

Meeting:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	25 th September 2007
Subject:	Report from the scrutiny Policy and Performance Lead Members Quarterly briefings
Key Decision: (Executive-side only)	N/A
Responsible Officer:	Lynne McAdam, Service Manager Scrutiny
Portfolio Holder:	
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Appendix One: Report from the Policy and Performance Lead Members

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the items that have been considered by the scrutiny policy and performance leads at their quarterly briefings and details the recommendations they would like the committee to consider with regard to further action/escalation

Recommendations:

Councillors are recommended to:

- i Consider the report from the Scrutiny policy and performance leads and consider recommendations as included therein.

Reason: (For recommendation)

To ensure that the activities and recommendations for further action as agreed during the ¼ly briefings of the scrutiny policy and performance leads are publicly reported and endorsed by committee

Section 2 – Report

Background (if needed)

This report records the outcomes of quarterly briefings of scrutiny lead policy and performance councillors and seeks the endorsement of committee of the action proposed. The report is divided into 5 sections and individual reports are included from each policy and performance lead team:

- Adult Health and Social Care
- Children and Young People
- Corporate Effectiveness and Finance
- Safer and Stronger Communities
- Sustainable Development and Enterprise

Current situation

Not appropriate to this report

Why a change is needed

Not appropriate to this report

Main options

Not appropriate to this report

Other options considered

Not appropriate to this report

Recommendation:

To consider and endorse the reports from the scrutiny policy and performance leads

Considerations

Resources, costs and risks

Any costs associated with these recommendations will be met from within existing resources. Where specific projects are escalated for more detailed consideration in the scrutiny process, specific implications of these projects will be considered during the scoping process

Staffing/workforce

There are no staffing or workforce considerations specific to this report. Where specific projects are escalated for more detailed consideration in the scrutiny process, specific staffing implications of these projects will be considered during the scoping process

Equalities impact

There are no specific equalities implications in this report. Where specific projects are escalated for more detailed consideration in the scrutiny process, specific equalities implications of these projects will be considered during the scoping process

Community safety (s17 Crime & Disorder Act 1998)

There are no specific equalities implications in this report. Where specific projects are escalated for more detailed consideration in the scrutiny process, specific community safety implications of these projects will be considered during the scoping process

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report

Financial Implications

Any costs to carry out these recommendations will be met from existing budgets.

Performance Issues

Current KPI's and Likely impact of decision on KPI's

Scrutiny performance management issues

Recommendations matrix attached as appropriate

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Sheela Thakrar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 14 th September 2007		
Name: Jill Travers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 14 th September 2007		

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Lynne McAdam, Service Manager Scrutiny
020 8420 9387

Background Papers:

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

1.	Consultation	YES / NO
2.	Corporate Priorities	YES / NO

APPENDIX ONE

REPORTS FROM THE SCRUTINY POLICY AND PERFORMANCE LEADS QUARTERLY BRIEFINGS – AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2007

Adult Health and Social Care

The quarterly briefing for the Policy and Performance Leads for Adult Health and Social Care is planned for 5 October. Nevertheless a number of issues have been brought forward to the Leads and discussed informally:

Brent Birthing Centre

North West London Hospitals Trust approached scrutiny members regarding their proposals for the future of Brent Birthing Centre and the consultation process surrounding this. The proposals have implications for Harrow women and Northwick Park Hospital. A report was requested for O&S Committee on 25 September.

Local Involvement Networks

A briefing paper has been produced on the proposals for LINKs and the local preparations needed pending legislation. The briefing was noted.

'Healthcare for London: A Framework for Action' ('Darzi Review')

A briefing paper was produced summarising the review and outlining the implications for scrutiny (e.g. the need to possibly form a pan-London joint OSC to discuss the broad principles). A report was requested for O&S Committee on 25 September to ascertain Harrow's stance on the possible participation in a JO SC.

Children and Young People

The Policy Lead and the Scrutiny Officer met on 30 August. The Performance Lead was unavailable to attend due to illness.

"Care Matters" White Paper

Identified as a potential area for review and to be included in further report on work programme.

The future of schools

(including the wrap-around services provided by schools and the effectiveness of this provision) was identified as a potential area for review. This is already included as a potential item on the work programme.

The performance of the schools advisory function

Future updates on progress required on this issue - possibly via Q&A with the relevant portfolio holder.

Corporate Effectiveness and Finance

The Policy and Performance Leads for Corporate Effectiveness and Finance met on 10th September

IIP

Briefing noted

Strategy for People

Briefing noted

IPADs

Briefing noted

Staff Survey

Briefing noted. Head of Human Resources to be invited to the next briefing to discuss morale across the organisation and how staff are being empowered/ encouraged to deliver change.

Employment legislation changes

Briefing was noted but councillors have asked that future legislative changes are only included in so far as their likely impact on the council can be quantified

Local Area Agreements

Briefing was noted and further information will be provided as the future arrangements for the Local Area Agreement become clearer.

Comprehensive Area Agreements

Briefing was noted and further information will be provided as the future arrangements for Comprehensive Area Agreements become clearer.

BVPI General Satisfaction Survey

Briefing was noted. Further information will be provided via the briefings

Safer and Stronger Communities

There is no report from the Policy and Performance Leads for Safer and Stronger Communities.

Sustainable Development and Enterprise

The Policy and Performance Leads for Sustainable Development and Enterprise met on 15 August 2007.

Policy review

Briefing noted. It was agreed that an update would be provided on transport issues at the next meeting.

Skills White Paper

Briefing noted.

Housing Green Paper

Briefing noted. A decision on further action will be taken upon the publication of a White Paper.

Nottingham Declaration

Briefing noted. Further information will be carried out on the council's ongoing response through work on the energy use review.

Feasibility studies on demography review, energy use review, town centre redevelopment review

Briefings noted. Decided that Overview and Scrutiny should be recommended to pursue these projects.

Work programme long list

Briefing noted. It was suggested that reports on the progress on implemented recommendations from the water management and information pack light touch reviews might be considered by Overview and Scrutiny relatively soon.