

AGENDA ITEM: 9

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Meeting	Budget and Performance Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date	5 th April 2011
Subject	Budget and Performance Overview & Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2010/11
Report of	Scrutiny Office
Summary	This report outlines the Committee's work programme during 2010/11.

Officer Contributors	None
Status (public or exempt)	Public
Wards Affected	All
Enclosures	Appendix A – Budget and Performance Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2010/11
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1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the Committee consider and comment on the items included in the 2010/11 work programme of the Budget and Performance Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Appendix A).**
- 1.2 That the Committee identify items to be taken forward for the 2011/12 Overview & Scrutiny Work Programme.**

2 CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committees/Sub-Committees must ensure that the work of Scrutiny is reflective of the Council's priorities.**
- 2.2 The three priority outcomes set out in the 2010/13 Corporate Plan are: –**
- Better services with less money**
 - Sharing opportunities, sharing responsibilities**
 - A successful London suburb**
- 2.3 The Corporate Plan 2010/13 contains the following strategic objectives and performance targets that fall within the remit of the Corporate Governance Directorate and relate to Overview and Scrutiny:**
- Improve council policy and decision making through greater involvement by non-executive members**
 - To improve the effectiveness and transparency of decision-making within the council by ensuring that Overview and Scrutiny in the year 2010/11:**
 - Considers three decisions prior to being taken by Cabinet; and**
 - Initiates three items of policy development.**

3. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 3.1 None.**

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 None in the context of this report.**

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 In addition to the Terms of Reference of the Committee, and in so far as relating to matters within its remit, the role of the Committee is to perform the Overview and Scrutiny role in relation to:**
- The Council's leadership role in relation to diversity and inclusiveness; and**
 - The fulfilment of the Council's duties as employer including recruitment and retention, personnel, pensions and payroll services, staff development, equalities and health and safety.**

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

6.1 None in the context of this report.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

7.1 None in the context of this report.

8 CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

8.1 The scope of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees/Sub-Committees is contained within Part 2, Article 6 of the Council's Constitution; the Terms of Reference of the Scrutiny Committees / Sub-Committees are included in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Part 4 of the Council's Constitution).

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

9.1 The Budget and Performance Overview & Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme 2010/11 indicates items of business previously considered by the Committee and forthcoming items.

9.2 The work programme of this Committee is intended to be a responsive tool, which will be updated on a rolling basis following each meeting, for the inclusion of areas which may arise through the course of the year.

9.3 The Committee is empowered to agree its priorities and determine its own schedule of work within the programme.

9.4 Members are also asked to agree items relevant to the terms of reference of this Committee to be taken forward to the 2011/12 Overview & Scrutiny Work Programme.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None.

BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11

3 JUNE 2010			
ITEMS CONSIDERED	INFORMATION	REPORT ORIGIN	LINK TO CABINET / CORPORATE PLAN
Quarter Four Performance Information	The Committee received a report presenting progress against the Corporate Plan performance indicators to be considered with a different area of particular focus at each meeting. The Committee agreed to focus on Children's Social Care and Reducing Waste and Recycling when considering the Quarter 1 performance information on 1 st September 2010.	Internal - Performance	All priorities
22 JULY 2010			
ITEMS CONSIDERED	INFORMATION	REPORT ORIGIN	LINK TO CABINET / CORPORATE PLAN
Treasury Management Strategy	The Committee scrutinised the Treasury Management Strategy	Internal – Finance	Better services with less money
Budget and Financial	The Committee received a report outlining the key medium-	Internal - Performance	Better services with

Forward Plan Update	term strategic and financial issues for the Council, information on the financial and business planning context and an explanation of the affect of the national context upon the finances of the Authority.		less money
1 SEPTEMBER 2010			
ITEMS CONSIDERED	INFORMATION	REPORT ORIGIN	LINK TO CABINET / CORPORATE PLAN
Quarter One Performance Information	<p>The Committee focussed their attention in particular on the rising levels of Children’s Social Care in Barnet, and recommend that the authority encourage the provision of mentoring and vocational schemes by local businesses for children in care, particularly those businesses contracted by the authority.</p> <p>The Committee also scrutinised recycling rates in the borough and made a number of recommendation in respect of this area.</p>	Internal – Performance	Better services with less money
Parking Policy and Performance	The Committee strongly supported the proposal to move to cashless parking operations, and encouraged the authority to balance the need to generate revenue from parking without placing an undue burden on residents of the borough.	Internal – Parking	Better services with less money

Draft Estates Strategy	In receiving the draft estates strategy, the Committee requested that consideration be given by the authority as to options for assets not required for the authority's operational portfolio. The Committee was encouraged to communicate any further views to officers on the draft documentation and requested that the full Strategy be considered further at a future meeting.	Internal – Commercial Services	Better services with less money
27 OCTOBER 2010			
ITEMS CONSIDERED	INFORMATION	REPORT ORIGIN	LINK TO CABINET / CORPORATE PLAN
Budget and Financial Forward Plan	The Committee received the budget and financial forward plan, including the risk list and financial and business planning document considered by the Cabinet.	Internal – Finance	All priorities
25 NOVEMBER 2010			
ITEMS CONSIDERED	INFORMATION	REPORT ORIGIN	LINK TO CABINET / CORPORATE PLAN
Quarter Two Performance Information	The Committee scrutinised in detail performance in Housing & Homelessness and Customer Services, and agreed to scrutinise in depth the following areas at its meeting of 22 nd February 2011:	Internal – Performance	Better services with less money

