

Overview and Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2014/15



This table sets out the Overview and Scrutiny Commission's Work Programme for 2014/15 that was agreed by the Commission at its meeting on 8 July 2014. This work programme will be considered at every meeting of the Commission to enable it to respond to issues of concern and incorporate reviews or to comment upon pre-decision items ahead of their consideration by Cabinet/Council.

The work programme table shows items on a meeting by meeting basis, identifying the issue under review, the nature of the scrutiny (pre decision, policy development, issue specific, performance monitoring, partnership related) and the intended outcomes. The last page provides information on items on the Council's Forward Plan that relate to the portfolio of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission so that these can be added to the work programme should the Commission wish to.

The Commission is asked to identify any work programme items that would be suitable for the use of an informal preparatory session (or other format) to develop lines of questioning (as recommended by the 2009 review of the scrutiny function).

The Overview and Scrutiny Commission has specific responsibilities regarding budget and financial performance scrutiny and performance monitoring which it has delegated to the financial monitoring task group – agendas and minutes are published on the Council's website.

Scrutiny Support

For further information on the work programme of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission please contact: -
Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services, 0208 545 3864, Julia.regan@merton.gov.uk

Meeting date – 7 October 2014

Scrutiny category	Item/Issue	How	Lead Member/ Lead Officer	Intended Outcomes
Scrutiny of crime and disorder	Borough Commander	Presentation/report and in-depth discussion	Borough Commander	Update on policing issues
Holding the executive to account	Customer contact programme	Report	Sophie Ellis, Assistant Director of Business Improvement	Progress report for comment
Policy development	CCTV review	Report from external consultant	Chris Lee, Director of Environment and Regeneration	To review with a view to follow up through task group review
Scrutiny reviews	Review of use of co-opted and expert witnesses in scrutiny	Report	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan	To discuss and agree policy in relation to recruitment of co-opted members
	Financial monitoring task group	Minutes of meeting	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan	To note minutes of meeting held on 22.07.14

Meeting date – 25 November 2014

Scrutiny category	Item/Issue	How	Lead Member/ Lead Officer	Intended Outcomes
Budget scrutiny	Business Plan 2015/19 - information pertaining to round one of budget scrutiny	Report – to include safer Merton service plan	Cllr Mark Allison Caroline Holland, Director of Corporate Services	To send comments to Cabinet budget meeting 8 December
Policy development	Financial resilience project	Update report	Simon Williams, Director of Community and Housing	To impact on emerging recommendations and/or the action plan
	Domestic violence audit	Report on findings and outcome of the audit and update on discussions regarding location of DV services	Chris Lee, Director of Environment and Regeneration	To discuss and comment
	My Merton	Short briefing report on circulation and distribution, to include results from annual Residents Survey in relation to readership	Sophie Poole, Head of Communications	To discuss and comment
Scrutiny reviews	Financial monitoring task group	Minutes of meeting	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan	To note minutes of meeting held on 05.11.14

Meeting date – 29 January 2054 – scrutiny of the budget

Scrutiny category	Item/Issue	How	Lead Member/Lead Officer	Intended Outcomes
Holding the executive to account	Customer contact programme	Report	Sophie Ellis, Assistant Director of Business Improvement	Progress report for comment
Budget scrutiny	Business Plan 2015/19	Report – common pack for Panels and Commission	Cllr Mark Allison, Cabinet Member for Finance Caroline Holland, Director of Corporate Services	To report to Cabinet on budget scrutiny round 2
	Business Plan update - latest info from Cabinet 19 January (if any)	Report	Cllr Mark Allison, Cabinet Member for Finance Caroline Holland, Director of Corporate Services	To report to Cabinet on budget scrutiny round 2

Meeting date – 10 March 2015

Scrutiny category	Item/Issue	How	Lead Member/Lead Officer	Intended Outcomes
Call-in	Adult education in Merton – evidence and options for achieving a value for money service		Cllr Martin Whelton, Cabinet Member for Education Simon Williams, Director of Community and Housing	
Scrutiny of crime and disorder	Discussion of questions for the Borough Commander	Discussion	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan	Discussion to plan line of questioning for meeting on 25 March
Policy review	Monitoring the Council's equalities commitments	Report	Yvette Stanley, Director, Children Schools and Families	To comment on annual action plan update
Holding the executive to account	Volunteering	Report	Simon Williams, Director of Community and Housing	Update on implementation of Merton Partnership Volunteering Strategy
	Customer contact programme	Report	Sophie Ellis, Assistant Director of Business Improvement	Progress report for comment
Scrutiny reviews	Financial monitoring task group	Minutes of meeting	Cllr Peter Southgate	Financial monitoring task group

Meeting date – 25 March 2015

Scrutiny category	Item/Issue	How	Lead Member/Lead Officer	Intended Outcomes
Scrutiny of crime and disorder	Borough Commander	Presentation/report and discussion	Borough commander	Update on future of policing in Merton
	Rehabilitation strategies	Information and data on how rehabilitation (probation) services are delivered and anticipated changes in line with the Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014	John Hill Head of Public Protection	To assess the impact that the Act will have in Merton & whether it wishes to make any recommendations about ways of working locally
Holding the executive to account	CCTV update	Report from CCTV steering group	Paul Walshe Parking Services Manager Claire Cuffie Anti-Social Behaviour Supervisor & temp CCTV Mgr	Update on implementation of action plan
Performance management	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report	Report	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan	To approve and forward to Council

Forward plan items relating to remit of the Commission

Asset management plan

Details - Update current Asset Management Plan 2011-2015 to include Transformation, latest MTFs, Asset Review, economic growth, regeneration and Community Right to Bid.

Decision due: 14 September 2015 by Cabinet

Items for Commission meetings in 2015/16

July 2015	Analysis of Members' annual scrutiny survey 2015	Report	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan	Discuss findings and agree action plan for 2015/16
July 2015	Report of the Immunisation task group review	Report	Cllr Brenda Fraser Stella Akintan	To agree final report and recommendations
Sep 2015 (or July if ready?)	Update on work of the violence against women and girls strategy group	Report	Yvette Stanley, Director of Children, Schools and Families	To review progress

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