



Brighton & Hove
City Council

Overview & Scrutiny

Title:	Adult Social Care & Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 June 2008
Time:	4.00pm
Venue	Committee Room 1, Hove Town Hall
Members:	Councillors: Meadows (Chairman) Barnett, Janio, Randall, Pidgeon, Hawkes, Wells and Wrighton (Deputy Chairman)
Contact:	Giles Rossington Overview and Scrutiny Support Officer (01273) 291038 Giles.rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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AGENDA

Part One

Page

1. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS (COPY ATTACHED)

1 - 2

- (a) Declaration of Substitutes – Where Councillors are unable to attend a meeting, a substitute Member from the same Political Group may attend, speak and vote in their place for that meeting.
- (b) Declarations of Interest by all Members present of any personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Members regard the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.
- (c) Exclusion of Press and Public - To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

NOTE: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is exempt from disclosure and therefore not available to the public.

A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There are none.

3. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE

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Report of the Director of Strategy and Governance

Contact Officer: Giles Rossington, Tel: 01273 291038
Scrutiny Support Officer

Ward Affected: All Wards

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The closing date for receipt of public questions was 12 noon on 18 June 2008.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HOUSING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

No public questions have been received.

6. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

No letters have been received.

7. NOTICES OF MOTIONS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

No Notices of Motion have been received.

8. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY AND THE FORWARD PLAN 15 - 18

Report of the Director of Strategy and Governance

Contact Officer: Giles Rossington, *Tel:* 01273 291038
Scrutiny Support Officer

Ward Affected: All Wards

9. TOWARDS A WORK PROGRAMME 19 - 24

Report of the Director of Strategy and Governance.

Contact Officer: Giles Rossington, *Tel:* 01273 291038
Scrutiny Support Officer

Ward Affected: All Wards

10. VALUE FOR MONEY REVIEW OF HOUSING 25 - 28

Report of the Director of Adult Social Care and Health.

Contact Officer: Nick Hibberd, Assistant *Tel:* 293316
Director - Housing
Management

Ward Affected: All Wards

11. THE CITY WIDE HOUSING STRATEGY 29 - 34

Report of the Director of Adult Social Care and Housing.

Contact Officer: Andy Staniford, Housing *Tel:* 29-3159
Strategy Manager

ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HOUSING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Ward Affected: All Wards

12. THE HOUSING GREEN PAPER OPTIONS STAGE 1 35 - 38

Report of the Director of Adult Social Care and Housing.

*Contact Officer: Giles Rossington, Tel: 01273 291038
Scrutiny Support Officer*

Ward Affected: All Wards

13. THE SUSSEX PARTNERSHIP TRUST CONTRACT 39 - 42

Report of the Director of Adult Social Care and Housing

*Contact Officer: Giles Rossington, Tel: 01273 291038
Scrutiny Support Officer*

Ward Affected: All Wards

14. REVIEW OF LEARNING DISABILITY DAY SERVICES 43 - 46

Report of the Director of Adult Social Care and Health.

*Contact Officer: Naomi Cox, Manager, Tel: 295813
Integrating Learning
Disability Service*

Ward Affected: All Wards

15. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO CABINET OR THE RELEVANT CABINET MEMBER MEETING

To consider items to be submitted to the next available Cabinet or Cabinet Member Meeting.

16. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL

To consider items to be submitted to the next Council meeting for information.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HOUSING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. Provision is also made on the agendas for public questions to committees and details of how questions can be raised can be found on the website and/or on agendas for the meetings.

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Date of Publication - Date Not Specified

Agenda Item 1

To consider the following Procedural Business:

A. Declaration of Substitutes

Where a Member of the Committee is unable to attend a meeting for whatever reason, a substitute Member (who is not a Cabinet Member) may attend and speak and vote in their place for that meeting. Substitutes are not allowed on Scrutiny Select Committees or Scrutiny Panels.

The substitute Member shall be a Member of the Council drawn from the same political group as the Member who is unable to attend the meeting, and must not already be a Member of the Committee. The substitute Member must declare themselves as a substitute, and be minuted as such, at the beginning of the meeting or as soon as they arrive.