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value for Money • The attainment gaps between children with special education needs and their peers, and children eligible for free school meals and their peers. 		
Sustainable Communities Strategy	The Committee commented on the Sustainable Communities Strategy prior to its consideration by the Cabinet, recommending that it be amended to take account of the role of Middlesex University.	Internal – Partnerships	All priorities
Treasury Management Strategy	That the Committee agree that the approach to Treasury Management, recommended that briefings be offered to the relevant opposition spokesman and expressed some concerns in depositing in Nordia bank.	Internal – Finance	Better Services with Less Money
20 DECEMBER 2010			
ITEMS CONSIDERED	INFORMATION	REPORT ORIGIN	LINK TO CABINET / CORPORATE PLAN
Financial and Business Planning 2011/12 – 2013/14	The Committee scrutinised the Financial and Business Planning report, particularly noting the need for value for money in procurement and on continuing engagement with	Internal – Finance	All

	the voluntary sector.		
Monitoring 2010/11	The Committee scrutinised and noted the financial position set out in the Monitoring report.	Internal – Finance	Better Services with Less Money
27 JANUARY 2011			
ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED	INFORMATION	REPORT ORIGIN	LINK TO CABINET / CORPORATE PLAN
Budget Consultation: Voluntary Sector	To receive evidence from CommUNITY Barnet and Kisharon and made a number of comments to Cabinet.	Internal - Scrutiny office	All priorities
One Barnet Forward Plan Principles	The Committee considered the proposed approach for developing a One-Barnet Forward Plan and requested that the necessary consideration be given to transparency of decision-making when formulating partnership governance arrangements. The Committee requested further opportunities to comment as the One Barnet Forward Plan is formulated.	Internal - Assistant Chief Executive	All priorities
Barnet Homes Q2 Performance Information	The Committee received the Q2 Performance information for Barnet Homes, and suggested that the end of year target for Relet Time (average time it takes to relet an empty property) be revised from 49 to 28 days. The Committee	Internal - PHR / External - Barnet Homes	All priorities

	<p>also suggested that future Barnet Homes performance reports include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An annual moving target • Actions taken to combat missed targets 		
22 FEBRUARY 2011			
ITEMS CONSIDERED	INFORMATION	REPORT ORIGIN	LINK TO CABINET / CORPORATE PLAN
Quarter Three Performance Information	<p>The Committee Scrutinised the Quarter Three performance information, including in depth reports on Children's attainment gaps and Value for Money. Members suggested that information on the implementation of new spend around early intervention be reported to a future meeting of the Children's Service Overview & Scrutiny sub-Committee. Officers also undertook to investigate other forms of data measurement in addition to using children eligible of free school meals, to ensure full and accurate information around attainment gaps. The Committee also requested that a Value for Money performance framework come before a future meeting of the Committee for consideration.</p>	Internal - Performance	Better services with Less Money
5 APRIL 2011			
ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED	INFORMATION	REPORT ORIGIN	LINK TO CABINET /

			CORPORATE PLAN
Q3 Monitoring	Report on Council moves towards cashless operations, including methods of payment	Internal – Finance / E&O	Better services with less money
Barnet Homes Performance Information	To scrutinise the Q3 Performance Information for Barnet Homes.	Internal - PHR / External - Barnet Homes	All priorities
FUTURE MEETINGS – 2011/12			
INFORMATION		REPORT ORIGIN	LINK TO CABINET / CORPORATE PLAN
Budget and Financial Forward Plan	To receive regular reports on the Budget, Financial Forward Plan, Risk Register and Out-Turn.	Internal - Finance	Better Services with Less Money
Budget Scrutiny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receiving a report on the draft budget headlines and discussing any issues arising - Reviewing the budget consultation proposals, including the involvement of Scrutiny - Reviewing the results of the consultation and the impact on budget decisions of Cabinet. 	Internal – Finance	All priorities
Quarterly Performance	To receive performance information reported on a quarterly	Internal – Performance	Better services with

Information	basis.		less money
Scrutiny of Partnerships	To receive the Annual Report of Partnerships, and to examine Council partnerships with other organisations.	Internal – Partnerships	A successful London suburb
Barnet Homes Performance Information and Business Plan	To consider annual Barnet Homes Performance Information and Business Plan.	External – Barnet Homes	‘One Barnet’
Restructure of Human Resources	To be consider the restructure of Human Resources	Internal - Finance	Better services with less money
Information Systems	To receive a report on Information Systems in the authority	Internal – Information Systems	Better services with less money
Major Projects in Progress	To be updated on the progress of Major Projects currently operating.	Internal - Finance	Better services with less money
Cashless Operations	Report on Council moves towards cashless operations, including methods of payment	Internal – Finance / E&O	Better services with less money
Future of the Parking Service	To pre-Scrutinise the report on the future of the Parking	Internal – E&O	Better services with

	Service.		less money
Medium Term Financial Strategy	To receive the Medium Term Financial Strategy	Internal – Finance	Better services with less money
North London Waste Authority	To receive a report on the North London Waste Authority contract.	Internal – Environment & Operations	Better services with less money
Value for Money Performance Framework	To receive a report on a Value for Money Performance Framework.	Internal – Finance	Better services with less money

The Chairman can issue regular invitations to external stakeholders to participate in discussions on relevant items where useful.