.0 Background Papers and Useful Links:**

- Proposed Changes to the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee to establish a Safeguarding Scrutiny Committee (Cab.20.5.2015/10):  
<http://edemocracy.barnsley.gov.uk/0xac16000b%20x00585d17>
- Barnsley Council Forward Plan of Key Decisions – published 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016:  
<http://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/mgListPlanItems.aspx?PlanId=130&LLL=0>
- More information about Scrutiny in Barnsley:  
<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/about-us/how-we-work/decision-making-process/overview-and-scrutiny-committee>
- Centre for Public Scrutiny website: <http://www.cfps.org.uk>

## **6.0 Officer Contact:**

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27<sup>th</sup> May 2016