

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>New arrangements for Overview and Scrutiny</b>
<b>Report to be considered by:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> June 2016

**Purpose of Report:** To introduce to the Commission proposals for the operation of Overview and Scrutiny following the structural changes agreed by Council on 19 May 2016.

**Recommended Action:** That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission

1. Agrees the proposed method of operation for Overview and Scrutiny.
2. Identifies activities that the Select Committees might consider.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman	
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# Executive Report

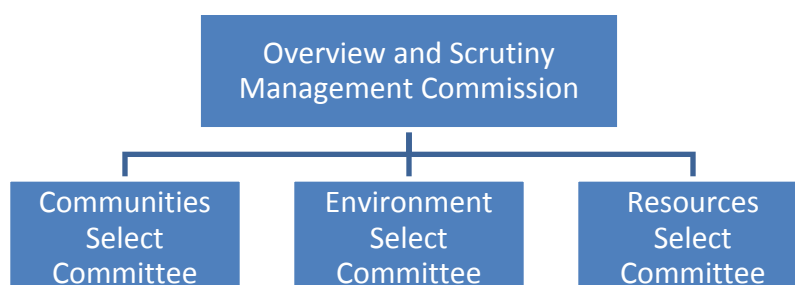
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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council meeting of 19 May 2016 approved changes to the organisational structure of Overview and Scrutiny. This report provides amplification and makes proposals on how the arrangements might work in practice.

## 2. New structure

- 2.1 As set out on 19 May 2016, Overview and Scrutiny is now organised as shown below.



- 2.2 This structure will allow Overview and Scrutiny to be focussed, through the Select Committees, on the activities of each of the Council's directorates.
- 2.3 Whilst being able to carry out Overview and Scrutiny in its own right, the role of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission (OSMC) will be primarily to direct and guide the activity of the Select Committees.

## 3. Method of operation

- 3.1 In order that the new arrangement will not create any additional demand on staff in Strategic Support, the intention is that the 8 meetings per municipal year that have previously been allocated to the OSMC will now be spread between the 4 scrutiny bodies, 2 each per municipal year. The proposed diary of meetings is

Date	Meeting
12 July 2016	Resources Select Committee
6 September 2016	Environment Select Committee
1 November 2016	Communities Select Committee
6 December 2016	OSMC
17 January 2017	Resources Select Committee
28 February 2017	Environment Select Committee
11 April 2017	Communities Select Committee

#### **4. Developing a work programme**

- 4.1 Whilst members of the Commission will have their own views on what might or might not be included into the work programmes for each of the Select Committees, they may wish to give consideration to the following items
- (1) Communities Select Committee
    - (a) Ofsted improvement plan (Children and Families Service)
    - (b) Health and Social Care integration
    - (c) Brilliant West Berkshire
  - (2) Environment Select Committee
    - (a) Waste Service
    - (b) Library Service
  - (3) Resources Select Committee
    - (a) Financial performance, including the development of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)
    - (b) Digital transformation
    - (c) Building stronger communities
- 4.2 In addition, all Select Committee could review the quarterly performance returns of services within their directorates, monitor progress against achievement of the priorities set within the Council Plan and understand the pressures and challenges of service delivery as the authority's budgets continue to contract.
- 4.3 Although the Select Committees should be given the freedom to carry out the Overview and Scrutiny that their members themselves chose to undertake, the OSMC also has the opportunity and mandate to provide an element of direction.

#### **5. Recommendation**

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
- (1) Agrees the proposed method of operation for Overview and Scrutiny.
  - (2) Identifies activities that the Select Committees might consider.

#### **Appendices**

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There are no appendices to this report.