
**REPORT FOR: OVERVIEW AND
 SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Date of Meeting:	16 September 2019
Subject:	Draft Scope for the Scrutiny Review of Shared Services
Responsible Officer:	Charlie Stewart - Corporate Director of Resources
Scrutiny Lead Member area:	Councillor Honey Jamie – Resources Councillor Kantilal Rabadia – Resources
Exempt:	No
Wards affected:	All
Enclosures:	Draft Scope of the Scrutiny Review of Shared Services

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the draft scope for the scrutiny review of the Shared Services in Harrow

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- Consider and agree the scope for the review.
- Provide a steer to any further membership (including potential co-option of members) and chairing arrangements for the reviews.
- Agree upon the timing of the scrutiny reviews.

Section 2 – Report

The Scrutiny Leadership Group asked that a scrutiny review of shared services in Harrow form part of the scrutiny work programme for 2019/20.

The attached draft scope for this review sets out the potential parameters of this review following the initial discussions at the Scrutiny Leadership Group and members of the review group. The Scope also sets out the timeframe of the review including key committee dates.

What are Shared Services?

A Shared Services is one of a range of different models for the delivery of a service. In a Government Shared Service model, two or more Government organisations agree to join together a service, normally under one management and using shared IT, offices and support (HR, finance etc). The shared service remains a government organisation (ie it does not become a Limited Company).

Harrow Council already shares some services. HB Public Law was established in 2012 on the merging of Harrow and Barnet's legal teams, which has allowed both councils to enjoy improved services at a reduced cost. It has since expanded and is now one of the leading public sector legal practices in the UK providing legal expertise to local authorities, schools, academies, housing organisations and others in the public and not-for-profit sectors. Harrow has also partnered with Buckingham County Council to deliver HR shared services. Conversely, Harrow has also been through a disaggregation of shared services, for example with public health (formerly shared with LB Barnet) and procurement (formerly shared with LB Brent).

Financial Implications

The costs of delivering this project will be met from within existing resources.

Performance Issues

There is no specific performance issues associated with this report.

Environmental Impact

There is no specific environmental impact associated with this report.

Risk Management Implications

There are none specific for this report.

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

The review will consider during the course of its work, how equality implications have been taken into account in current policy and practice and consider the possible implications of any changes it recommends.

Council Priorities

Please identify how the decision sought delivers these priorities.

1. Supporting Those Most in Need
2. Protecting Vital Public Services
3. Modernising Harrow Council.

Officer Clearance

Name: Charlie Stewart Corporate Director

Date: 3 September 2019

MANDATORY

Ward Councillors notified: NO

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Mohammed Ilyas, Policy Officer, 020 8424 1322

Background Papers:

- Scope for the Scrutiny Review of Shared Services in Harrow