B. Declarations of Interest

- (1) To seek declarations of any personal or personal & prejudicial interests under Part 2 of the Code of Conduct for Members in relation to matters on the Agenda. Members who do declare such interests are required to clearly describe the nature of the interest.
- (2) A Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or a Select Committee has a prejudicial interest in any business at a meeting of that Committee where –
 - (a) that business relates to a decision made (whether implemented or not) or action taken by the Executive or another of the Council's committees, sub-committees, joint committees or joint sub-committees; and
 - (b) at the time the decision was made or action was taken the Member was
 - (i) a Member of the Executive or that committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee and
 - (ii) was present when the decision was made or action taken.
- (3) If the interest is a prejudicial interest, the Code requires the Member concerned:
 - (a) to leave the room or chamber where the meeting takes place while the item in respect of which the declaration is made is under consideration. [There are three exceptions to this rule which are set out at paragraph (4) below].
 - (b) not to exercise executive functions in relation to that business and

(c) not to seek improperly to influence a decision about that business.

(4) The circumstances in which a Member who has declared a prejudicial interest is permitted to remain while the item in respect of which the interest has been declared is under consideration are:

- (a) for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the item, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise, BUT the Member must leave immediately after he/she has made the representations, answered the questions, or given the evidence;
- (b) if the Member has obtained a dispensation from the Standards Committee; or
- (c) if the Member is the Leader or a Cabinet Member and has been required to attend before an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Sub-Committee to answer questions.

C. Declaration of Party Whip

To seek declarations of the existence and nature of any party whip in relation to any matter on the Agenda as set out at paragraph 8 of the Overview and Scrutiny Ways of Working.

D. Exclusion of Press and Public

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

NOTE: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is confidential and therefore not available to the public.

A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 4

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules
Date of Meeting: 26 June 2008
Report of: The Director of Strategy and Governance
Contact Officer: Name: Giles Rossington Tel: 29-1038
E-mail: Giles.Rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The report sets out the Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules for the new Adult Social Care & Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee (ASCHOSC).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) To note the report.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Terms of Reference

- 3.1 The Terms of Reference of the Adult Social Care & Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Part 6.1 paragraph 2.4 of the Constitution) are:
To perform the Overview & Scrutiny function in relation to all matters, Executive decisions and service provision connecting to the Adult Social Care elements of the Adult Social Care and Health function and in particular:

- Adult Social Services

To perform the Overview & Scrutiny function in relation to all matters, Executive decisions and service provision connecting to the Housing function and in particular:

- The Council's housing strategy
- Homelessness and the allocation of housing
- Private sector housing, including taking action to remedy overcrowding, disrepair, unfitness and statutory nuisances; to promote fire safety in private sector housing and the Council's functions in relation to houses in multiple occupation, Tenancy relations and the provision of housing advice
- Housing loans and grants
- Housing Landlord Functions
- Supporting people

Specific responsibilities of Overview and Scrutiny Committees

3.2 All Overview and Scrutiny Committees have their responsibilities set out in Part 6 of the Constitution. They will have the following duties:

- To be aware of the forward plan and other anticipated decisions of the Cabinet/Cabinet Committees and council services;
- To develop focused programmes of work and identify the most appropriate means of progressing such work;
- To scrutinise and make recommendations to the Cabinet/Cabinet Committees/Cabinet Member and any relevant Council Committees in relation to issues arising from its work programme;
- To monitor the decisions taken by or on behalf of the Cabinet and the activities of service areas;
- To receive requests from Councillors and suggestions from officers of the council and co-optees for particular areas to be scrutinised;
- To propose to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission any Select Committee reviews (see points 3.3 to 3.7 below) including the terms of reference and membership of the Select Committee with a proposed scrutiny brief and resource requirement;

- To establish ad-hoc review Panels as necessary (see point 3.8 below);
- To exercise the right to ‘call-in’ and review decisions taken by or on behalf of the Executive (see point 3.10 and Appendix 1 below);
- To have an overview of the practice and policy of the relevant service areas;
- To identify areas of service practice and implementation of a policy that cause concern to members of the public and councillors and identify what action should be taken;
- To receive internal and external inspection reports on the services and challenge the action plans drawn up in response to problems that have been identified; monitor progress in implementing the action plans;
- To ensure that the communities of Brighton & Hove and specific users of services are able to be involved in, and inform, the work of the Committees;
- To promote the work of the Committee, including through the local media; and
- To monitor and review the outcomes of the Committee’s recommendations.

