



London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

8th April 2014

WORK PROGRAMME

Report of the Scrutiny Manager

Report Status; Open

For Scrutiny Review & Comment

Key Decision: No

Wards Affected: All

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Board is asked to review its work for the current municipal year and to consider items to be placed on the Work Programme for 2014/15. Details of forthcoming Key Decisions which are due to be taken by the Cabinet are provided in order to enable the Board to identify those items where it may wish to request reports.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Board reviews its work and considers items for inclusion on the 2014/15 Work Programme and topics for Task Groups.

3. Work Programme

- 3.1 The Board's work programme for the current municipal year is set out at Appendix 1. The list of items was drawn up in consultation with the Chairman, having regard to previous decisions of this Committee, relevant items within the Key Decisions List (previously entitled the Forward Plan) and actions and suggestions arising from previous meetings.
- 3.2 The Board is requested to consider which items were effectively scrutinised in the past year, and whether any of these items require

further scrutiny in 2014/15. Members are also asked to suggest possible items to be considered as time limited Task Groups.

3.3 The Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) has identified four key principles that underpin effective scrutiny, which members might wish to consider when suggesting items for the Work Programme and topics for Task Groups:

- i) Effective Scrutiny should be a ‘critical friend’ to executives, external authorities and agencies. It should challenge policy development and decision making in a robust, constructive and purposeful way while developing a partnership with external agencies and authorities.
- ii) Effective Scrutiny should reflect the voice and concerns of the public and its communities. It should ensure an ongoing dialogue with the public and diverse communities where the public voice is heard and responded to. It should have open and transparent processes with public access to information.
- iii) Effective Scrutiny should take the lead and own the Scrutiny process on behalf of the public. It should be independent from the executive, legitimated by the Council and should have adequate public representation and political balance that is representative of the current political groups involved.
- iv) Effective Scrutiny should make an impact on the delivery of public services. It should promote community well-being and improve the quality of life, providing co-ordinated and strategic reviews of policy and performance in line with strategic objectives.

4. Future Key Decisions

4.1 Attached at Appendix 2 to this report is the Key Decision List showing the decisions to be taken by the Executive at the Cabinet, including Key Decisions within the relevant Cabinet Members portfolio areas which will be open to scrutiny by the Board should Members wish to include them within the work programme.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

No.	Description of Background Papers	Name/Ext of holder of file/copy	Department/ Location
	None		