

For general release

REPORT TO:	SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE 8 SEPTEMBER 2015
AGENDA ITEM:	9
SUBJECT:	SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2015-16
LEAD OFFICER:	Julie Belvir, Director of Legal and Democratic Services, Borough Solicitor and Monitoring Officer, Director of Legal and Democratic Services
PERSON LEADING AT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING:	Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny

ORIGIN OF ITEM:	The Council's constitution requires the Scrutiny and Overview Committee to agree the scrutiny work programme for the municipal year.
PURPOSE:	To agree the scrutiny work programme for future meetings.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Scrutiny and Overview Committee has a constitutional responsibility to monitor the scrutiny programme each municipal year.

2. LOCAL ACTION MINI REVIEWS

Requests to undertake Local Action Mini Reviews have been received from:

- Councillor Andrew Rendle - Travellers.
- Councillor Matthew Kyeremeh – Education attainment in the north of the borough

The application forms submitted to the Chairs of Scrutiny are attached as **Appendix 3.**

3. INITIAL SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2015-16

3.1 The Scrutiny Procedure Rules (extracted from the Constitution) state that:

“6.01 ...the Scrutiny and Overview Committee shall be responsible for setting its own work programme and the initial work programme of its Sub-Committees.

6.02 A balanced work programme should be developed including pre- and post-decision scrutiny, monitoring and external scrutiny. As far as reasonably practicable, there should be wide consultation on the work programme with Councillors, Chief Officers, external agencies and the wider community prior to its consideration by the Scrutiny and Overview Committee.”

3.2 An overview of the initial scrutiny work programme for all scrutiny committees 2015-16 is attached as **Appendix 1**.

3.3 The Scrutiny and Overview Committee work programme 2015-16 is attached as **Appendix 2**.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SCRUTINY & STRATEGIC OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

The Scrutiny and Overview Committee (SOC) is recommended to:

4.1 Agree, with any amendments, the scrutiny work programme overview for all Scrutiny Committees 2015-16 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report

4.2 Agree, with any amendments, the initial scrutiny work programme for the Scrutiny and Overview Committee 2015-16 as set out in Appendix 2 of the report

4.3 Agree the requests for Local Action Mini Reviews received from Councillor Andrew Rendle and Councillor Matthew Kyeremeh

CONTACT OFFICER: Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services & Scrutiny
020 8726 6000 x 62920. solomon.agutu@croydon.gov.uk.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 Scrutiny Work Programme Scrutiny 2015-16 (all committees)

Appendix 2 Initial Work Programme for the Scrutiny and Overview Committee
2015-16

Appendix 3 Mini Review Request forms

SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16¹ - as at 26 August 2015

SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE (SOC)	9 June 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Leader & CX (post-election impact) • Work programme • Terms of reference 	8 September 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Finance and Treasury • Overview of Council Contracts • FM contract update 	3 November 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Culture, Leisure and Sport • Capital budgets 	15 December 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Leader and CX • Budget 2016/17 and performance 	19 January 16 (change of date) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Economy and Jobs • Revitalising the evening economy in Croydon (inc. policing and licensing) 	22 March 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Communities, Safety & Justice • Safer Croydon Partnership (repeat offending & criminal justice system) • Stronger Communities Partnership (update) • Scrutiny Annual report (draft) 	12 April 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topics for 2016/17 • Digital inclusion • Financial inclusion 	
HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING SUB-COMMITTEE (HSCH)	23 June 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work programme - Terms of reference - Co-option Healthwatch rep - The work of the CCG 	15 September <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for People Living with Chronic conditions • London Ambulance service 	22 September <u>JOINT MEETING WITH CYP SUB</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CAMHS - Children affected by domestic violence 	10 November 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QT: Homes, Regeneration & Planning - Homelessness/tenancy strategies - Adult safeguarding - Housing repairs 	8 December 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GP Performance including (instances of Immunisation) - Professions allied to medicine 	26 January 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QT: Families, Health & Social Care - Better Care Fund - Croydon Health Services NHS Trust - PH Annual Report (themes 2016) 	8 March 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SLAM (and CAMHS) - HWBB (including sexual health) - Review of the Work Programme 	10 May 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics for 2016/17 - Quality Accounts
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SUB-COMMITTEE (CYP)	16 June 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School places • Estates strategy • Work programme • Terms of reference 	14 July 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fostering Services and Adoption Services - Cabinet response report & action plan re. children's safeguarding recommendations 	22 September 15 <u>JOINT MEETING WITH HEALTH SUB</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CAMHS - Children affected by domestic violence 	13 October 15 (extra meeting) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Safeguarding/ Council social care -The work of the Children's Safeguarding Board and its Annual Report 	17 November 15 YOUNG PEOPLE 'S TAKEOVER MEETING Topic = Housing	12 January 16 (change of date) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -QT: Children, Young People & Learning -School standards and inclusion -<i>The Budget 2016/17</i> -Review of the Work Programme 	15 March 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Home schooling -Transition from children's social care to adult social care -Topics for 2016/17 	
STREETS AND ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEE (S&E)	30 June 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work programme - Terms of reference - Scene setting from stakeholders re. Croydon Transport Vision 	7 September 15 (extra meeting) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experimental road closure Norbury Avenue 	29 September 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QT: Transport & Environment - Network Rail 	24 November 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Croydon Local Plan 	2 February 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QT: Green and Clean - Village style street cleaning and waste collection - Street lighting PFI contract 	1 March 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Metropolitan centre co-ordination and delivery - Plus: Construction Management Plans & School Travel Plans - Review of the Work Programme 	5 April 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Topics for 2016/17 -Public realm design guide - Sustainability update -Flood risk management update 	