Select Committee reviews

- 3.3 The committee may decide that it wishes to establish a task-orientated, time-limited Sub-Committee to investigate a particular issue within its remit. These ‘Select Committees’ can review in depth, investigate and report on particular topics related to the functions of the Council or issues of public concern.
- 3.4 Once the committee has identified an area for possible Select Committee investigation, it must draw up the proposed terms of reference, duration and membership of the proposed Select Committee and submit it to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission for a decision. The Commission, having regard to the recommendations of the committee (or any other initiating scrutiny committee) will then decide whether or not to approve the appointment of the Select Committee.

- 3.5 In considering whether or not any matter should be agreed for a Select Committee Review the Commission will have regard to the following issues:
- The importance of the matter raised and the extent to which it relates to the achievement of the Council's strategic priorities, the implementation of its policies or other key issues affecting the well being of the City or its communities;
 - Whether there is evidence that the decision-making rules in Article 11 of the constitution have been breached; that the agreed consultation processes have not been followed; or that a decision or action proposed or taken is not in accordance with a policy agreed by the Council;
 - The potential benefits of a review, especially in terms of possible improvements to future procedures and/or the quality of Council services;
 - What other avenues may be available to deal with the issue and the extent to which the Councillor or body submitting the request has already tried to resolve the issue through these channels (e.g. a letter to the relevant Executive Member, the complaints procedure, enquiry to the Chief Executive, or Chief Officer, or a Council question etc);
 - The proposed scrutiny approach (a brief synopsis) and resources required, resources available and the need to ensure that the Overview and Scrutiny process as a whole is not overloaded.

- 3.6 If the Commission agrees to establish a Select Committee it will have sub-Committee status and the political balance rules will apply. The Membership will be nominated by the Commission. No member may, however, be involved in scrutinising a decision in which he/she has been involved. As a guide, the Commission will not normally allow more than one Select Committee Review to be carried out at any one time.

Select Committee rules

- 3.7 When a member requests for a matter to be scrutinised, that Member should not normally be appointed as a Member of the Select Committee scrutinising the issue. However, this would not preclude the member giving evidence to the Select Committee. There are also no provisions for substitute members to attend Select Committee (or Ad-hoc panel) meetings.

Ad-hoc Overview and Scrutiny Panels

- 3.8 The committee may appoint Ad-hoc panels to carry out short, sharply focused pieces of scrutiny work. These may be on specific issues that do not warrant a full Select Committee inquiry and should be covered within 3 meetings or less. The committee should not appoint more than one Ad-hoc panel at a time.
- 3.9 Ad-hoc panels do not have sub-committee status, but will normally be cross-party. The committee will appoint the members to the Panel, but as with Select Committees, the requesting member will not normally be a member of the panel, nor may any member be involved in scrutinising a decision they have been involved in. No substitutes are allowed.

Call-in procedures

- 3.10 Call-in is the process by which Overview and Scrutiny Committees can recommend that a decision made (in connection with Executive functions) but not yet implemented be reconsidered by the body which made the decision, or recommend that the full Council consider whether that body should reconsider the decision. The rules governing call-in are fundamentally unchanged in the new constitution. The details are contained in Appendix 1 to this report.

Quorum

- 3.11 As per the Council's procedure rules, a quarter of members must be present in order for the committee to be quorate.

Work programme

- 3.12 The committee is responsible for setting its own objectives and work programme. A separate report sets out the options for the committee in deciding its work programme (Item 7 on this agenda). This may include examination of items on the Forward Plan. The committee does, however, have a responsibility to consider any of the 19 plans in within the Budget and Policy Framework that relate to its work *prior* to their approval by Full Council (see point 3.15 below). It also has a statutory responsibility to consider items relating to Adult Social Care referred to it by the Brighton & Hove LINK (Local Involvement Network).

- 3.13 Any Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees may notify the Head of Scrutiny that he/she wishes an item to be included on the agenda for the next available meeting. The committee will then determine if it wishes to pursue the suggested item and in what manner.
- 3.14 The committee must also respond, when its work programme allows it, to requests from the Council (and if it considers it appropriate, the Cabinet/Cabinet Committees) to review particular areas of Council activity.

