

**REPORT FOR: OVERVIEW AND  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

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**Date of Meeting:** 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012

**Subject:** Scrutiny Work Programme Update

**Responsible Officer:** Alex Dewsnap  
Divisional Director, Partnership  
Development and Performance

**Scrutiny Lead  
Member area:** All

**Exempt:** No

None

**Enclosures:**

**Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations**

This report provides members with an update on the projects currently underway as part of the scrutiny work programme

**Recommendations:**

Councillors are asked to:

- I. Note the progress on the individual projects
- II. Agree proposals for identifying further projects for inclusion in the work programme

## **Section 2 – Report**

A number of detailed scrutiny review projects are currently underway. This report provides members of the Overview and Scrutiny committee with an update on each of these projects.

### **Current Projects**

Three projects are currently underway or are about to commence:

#### **Standing Scrutiny Review of the Budget**

This project includes a number of specific projects including:

- Use of capital funding – a detailed session on this will take place in October
- Housing Revenue Account self financing arrangements – a detailed session on this will take place in October
- Business Rate Retention Scheme for the borough – this will be considered at a meeting in November
- Fees and charges – this will be considered at a meeting in December.

The project is ongoing and there is, therefore, no end date

A report elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting gives further information on the work of this review.

#### **Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Shaping a Healthier Future**

This project is considering, with other boroughs, the implications of proposals to reconfigure health provision in NW London. A special meeting of the Health and Social Care sub committee will take place on 19th September to consider the specific implications of the proposals for Harrow. It is anticipated that the final report from the project will be completed before the end of the year.

#### **Customer Care**

The implementation of this project is anticipated for September, when resources in the scrutiny team are available. The project will be re-launched and is likely to report early in the New Year

The July meeting of the Scrutiny Leadership Group agreed to close the Standing Scrutiny Review of the Better Deal for Residents but to continue to monitor the progress of the T2 programme and reserved the right to consider any specific projects included in the programme which seem appropriate for scrutiny consideration.

A report elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting gives further information.

### **Future Projects**

The Scrutiny Leadership Group meeting in October will prioritise projects for consideration over the next twelve months. All members of the Leadership Group will identify issues of concern, derived from performance information, resident concerns or through their discussions with relevant corporate directors. This list will then be considered against weighted criteria including:

- Cross party engagement achievable among scrutiny Members
- Capacity to influence (add value to decision making)
- Scope to improve financial/service performance
- Community relevance (potential to impact whole borough - demographically or geographically)
- Addresses future policy requirements
- Party political neutrality – especially important. in run up to next election

**Financial Implications**

There are none associated with this report.

**Performance Issues**

There are none associated with this report.

**Environmental Impact**

There is none associated with this report.

**Risk Management Implications**

There are none associated with this report.

**Equalities implications**

An equalities impact assessment has not been undertaken in relation to this report as it makes no proposals with regard to service change

**Corporate Priorities**

All

**Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance**

Not required for this report.

**Section 4 - Contact Details and Background****Papers****Contact:**

Lynne Margetts, Service Manager Scrutiny  
020 8420 9387

**Background Papers:**

None