

<b>Meeting:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date:</b>	3 September 2009
<b>Subject:</b>	Scrutiny Work Programme Update
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Alex Dewsnap, Divisional Director for Partnership Development and Performance
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Councillor Paul Osborn, Portfolio Holder for Performance, Communication and Corporate Services
<b>Exempt:</b>	No
<b>Enclosures:</b>	<b>Appendix One:</b> Progress Matrix

## Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report outlines progress on the current scrutiny work programme. It also outlines the timetable for implementation of projects agreed in the 2009/10 work programme

### Recommendations:

Councillors are asked to:

- Note progress on the current review programme
- Confirm the scheduling of projects for 2009/10 as discussed at 28<sup>th</sup> July meeting of the committee
- Confirm the addition of the workshop to prepare a scope for the Transitions review to take place at the end of September.

## Section 2 – Report

### Background

The attached matrix outlines progress on the scrutiny projects currently underway.

In addition, the report summarises the decisions made by the Overview and Scrutiny committee on 28<sup>th</sup> July with regard to projects scheduled for the remainder of the administration. The projects agreed at the Overview and Scrutiny committee in June are:

- Acute Services Review
- Kier
- Housing Revenue Account
- Transitions

The Overview and Scrutiny committee meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> July agreed to prioritise the Acute Services Review to be undertaken in order to respond to NHS consultation – which will begin in September. Given the resource challenges in the scrutiny team, the committee agreed that the Kier project should be undertaken in October and the HRA project at a similar time as resources are available. The committee agreed that, as the Transitions project will require a thorough investigation that if resources cannot be found, then this would be more appropriately be carried over to the next municipal year. However, since this committee decision, the Lead Councillors for Children and Young People have proposed that a workshop is convened towards the end of September in order to undertake some of the scoping work to support a future investigation.

### Financial Implications

The financial requirements of the scrutiny work programme will be met from within existing resources.

### Performance Issues

There are none specific to this report.

### Risk Implications

There are no risks associated with this report.

## 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

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

1.	Consultation	No
2.	Corporate Priorities	No

## APPENDIX ONE: REVIEW PROGRESS REPORT

Review	Methodology	Expected date for report to Overview and Scrutiny committee	Comments
Standing Review of NHS Finances	Standing review (18 months)	TBC	The draft report from the review has been prepared and will be submitted to the 24 <sup>th</sup> September meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny committee.
Standing Review of Budget	Standing review (3-years)	January 2010	<p>The second phase of the review is considering 3 strands of work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• shared services - focusing on asset management - the group considered the place strategy and the council's approach to asset management at its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June</li> <li>• revenue income maximisation - a survey of officers strategic approach to setting fees and charges is underway; and</li> <li>• the capital budget - visits to other boroughs (Wandsworth, Camden, Newham, Hillingdon) have been undertaken</li> </ul> <p>At its August meeting, the review developed a question plan for use in discussions with the Leader and Director of Finance about the second phase of the review's findings. This meeting will be scheduled for October.</p>
Sustainability	In depth review	January 2010	<p>The review's investigation is focussed around 3 themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of the Climate Change Strategy</li> <li>• Support to the borough's business base</li> <li>• Community cohesion</li> </ul> <p>The report from the Climate Change Strategy challenge panel was presented to the O&amp;S committee in June.</p> <p>A conference to investigate the impact of the recession on the cohesiveness of the community took place on 29<sup>th</sup> July and a report from the conference has been sent to all participants. The development of a question plan for discussion with officers around community cohesion is now underway.</p> <p>A planned survey of local businesses to assess the level and kind of support that they would like to receive to sustain them through the recession may need to be deferred until later in the year.</p> <p>Responses to this survey will be used to support proposals being developed by the Economic Development team.</p>

Extended schools	Light touch review	June 09	The final report is on the agenda of the September Cabinet meeting
Healthcare for London	Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee	TBC	Consultation has now concluded. Subsequently London PCTs have decided to implement the preferred options. This includes a hyper- acute stroke unit at Northwick Park hospital. For the moment this area of work is completed.
Acute Services Review	Working party to support Lead Members	December 09	Harrow NHS and Northwick Park hospital will be consulting in the autumn on service reconfiguration at Northwick Park and Central Middlesex Hospitals. Scrutiny councillors will wish to respond to this. A working party will be established over the summer to determine scrutiny's response
Performance of the Kier Contract	Challenge panel	December 09	To take place in October
HRA	Challenge panel		To take place in October (if resources permit) to support the council's lobbying position with regard to the HRA settlement
Transitions	Workshop		It is proposed to hold a joint officer/councillor workshop in order to identify the scope of a detailed project to be included in the work programme for 2010/11