Policy Review and Development

- 3.15 The committee has a function to scrutinise policy outcomes and advise on policy development within its remit. The Cabinet shall “normally” consult overview and scrutiny before formulating the final proposals for policies that are part of the Budget and Policy Framework. The Cabinet will take into account any response from an overview and scrutiny committee and relevant stakeholders in drawing up firm proposals for submission to Full Council.

Submission of reports

- 3.16 Once the committee has formed recommendations on any matter, it will prepare a final report and submit it to the Chief Executive for consideration by the relevant Cabinet Member or Cabinet Meeting or the Council if appropriate (if, for example, the recommendation would require a departure from or change to the agreed Budget and Policy Framework). The Executive Member or Cabinet shall consider the report within six weeks of it being submitted to the Chief Executive or at its next meeting, whichever is the later, and shall prepare a response to the findings, including any action proposed.

Matters excluded from scrutiny

- 3.17 Overview and Scrutiny Committees should not normally scrutinise individual decisions made in respect of development control, licensing, registration, consents and other permissions. In particular, they are not an alternative to the normal appeals procedures.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 No consultation was required for the compilation of this report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 Additional staffing resources have been dedicated to supporting the scrutiny function, the Cabinet and the political parties.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The overview and scrutiny arrangements are in accordance with the relevant legislation.

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are no direct equalities implications in regard to this report.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no direct sustainability implications in regard to this report.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are none.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None directly in relation to this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 Within the new Leader and Cabinet style Council Constitution the Overview and Scrutiny function is strengthened and extended as set out in the report.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Call-in arrangements

Documents in Members' Rooms:

There are none.

Background Documents:

1. Council Constitution, 16 May 2008

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Call-in in the New Constitution

The process of call in of decisions made but not yet implemented, as set out in the previous constitution is largely unchanged. The current call-in provisions are included here for reference.

(Extract from the new Council Constitution Point 6: paragraph 16)

16. Call-in

- 16.1 Call-in is a process by which Overview and Scrutiny Committees can recommend that a decision made (in connection with executive functions) but not yet implemented be reconsidered by the body which made the decision, or recommend that the full Council consider whether that body should reconsider the decision. Call-in does not provide for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or the full Council to substitute its own decision, but merely to refer the matter back to the decision-maker. A decision maker can only be asked to reconsider any particular decision once.
- 16.2 Call-in should only be used in exceptional circumstances – for example where Members have evidence that a decision was not taken in accordance with Article 13 of the constitution ('Decision making'). Day to day management and operational decisions taken by officers may not be called-in.
- 16.3 Any decision made by the Cabinet, a Cabinet Member, or a key decision made by an officer under delegated powers from the Executive shall be published by means of a notice at the main offices of the Council and where possible by electronic means, normally within 2 working days of being made. All Members of Overview and Scrutiny will be sent, if possible by electronic means, copies of all such decision notices at the time of publication.
- 16.4 Any decision made by the Cabinet, a Cabinet Member, or a key decision made by an officer under delegated powers from the Executive may be called in up to five working days from the date of the meeting at which the decision was taken.
- 16.5 During this period, any Member of Overview and Scrutiny or any 6 Members of the Council may request that a decision be called-in for Scrutiny by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Such a request shall be made in writing to the Chief Executive and shall include the reason(s) for the request and any alternative decision proposed. The Chief Executive may refuse to accept a request which in his/her opinion is frivolous, vexatious or defamatory, or where no reason is given.

