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# Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission (OSMC) Work Programme Discussion Paper

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<b>Committee considering report:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
<b>Date of Committee:</b>	9 July 2019
<b>Chairman:</b>	Councillor Alan Law
<b>Report Author:</b>	Joanna Reeves

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## 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To present options for the Commission's work programme for 2019/20.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Commission should provide a steer to officers on the prioritisation of the work programme and suggest any other scrutiny topics.

## 3. Implications

- 3.1 **Financial:** There are no financial implications arising from the report.
- 3.2 **Policy:** There are no policy implications arising from the report.
- 3.3 **Personnel:** The OSMC has 0.5 FTE dedicated officer resource with additional supported provided by the Performance, Risk and Consultation Manager and Chief Executive where required.
- 3.4 **Legal:** There are no legal implications arising from the report.
- 3.5 **Risk Management:** There are no risk implications arising from the report.
- 3.6 **Property:** There are no property implications arising from the report.
- 3.7 **Other:** Each scrutiny topic that the OSMC chooses will have some impact on the capacity and resources of the Council so Members should ensure that their attention is on those areas of the most pertinence.

## 4. Other options considered

- 4.1 None.

## Executive Summary

### 5. Introduction / Background

- 5.1 The new Municipal Year and make-up of the Council provides an opportunity to reflect on the way the Council does scrutiny and plan for the year ahead. In addition, more officer resource is now dedicated to supporting the scrutiny agenda through 0.5 FTE (half a post) in Strategic Support.
- 5.2 The [Overview and scrutiny: statutory guidance for councils and combined authorities \(2019\)](#) recommends that scrutiny committees need to plan their work programme in order to achieve an impact that will make a tangible difference to the work of the authority. The guidance recognises that the committee will also need to be flexible in order to accommodate issues which arise within the year.
- 5.3 The OSMC has recently aligned its work programme around three areas namely corporate effectiveness, policy effectiveness and partnership effectiveness. It is considered that this approach remains fit for purpose and it is not proposed to change it at this time.

### 6. Proposal

- 6.1 Below is a list of topics for scrutiny recommended by officers. Each topic has been given a score which denotes the amount of resource required to effectively review the scrutiny area, as follows:
  - (1) Less resource intensive – a report is produced as part of usual Council business and OSMC is asked for their input ie. Standing items such as quarterly budget and performance monitoring reports.
  - (2) More resource intensive – a Council service is required to produce a report to respond to a particular issue and some coordination is required.
  - (3) More resource intensive – the topic cross cuts a variety of Council services and/or will require research in order to enable a meaningful scrutiny review and requires more coordination or input from officers ie. Task groups/ research reports.

Topic	Score	Provisional timescale
<b><i>Policy Effectiveness</i></b>		
Council Strategy Delivery Plan	3	October 2019
Inequality/social mobility issues	3	
SEND/ High Needs Block	3	
Emerging Strategies (climate Change, Housing, Prevention)	3	
<b><i>Partnership Effectiveness</i></b>		
Shared Services	2	
Health and Wellbeing Board/ Health Scrutiny	2	
Safeguarding/ OFSTED action plans/ ASC market	3	

Building Communities Together	2	
Integrated Care Partnership	2	July 2020
<b>Corporate Effectiveness</b>		
Commercialisation	2	
Internal effectiveness/ value for money/ benchmarking	2	
CPA Peer Review 2020	2	
Performance target setting	2	
<b>Standing Items</b>		
Corporate Programme	1	Ongoing
New Ways of Working Reports	1	Ongoing
Quarterly performance reports	1	Ongoing
Quarterly finance reports	1	Ongoing
<b>Task Groups</b>		
London Road Industrial Estate (LRIE)	3	Ongoing 2019
ICT and Digital Transformation Capacity	3	

## 7. Conclusion

7.1 OSMC are invited to consider the topics presented in the table above as a menu and provide a steer to officers on which topics should be prioritised. Members are also invited to suggest any scrutiny topics not on the list above. Members are asked to be mindful that the OSMC has four ordinary meetings scheduled and the LRIE task group is already underway.

## 8. Appendices

8.1 There are no appendices to this report.

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### Background Papers:

[Overview and scrutiny: statutory guidance for councils and combined authorities \(2019\)](#)

### Strategic Aims and Priorities Supported:

The proposals will help achieve the following Council Strategy aim:

**MEC – Become an even more effective Council**

The proposals contained in this report will help to achieve the following Council Strategy priority:

**MEC1 – Become an even more effective Council**

The proposals contained in this report will help to achieve the above Council Strategy aims and priorities by ensuring that there is a robust scrutiny framework which makes useful recommendations to improve Council services.

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