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# Suggested topic for review - Council Strategy Refresh 2018/19

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<b>Committee considering report:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
<b>Date of Committee:</b>	17 October 2017
<b>OSMC Chairman:</b>	Councillor Emma Webster
<b>Report Author:</b>	Stephen Chard, Principal Policy Officer (Scrutiny)

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## 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To outline to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission (OSMC) proposed Terms of Reference to review the progress made, to date, with implementing the Council Strategy 2015-2019 in order to contribute to its refresh for 2018/19.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the OSMC:
- (1) Agrees to form a Task Group to conduct the review.
  - (2) Amends, if necessary, and approves the Terms of Reference for the review.
  - (3) Appoints Members to the Task Group for the review.

## Executive Summary

### 3. Introduction

- 3.1 This report sets out a proposal for the establishment of a small task and finish group to review the implementation to date of the Council Strategy 2015-19 in order to contribute to its refresh for 2018/19. This report provides some background on the aims of the Strategy and proposes a methodology for taking the work forward.

### 4. Background

- 4.1 The Vision set for the Council Strategy 2015-19 is “Working together to make West Berkshire an even greater place in which to live, work and learn”.
- 4.2 The Strategy does not go into detail on all the services that the Council provides, but focuses on areas where the Council needs and wants to improve:
- (1) Improve educational attainment
  - (2) Close the educational attainment gap
  - (3) Enable completion of more affordable housing
  - (4) Deliver or enable key infrastructure improvements
  - (5) Good at safeguarding children and vulnerable adults
  - (6) Support communities to do more to help themselves

### 5. Proposed Terms of Reference and Methodology

- 5.1 It is proposed that a time limited task and finish group is established to:
- Review the progress made in implementing the Council Strategy 2015-2019 and its priorities for improvement.
  - Reflect on those priorities for improvement that have gone well and the reasons for this.
  - Focus on those priorities that have gone less well, the reasons behind this and lessons that have been learnt which can be used when refreshing the Council Strategy for 2018/19.
- 5.2 On completion of its work the task group will report its findings/any recommendations directly to the Performance, Research and Consultation Manager, who will participate in the task group meetings, and Portfolio Holders. The task group’s report will then inform the refreshed Council Strategy for 2018/19.
- 5.3 The task group will need to meet within a relatively short timeframe in order for its findings/any recommendations to feed into the refreshed document before it proceeds through to Full Council for formal approval.
- 5.4 The task group should comprise of 4 Members (3 x Conservative and 1 x Liberal Democrat).

- 5.5 The OSMC is also asked to note the proposal that the task group reconvenes during the 2018/19 financial year to conduct a more in depth piece of work to inform the new Council Strategy from 2019/20.

## **6. Appendices**

- 6.1 None