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- 16.6 If the Chief Executive accepts the request he/she shall call-in the decision. This shall have the effect of suspending the decision coming in force and the Chief Executive shall inform the decision maker e.g. Cabinet, Executive Member, Executive Committee or officer and the relevant Chief Officer(s) of the call-in. The Chief Executive shall then call a meeting of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee as appropriate to scrutinise the decision, where possible after consultation with the relevant Chairman, and in any case within 7 working days of accepting the call-in request, unless a meeting of the appropriate Committee is already scheduled to take place within this period.
- 16.7 In deciding whether or not to refer a decision back, the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall have regard to the criteria for Scrutiny reviews set out at paragraph 4.2 of these rules. In addition it may take into account:
- any further information which may have become available since the decision was made
 - the implications of any delay; and
 - whether reconsideration is likely to result in a different decision.
- 16.8 If, having scrutinised the decision, the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee is still concerned about it, then it may refer it back to the decision making body for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns. If it considers the decision is contrary to the policy framework or budget agreed by the Council, the matter may be referred to the full Council to determine whether or not it should be referred back to the decision making body in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules at Part 4 of this constitution.
- 16.9 If the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee does not meet within 7 working days of the Chief Executive accepting a call-in request, or does meet but does not refer the matter back to the decision making body or to the Council, the decision shall take effect on the date of the Overview and Scrutiny meeting, or the expiry of the period of 7 working days from the call-in request being accepted, whichever is the earlier.
- 16.10 If the decision is referred back to the decision making body, that body shall then reconsider, either at its next programmed meeting or at a special meeting called for the purpose, whether to amend the decision or not before reaching a final decision and implementing it.
- 16.11 If the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee refers the matter to full Council and the Council does not object to a decision which has been made, then no further action is necessary and the decision will be effective in accordance with the provision below. However, if the Council does object, the Council will refer any decision to which it objects back to the decision making body, together with the Council's views on the decision. In this case the decision making body shall

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consider, either at its next programmed meeting or at a special meeting convened for the purpose, whether to amend the decision or not before reaching a final decision and implementing it.

16.12 If the Council does not meet within two weeks of the matter being referred to it, or if it does meet but does not refer the decision back to the decision making body or person, the decision will become effective on the date of the Council meeting or expiry of that two week period, whichever is the earlier.

16.13 If a key decision is to be taken by an officer under the scheme of delegation, all Members and Overview and Scrutiny Committees will have the same rights to information and to use the procedures set out above for the call-in of those decisions.

17. Call-in and urgency

17.1 The call-in procedure set out above shall not apply where the decision being taken by the Cabinet, a Cabinet Member, or a key decision made by an officer under delegated powers from the Executive is urgent. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. The record of the decision, and notice by which it is made public shall state if in the opinion of the decision making body the decision is an urgent one and subject to the agreement of the Chief Executive, or in his/her absence the officer acting for him, such a decision shall not be subject to call-in. The Chief Executive or the Officer acting on his/her behalf shall consult the leaders of the Political Groups before agreeing to the exemption. Any decision to which the call-in process does not apply for reasons of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for urgency.

17.2 The operation of the provisions relating to call-in and urgency shall be monitored annually, and a report submitted (via the Governance Committee) to Council with proposals for review if necessary.

18. Call In and Joint Committees

18.1 The principle of call in applies to decisions made by Joint Committees on which the Council is represented. The detailed arrangements relating to call in of Joint Committee decisions shall be agreed between the constituent authorities and included in the Constitution of the Joint Committee.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 8

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Overview & Scrutiny and the Forward Plan
Date of Meeting: 26 June 2008
Report of: The Director of Strategy and Governance
Contact Officer: Name: Giles Rossington Tel: 29-1038
E-mail: Giles.Rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The report describes the working of the Council's Forward Plan and suggests ways in which the Overview & Scrutiny committees, including the Adult Social Care & Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee (ASCHOSC), may choose to use it.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To note the report.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Under the Council's new governance arrangements the Executive produces a Forward Plan of the key decisions expected to be made over the next four months. The Forward Plan is detailed in the Council Procedural Rules Part 8 Paragraph 15.
- 3.2 Article 13 of the Council's Constitution states that a key decision is defined as one which is likely to:
- result in expenditure or savings of more than £500k per year
or
 - have a 'significant' effect on communities living or working in an area comprising of two or more wards.

