

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

The Role of Scrutiny in Meeting the Public Sector Equality Duty

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a key role to play in ensuring that the Council meets all the statutory duties under the Public Sector Equality Duty of the Equality Act 2010, particularly in ensuring that the authority has due regard to the needs of diverse groups when designing, evaluating and delivering services in order to –

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

In order to do this, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will scrutinise the Council's Equality and Diversity Action Plan and Annual Achievement Report each year to monitor the Authority's performance. The OS Committee will be flexible enough to pick up on issues of inequality, wherever they arise in the Council work programme, or to delegate to individual workstreams for investigation. OSC has a key role in providing a 'critical friend' challenge to the Council's strategic equality objectives and scrutinising performance in delivering those objectives.

In addition, as part of their normal work programme, each workstream will (where relevant and proportionate) -

- request information about the equality impact assessments/analyses that have been undertaken whenever discussing proposals for new policies or future plans, or for current services, to inform their comments on those proposals or services
- examine these assessments/analyses of impact in detail to check if they are robust and have been developed based on strong evidence and appropriate engagement
- question and consider whether appropriate people have been involved and engaged in developing equality objectives and plans, and when assessing the impact of policies and proposals.
- when procurement award criteria and contracts are determined, consider whether or not specific equality stipulations are required
- Scrutiny may also wish to investigate the accessibility of equality and other published documents, asking questions such as –
 - what is done to promote these documents?
 - what languages or formats is the information available in?
 - which documents are most regularly required?
 - how aware are the public of the Authority's equality plans and performance?

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WORK	12 June (Planning)	12 July	26 th July	5 Sept	11 Oct	7 Nov	15 Jan	12 Feb	03 April
Date papers to be with Scrutiny Team		3 rd July	17 th July	24 th August		29 October	4 January	1 February	25 March
Specific Topics:									
Leader/ Cabinet Member			Leader-discussion item	Cabinet Member for Environment-Discussion item	Cabinet Member for Children's Services-Discussion item	Cabinet Member for Finance & Procurement			
Meridian Water								Report	
Pre-Decision scrutiny									
Genotin Road Carpark	Report								
Safeguarding Adults Strategy consultation 2018-23		Report							
Homelessness Strategy						Report			
Customer Experience Strategy				Report					
Budget						Report			
Housing Repairs and Maintenance									
Commercial Strategy					Report				

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WORK	12 June (Planning)	12 July	26 th July	5 Sept	11 Oct	7 Nov	15 Jan	12 Feb	03 April
Work Programme									
Setting the Overview & Scrutiny Annual Work Programme 2018/19	Agree Work Programme and discuss workstreams	Finalise workstreams							
Selection of New Workstreams for 2018/19	Discuss new Workstreams	Finalise new workstreams							

Note: Provisional call-in dates: - 8th November, 6th and 20th December, 15th January, 7th February, 12th and 26th March, 11th April. These dates may also be used for pre-decision scrutiny as necessary. *11th October was originally a provisional call-in date but will now be used for business meeting. Any call-ins received will take precedence at this meeting.

Please note that the above programme may be subject to change during the course of the year