

**REPORT FOR: OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Date of Meeting:	20 th July 2011
Subject:	Snow Clearance Challenge Panel Scope
Responsible Officer:	Alex Dewsnap Divisional Director, Partnership Development and Performance
Scrutiny Lead Member area:	Cllr Chris Mote and Cllr Nana Asante, Safer and Stronger Communities; Cllr Susan Anderson and Cllr Stephen Wright, Sustainable Development and Enterprise
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Scope for Snow Clearance Challenge Panel

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

Enclosed in this report is the scope for the Snow Clearance Challenge Panel.

Recommendations:

Councillors are asked to:

- Consider and agree the scope for the challenge panel.

Section 2 – Report

Background

At the end of the 2010/11 municipal year members of the Overview and Scrutiny Leadership group decided that they would like to look at the council's snow clearance policy. The main objective of this work is to determine whether any more could be done to improve the way in which the borough deals with the clearance of heavy snowfall.

At the scoping meeting on 11 July Members emphasised that they were keen to ensure that the challenge panel was forward looking and not retrospective. In particular, the review will address good practice elsewhere, how things can be improved by working with neighbouring boroughs and how we can improve communications.

At the scoping meeting, Councillor Paul Osborn was nominated as the Chairman for the challenge panel. The challenge panel will be held in September and this will be followed by a meeting in which the recommendations will be developed.

Financial Implications

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

Performance Issues

There are no specific performance issues associated with this report.

Environmental Impact

There is the potential to have an impact on environmental issues in the borough depending on the outcomes of the challenge panel.

Risk Management Implications

There are none specific to this report.

Equalities implications

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? Yes () No ()

Heavy snow fall and its clearance has implications for some of the most vulnerable members of the community. The health and social care facilities in the borough are also affected by snowfall. The challenge panel 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. Members will also try to ensure all relevant stakeholders in the borough have their voices heard.

Corporate Priorities

This review will contribute to the delivery of the following corporate priorities:

- Keeping neighbourhoods clean, green and safe
- United and involved communities: a Council that listens and leads
- Supporting and protecting people who are most in need
- Supporting our Town Centre, our local shopping centres and businesses

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Not required for this report.

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Fola Irikefe, Scrutiny officer. 020 8420 9389

Background Papers: Snow Clearance Challenge Panel Scope.