- 3.3 The Constitution states that, under normal circumstances, no key decision may be taken unless it has been placed on the Forward Plan and at least three clear days have elapsed since the publication of the Forward Plan. It is, however, expected that key decisions will be included in the Forward Plan at least one calendar month prior to the date of the decision. If a key decision is included less than one month prior, the report to the executive must state the reasons why.
- 3.4 Details included in the Forward Plan
The Forward Plan is to be prepared by the Leader of the Council to cover a four month period beginning with the first day of any month. The Plan will be prepared on a monthly basis and subsequent plans will cover the period beginning with the first day of the second month covered in the preceding plan.
- 3.5 As far as possible, the Forward Plan will include matters which the Leader has reason to believe will be the subject of a key decision to be taken by the Cabinet, Individual Members of the Cabinet, officers or under joint arrangements. It will normally include: the matter for decision; name of the decision taker; the date when the decision will be taken; the main groups who are to be consulted and how they will be consulted; how and when any person may make representations to the decision-taker; and the details of any other documents that will be submitted for consideration in relation to the matter.
- 3.6 Exempt information need not be included in the Forward Plan, although an indication of the decision to be taken, even if in Part Two, must be included.
- 3.7 Urgency
If a matter which is likely to be a key decision has not been included in the Forward Plan, that decision may still be taken if: it is impractical to defer it; if the Chairman of a relevant overview and scrutiny committee has been *informed* (or each member of that committee and the Leaders/Convenors of all political groups in writing by notice of the matter have been *informed*); if copies of the notice have been made available to the public; and if at least 3 clear days have elapsed since these things were done.

If there are not at least 3 clear days, the decision can *only* be taken if the Chairman of a relevant overview and scrutiny committee, or the Mayor/Deputy Mayor *agrees* that the taking of the decision cannot be reasonably deferred.

3.8 Overview and Scrutiny committees and the Forward Plan

If an overview and scrutiny committee thinks that a key decision has been taken which was not included in the Forward Plan and was not the subject of the general exception procedure or did not have the agreement of the Chairman (as above), then the Committee may require the Executive to submit a report to the Council within such a ('reasonable') time as the committee specifies. The Chairman (or any 3 members) of a committee may request such a report, or the committee itself may pass a resolution requesting a report.

3.9 The Forward Plan can be accessed via the Council's internet site. All Councillors will be able to monitor the Plan and make suggestions for scrutiny to examine items on it.

3.10 It is intended that the Forward Plan will be discussed at ASCHOSC Chairman's meetings and the Chairman will make recommendations to the ASCHOSC on items from the Forward Plan to be included on the ASCHOSC agenda.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 No consultation was required for the compilation of this report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 Additional staffing resources have been dedicated to supporting the scrutiny function, the Cabinet and the political parties.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The overview and scrutiny arrangements are in accordance with the relevant legislation.

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are no direct equalities implications in regard to this report.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no direct sustainability implications in regard to this report.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are none.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None directly in relation to this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 Within the new Leader and Cabinet style Council Constitution the Overview and Scrutiny function is strengthened and extended as set out in the report.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

There are none.

Documents in Members' Rooms:

There are none.

Background Documents:

1. Council Constitution, 16 May 2008

ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 9

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Towards a Work Programme
Date of Meeting: 26 June 2008
Report of: The Director of Strategy and Governance
Contact Officer: Name: Giles Rossington Tel: 29-1038
E-mail: Giles.Rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report explains the process of formulating a draft work programme for the Adult Social Care & Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee (ASCHOSC) 2008-2009, with regard to the Terms of Reference and functions of the Committee (see Part 6, Paragraph 2.4 of the Council's Constitution).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To agree that a more detailed draft work programme be presented for the Committee to consider at its next meeting, and then to the Overview & Scrutiny Commission for consideration.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution states that the functions of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees include working to "*develop focused programmes of work and identify the most appropriate means of progressing such work*" (6:3.2(ii)).
- 3.2 In addition, the Constitution states that committees shall "*be responsible for setting their own work programme to overview and scrutinise the work of the Executive, relevant Council Committees and*

services and the effectiveness of relevant partnerships or other bodies” (6:12.2).