¹ This is an at a glance programme. For full details consult the full work programme. Some lines of enquiry have still to be developed by Members

Council Meetings – Annual Council 21st May 2015

Full Council 20th July 2015 (new date), 19th October 2015, 7th December 2015, 29th February 2016 (*Council Tax*), 18th April 2016 (*Scrutiny Annual Report*)

Cabinet Meetings

22nd June 2015, 13th July 2015 (new date), 21st September 2015, 20th October 2015, 16th November 2015, 14th December 2015, 18th January 2016, 21st March 2016, 25th April 2016

LONG LIST OF TOPICS: For consideration for inclusion and scheduling in the work programme.

SOC

- Police accountability
- Essential/ front line workers – the council’s response to lack of workers (recruitment and retention)
- Effects/ impact of social isolation (*SOC or Health?*)
- Fairness Commission
- Economic Loan Fund
- HMOs (Houses of Multiple Occupancy)
- Resilience of the Out of Hours reception service

CYP

- Youth employability
- Sports and physical activity
- The Youth offer in the borough
- The impact of parenting on educational attainment and achievement

Health

- Long list of items have been scheduled within the Health work programme for 2015/16 - further items which arise during the year may need to be accommodated
- Update on Landlords Licensing scheme (10 November 2015 – Question Time session)

Streets

- Vision Zero Initiative – does it work? Take in information from around the world/ best practice
- Planning and the future – alleviating fears about change bringing a possible loss of familiar neighbourhoods
- Rat-running – what can we do?
- Council housing – should the council be building more houses/ possible impact of differential land values (*Streets or Health?*)

**SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16**

<i>Meeting 1: 9 June 6.30pm, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Croydon</i>			
Number	Item details and report authors	Lead Officer	Lines of Enquiry
1	Committee Membership, Chairing and Sub-Committees <i>Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services & Scrutiny</i>	Julie Belvir, Director of Legal and Democratic Services	To confirm the nominations of appointments to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee and its Sub-Committees made at full Council on 21 st May 2015
2	Question Time: The Leader of the Council		To consider the potential impact of the results of the recent General Election on Croydon.
3	The Initial Scrutiny work programme 2015-16 – <i>Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services & Scrutiny</i>	Julie Belvir, Director of Legal and Democratic Services	To agree an initial scrutiny work programme for 2015-16

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<i>Meeting 2: 8th September 2014, 6.30pm, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Croydon</i>			
Number	Item details and report authors	Lead officer(s)	Lines of Enquiry
1	Councillor Simon Hall, Cabinet Member for Finance and Treasury	Not applicable	Cabinet Member Question Time
2	Overview of Council Contracts	Sarah Ireland, Director of Strategy, Communities and Commissioning	<p>The Committee seeks to review the procurement and commissioning strategies of the council to see how they expressly embed social value commissioning and procuring.</p> <p>Specifically Members seek information including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A register of contracts including whether they are outsourced, the length of contracts with dates covered and a general indication of how key contracts are performing against performance criteria • Progress relating to the inclusion of social value criteria in council contracts, particularly in relation to apprenticeships and example wording in recent specifications and contracts
3	<i>FM procurement contract – update</i>	Richard Simpson, Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Resources)	The Scrutiny and Strategic Overview Committee considered a pre-decision scrutiny item on the FM Contract Procurement in September 2014. The Committee seeks an update on the procurement process and how the council has responded to the Committee's recommendations particularly in relation to the design of contract 'bundles', the opportunity to procure some elements of the contract in-house or through locally-based organisations, the inclusion of social value criteria and the support

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			offered to small and medium sized enterprises to achieve pre-qualifying procurement criteria.
4	Work Programme - Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services & Scrutiny	Julie Belvir, Director of Legal and Democratic Services	To review and make any adjustments to the work programme 2015-16 and to consider applications for Local Action Mini Reviews

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<i>Meeting 3: 3rd November 2015, 6.30pm, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Croydon</i>			
Number	Item details and report authors	Lead Officer	Lines of Enquiry
1	Councillor Timothy Godfrey, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport	Not applicable	Cabinet Member Question Time
2	Capital Budgets	Richard Simpson, Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Resources)	<p>The Committee seeks answers to the question: how is the council's capital budget developed and spent?</p> <p>The Committee seeks to review the Council's capital programme by receiving information on the projected expenditure of schemes based on the latest round of monitoring returns and in the context of the budget strategy ie:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☺ scheme progressing on time or within budget ☹ scheme progressing on time but not within 5% of budget or scheme progressing on time but not within expected timescales ☹ scheme neither progressing within expected timescales nor within 5% budget
3	Cabinet – response to scrutiny recommendations	Julie Belvir, Director of Legal and Democratic Services	<p>Cabinet response to Scrutiny Recommendations arising from the following scrutiny meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny & Strategic Overview Committee - on 11th November 2014 and 10th February 2015 • Streets & Environment Scrutiny Sub-Committee - on 2nd December 2014 and 20th January 2015

