

REPORT FOR: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting:	20 th September 2012
Subject:	Changes to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Responsible Officer:	Alex Dewsnap, Divisional Director, Partnership Development and Performance Division
Scrutiny Lead Member area:	All
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	None

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report updates the committee on:

- Changes to the areas of responsibility of the Community Health and Well Being and Health scrutiny lead members
- Proposals for representatives of Harrow Youth Parliament to be co-opted onto the Overview and Scrutiny committee

Recommendations:

Members are asked to:

- I. Agree the changes in the scrutiny lead areas;
- II. Request Council to agree to approach Harrow Youth Parliament to send representatives to the committee as a co-opted non-voting member of the committee

Section 2 – Report

Detail

Scrutiny Lead Members

In April 2012 the Scrutiny Leadership Group proposed a change in the scope of the areas considered by the individual sets of Scrutiny Lead Councillors to reflect the new organisational structure of the council. It was anticipated that this would provide a more effective focus for the leads and avoid the necessity to meet with more than one corporate director. However, implementation of the new scopes has proved more problematic than anticipated and thus the Scrutiny Leadership Group has reconsidered the scope, in particular of the Community Health and Well Being and Health leads. It is therefore proposed that the Health leads revert to their previous role and include consideration of health, public health and social care within their responsibilities and that the Community Health and Well Being Leads lose the public health and social care areas from within their brief, focussing on the remaining services included in the remit of the Community Health and Well Being Directorate.

This would mean that the following services are covered by each set of leads:

- **Health and Social Care** – Health services, adult care services, public health
- **Community Health and Well Being** – Community engagement, community cohesion, 3rd sector, housing, sport and leisure. [Note, the previous responsibility for crime and community safety is now covered by the Environment and Enterprise lead councillors.]

Co-options onto the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

In May the Overview and Scrutiny committee agreed the recommendations from the scrutiny review 'Redefining Youth Engagement'. Included in the proposals from this review was the need for the scrutiny function to consider how it might ensure that the views of the borough's young people are incorporated into scrutiny's deliberations. In order to achieve this, the Scrutiny Leadership Group has proposed to set up regular meetings with the Harrow Youth Parliament to share information about the proposed scrutiny work programme and also offer an opportunity to these young people to propose items to be included in the programme and to volunteer to join specific projects.

The Leadership Group has also agreed to offer a non-voting co-opted position on the Overview and Scrutiny committee to Harrow Youth Parliament in order that they can send representatives to the committee as they see appropriate. In order to achieve this, the Overview and Scrutiny committee is required to seek the approval of Full Council and it is recommended that this request is made.

Pending the approval of the Overview and Scrutiny committee and subsequently Full Council, representatives of the Scrutiny Leadership Group will meet with Harrow Youth Parliament to consolidate the arrangements.

Equalities implications

Improving the representation of the borough's young people in the scrutiny function will enhance the challenge that scrutiny can bring to its deliberations.

Corporate Priorities

All

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Not required for this report.

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact:

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Background Papers:

None