- 3.3 This function is *“subject to the co-ordination and monitoring of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission” (6:12.2).*
- 3.4 As the co-ordinating committee, the Overview and Scrutiny Commission is tasked with approving *“an annual Overview and Scrutiny work programme to ensure that there is efficient use of the Committees’ time and that the potential for duplication of effort is minimised” (6:3.1a).*
- 3.5 Therefore, whilst it is the responsibility of the ASCHOSC to agree its own work programme, the Overview & Scrutiny Commission must have sight of all overview and scrutiny committees’ work programmes in its role as the co-ordinating committee.
- 3.6 There are a number of ways in which items may be suggested for inclusion in the ASCHOSC Work Programme:
 - a) All Members will have access to the Council’s Forward Plan, and may propose that Key Decisions from the Plan should be included in the ASCHOSC Work Programme.
 - b) The ASCHOSC Chairman may choose to examine the Forward Plan at each Chairman’s meeting and put forward any items she sees fit.
 - c) Cabinet Members, Regulatory Committee Chairmen and Cabinet may all refer items to the ASCHOSC for examination and comment.
 - d) ASCHOSC is required to respond, as soon as its work programme permits, to requests from the Council (and, if it considers it appropriate, the Cabinet/Cabinet Committees) to review particular areas of Council activity (Part 6:13.3 of the Constitution).
 - e) Any member of the Overview & Scrutiny Commission or of any one of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees may notify the Head of Scrutiny that they wish to have an item included on the agenda of the next possible meeting of a specific Scrutiny Committee. The Committee in question will then determine if and how it wishes to pursue this matter.
 - f) ASCHOSC may also receive requests from other Councillors and suggestions from officers for particular topics to be scrutinised. Any Councillor may submit a letter for inclusion on the agenda of any Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

g) “Legacy” items from previous committees may also be included on the 2008-2009 Overview & Scrutiny Work Programme. (This will largely be of relevance to Overview & Scrutiny Committees which were in operation prior to May 2008; however, it is possible that an Overview & Scrutiny Committee which previously had a remit including aspects of Housing or Adult Social Care might choose to refer a relevant legacy item to the ASCHOSC rather than incorporating it into its own work programme.)

h) The 19 Plans and Strategies which make up the Budget and Policy Framework are listed in part 3.1 (3.02(a)) of the Council’s Constitution (and in appendix 1 to this report). Although approval of the Budget and Policy framework is a Full Council function, it is envisaged that the appropriate Overview & Scrutiny Committee(s) should consider draft proposals before their submission to full Council for approval. The Cabinet should take into account any response from an Overview & Scrutiny Committee and from relevant stakeholders when determining its final proposals for submission to Full Council in regard to any of the plans and strategies.

i) The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act (2007) created bodies called Local Involvement Networks (LINKs). LINKs replace and enlarge the role of Public and Patient Involvement Forums, facilitating public and patient involvement in the scrutiny of health and social care. The 2007 Act empowers Links to refer matters relating to health and social care to Overview & Scrutiny Committees for consideration. Overview & Scrutiny Committees are obliged to consider such referrals in a timely fashion, either agreeing to investigate as requested, or giving reasons why no further action is thought necessary. As ASCHOSC has responsibility for Adult Social Care, it is anticipated that the Brighton & Hove LINK may choose to refer items to this committee.

3.7 The ASCHOSC draft Work Programme also needs to allow for flexibility to accommodate matters as they arise, such as requests for Scrutiny or for Call-In.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 No consultation was required for the compilation of this report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications to this report; final decisions on an ASCHOSC Work Programme will need to be made with reference to Overview & Scrutiny resources.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The overview and scrutiny arrangements detailed above are in accordance with the relevant legislation.

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are no direct equalities implications, although equalities issues may need to be taken into account when making final decisions in regard to the ASCHOSC Work Programme.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no direct sustainability implications to this report although sustainability issues may need to be taken into account when making final decisions in regard to the ASCHOSC Work Programme.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are no crime and disorder implications to this report, although crime and disorder issues may need to be taken into account when making final decisions in regard to the ASCHOSC Work Programme.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None directly in relation to this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 Final decisions in relation to the ASCHOSC Work Programme will need to be made in reference to corporate priorities and to the social care and housing needs of the city, but no such decisions are required at this stage.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. List of the 19 Plans and Strategies which make up the Budget and Policy Framework.

Documents in Members' Rooms:

There are none.

