

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes

8 November 2022

Present:

Chair: Councillor Amir Moshenson

Councillors: Dan Anderson
June Baxter
Dean Gilligan
Matthew Goodwin-Freeman

Eden Kulig
Vipin Mithani
Phillip O'Dell
Samir Sumaria

Apologies received: Govind Bharadia

Absent: Harrow Youth Parliament
Representative

Reverend P Reece
Ms M Trivedi

Recommended Items

15. Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2022-2026

The Committee received the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme Report a report of the Acting Corporate Director, Resources which set out scrutiny work programme for 2022-26, as devised by the Scrutiny Leadership Group and provided an outline of the key areas of focus for the scrutiny function until the next whole-borough elections in 2026.

The officer informed Members that Council directorates and NHS partners were asked for advice on scrutiny's proposals for its work programme, on timing, feasibility and approach. As part of the engagement on the draft scrutiny work programme discussions were also held with CSB (Corporate Strategic Board) and DMTs (Directorate Management Teams).

The Scrutiny Leadership Group would provide steer for the work programme and have quarterly reviews to prioritise items and consider emerging topical issues that warranted attention during the course of the year.

The work programme was divided into the following three categories:

- the work Scrutiny Leads could pursue through scrutiny leads responsibilities,
- the reports that could be listed on the agenda of Committee for input
- work areas that warranted more in-depth scrutiny through review work.

The officer informed Members the following review areas had been that identified for immediate start from 2022 to 2024, once the work programme was approved:

- customer experience strategy – immediate start
- childhood immunisations – immediate start
- climate change strategy development - 2023
- enforcement strategy development - 2023
- implementation of the adult social care reform provisions – 2023/24.

The officer suggested that as there were several new Members in the Scrutiny Committee, an induction, or a briefing on the different available approaches in terms of taking identified topic areas forward might be helpful.

Members agreed that induction sessions would prove useful to both old and new Members and expressed a desire for them to be scheduled as soon as possible. The Chair commented that although the Committee Members had gone through an induction session previously, additional sessions would be welcomed.

A Member questioned about the time scales for the Committee's review of the implementation of a new customer experience strategy as stated on page five of the Programme and if scoping meetings would be held before the report was produced.

The officer explained that customer experience strategy reports to Cabinet could be listed on the Committee's agenda for the next meeting for Members' input and scoping would begin once the work programme was approved.

Resolved to RECOMMEND: (to Council)

That the Scrutiny Work Programme 2022-26 be approved and referred to Council for endorsement.