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children And Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee - on 3rd February 2015
4	Work Programme - Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services & Scrutiny	Julie Belvir, Director of Legal and Democratic Services	To review and make any adjustments to the work programme 2015-16 and to consider applications for Local Action Mini Reviews

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<i>Meeting 4: 15th December 2015, 6.30pm, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Croydon</i>			
Number	Item details and report authors	Lead Officer	Lines of Enquiry
1	The Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive	Not applicable	Cabinet Member Question Time
2	Pre-decision scrutiny: The Council Budget Richard Simpson, Assistant Chief Executive Corporate Resources and s151 Officer	Nathan Elvery	To scrutinise the proposed 2016-17 Council Budget.
3	Work Programme - Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services & Scrutiny	Julie Belvir, Director of Legal and Democratic Services	To review and make any adjustments to the work programme 2015-16 and to consider applications for Local Action Mini Reviews

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<i>Meeting 5: 19th January 2016, 6.30pm, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Croydon</i>			
Number	Item details and report authors	Lead Officer	Lines of Enquiry
1	Councillor Toni Letts, Cabinet Member Economy and Jobs	Not applicable	Cabinet Member Question Time
2	Revitalising the evening economy in Croydon		<p>Evening economies matter because they create the pedestrian footfall and additional spending which support the creation and maintenance of new jobs and because they make a real difference to the economic well-being and prosperity of places.</p> <p>Successful evening economies also create a stronger 'sense of place' and help drive improvements in the quality and 'localness' of what is on offer, whether cultural, food-related or recreational.</p> <p>In this review the Committee is likely to consider three key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perceptions of crime and safety • Improving Croydon's evening 'product' • Promoting Croydon as an evening destination • How different "Places" can badge/sell themselves for the evening economy
3	Work Programme - Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services & Scrutiny	Julie Belvir, Director of Legal and Democratic Services	To review and make any adjustments to the work programme 2015-16 and to consider applications for Local Action Mini Reviews

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<i>Meeting 6: 22nd March 2016, 6.30pm, Council Chamber</i>			
Number	Item details and report authors	Lead Officer	Lines of Enquiry
1	Councillor Mark Watson, Cabinet Member for Communities, Safety and Justice	Not applicable	Cabinet Member Question Time
2	Safer Croydon Partnership		<p>The Scrutiny and Overview Committee invited the Safer Croydon Partnership to its meeting in January 2015 and focused on performance against its priorities with a particular focus on domestic violence. Members were disappointed that the council, the police and the third sector were the only organisations to send representatives. At the meeting in 2016, the Committee aims to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whether the pressure on resources within partner organisations is undermining the partnership - Whether the Safer Croydon Partnership is fit for purpose against this backdrop - Whether there is evidence that the Community safety strategy is influencing decisions at individual agencies governing bodies <p>In addition, the Committee aims to seek information on repeat offending with particular regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How the recently re-structured probation service is able to support repeat offenders

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			<p>– The role of the courts and the criminal justice system with regard to repeat offenders</p>
3	Stronger Communities Partnership (update)		<p>At its meeting in January 2015, the Committee heard that the Stronger Communities Partnership had just been launched with a view to bringing a wide range of organisations together to build community cohesion in the borough.</p> <p>12-months on, the Committee aims to review progress on delivery against the objectives of the Partnership.</p> <p>In addition, the Committee would like to consider matters relating to the Active Communities Fund including assessing the number, impact and reach of the grants awarded to date.</p>
4	Scrutiny Annual Report (draft) including a Review of the 2015-16 work programme - Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services & Scrutiny	Julie Belvir, Director of Legal and Democratic Services	

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<i>Meeting 7: 12th April 2016, 6.30pm, Council Chamber</i>			
Number	Item details and report authors	Lead Officer	Lines of Enquiry
1	Digital inclusion	Graham Cadle	Despite having lower barriers in terms of access and cost than many similar European countries, one in five UK adults do not have the basic digital skills they need to benefit from the digital world. A lack of basic digital skills is a significant social issue and it has been estimated that the annual social value of every individual getting online for the first time is £1,064. As the Council is delivering more services and information digitally, the Committee will ask how many residents are excluded from the digital world and what is being done to help people get online.
2	Financial inclusion	Mark Fowler	Financial exclusion is the inability of an individual, household, or group to access appropriate financial services or products putting them at financial risk. The Council is working with residents to catch problems early and to help people become more prepared and better equipped for the future. Members will seek information about financial inclusion and how we plan to help our residents over the coming months.
3	Topics for 2016-17 - Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services & Scrutiny	Julie Belvir, Director of Legal and Democratic Services	To review the work programme for 2015/16 and to consider topics for inclusion on the 2016/17 work programme