Background Documents:

1. Council Constitution, 16 May 2008

**ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HOUSING
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

Agenda Item 10
Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Value for Money Review of Housing
Date of Meeting: 26 June 08
Report of: The Director of Adult Social Care & Housing
Contact Officer: Name: Nick Hibberd Tel: 29-3756
E-mail: Nick.hibberd@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Key Decision: Yes Forward Plan No. HSG 0012
Wards Affected: All

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To provide ASC&H Scrutiny Committee with an overview of the scope and timetable of the Value for Money review of Housing Services.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That ASC&H Scrutiny Committee note the contents of the report

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 Brighton & Hove City Council is undertaking a corporate Value for Money (VfM) programme, involving a rolling cycle of service improvement work which will review all council services by mid-2008.
- 3.2 The Value for Money review of Housing Services commenced in March 2008 and is due to be completed by end July 2008. The scope of the review will cover the housing functions in the Adult Social Care & Housing Directorate, i.e. the following service divisions:
- Housing Strategy
 - Housing Management
- 3.3 The VfM Project Board has also agreed that the review should include a focus on the following areas:
- Strategic approach to housing need and homelessness
 - ICT
 - Premises (office accommodation, links to Property & Design)
 - Sickness absence
 - Staffing costs (use of agency staff)

- 3.4 A VfM review team has been convened to undertake the review, using the corporate VfM review methodology and toolkit. The review team is made up of senior managers from:
- Housing Management
 - Housing Strategy
 - Financial Services
 - Improvement & Organisational Development
- 3.5 The final report will include a high level analysis of recent, current and planned VfM work across the division. This stage of the review will not include the delivery of the VfM improvement opportunities. However, the opportunities agreed will be planned, resourced, have targets set and will be monitored to ensure the delivery of savings and service / performance improvements. Delivery of opportunities and progress towards targets will be monitored by the VfM Programme Board.
- 3.6 The review will follow the corporate VfM methodology to the following timetable:

Review stage	Start	End	Key meetings
1. Preparing for the review	17/3	28/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review commences • First Review Team meeting • Initial data gathering
2. Reviewing existing service provision	31 /3	25/04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews with relevant managers • Data analysis
3. Prioritise areas of the service for improving VFM	28/04	09/05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of analysis • Prioritisation of improvement areas
4. Identify VFM improvement projects & final report	12/05	20/06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DMT workshop to consider VfM opportunities
5. Target setting, monitoring and reporting	20/06	25/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Final report • Key deliverables and monitoring schedule agreed

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The review process involves interviews with identified staff and a workshop with senior managers
- 4.2 The final report will be presented to Housing Management Consultative Committee and Housing Cabinet Members Meeting.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report. The final report of the VfM review of Housing Services will include consideration of the financial implications of the VfM improvement opportunities identified.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

6.1 Not applicable to this report.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Scrutiny Committee are asked to note the scope and timetable of the VfM Review of Housing Service, as the review is ongoing and therefore a final report has not been produced.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

None

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 11

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: **Housing Strategy 2008-2013:
healthy homes, healthy lives, healthy city**

Date of Meeting: **26 June 2008**

REPORT OF: **Director of Adult Social Care & Housing**

Contact Officer: Name: Andy Staniford Tel: 29-3159
E-mail: andy.staniford@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report is focused on the development of the draft Housing Strategy and the draft specialist housing strategies relating to Older People, the city's BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) communities and the city's LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans) communities.
- 1.2 Development of these strategies began in 2007 to replace the previous Strategy that was developed in 2001 and updated in 2004. This report is to inform Adult Social Care & Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee of the strategic development process used for the new strategies.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) To note the contents of this report.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- 3.1 Our last housing strategy was developed in 2001 and updated in 2004. The development of our new housing strategy began in 2007.
- 3.2 To ensure our services are working together as effectively as possible, the development of the new housing strategy has been the springboard for a larger strategy development and consultation review. This review is covering 8 key strategy and service areas during 2007 and 2008:

Overarching Housing Strategy

- Housing Strategy 2008-2013: healthy homes, healthy lives, healthy city
- BME People's Housing Strategy
- Older People's Housing Strategy
- LGBT People's Housing Strategy

Core Strategies

- Supporting People 5-year Strategy
- Homelessness Strategy

Homelessness Sub Strategies

- Single Homeless Strategy
- Temporary Accommodation Strategy

- 3.3 This report is focused on the overarching Housing Strategy and the specialist strategies relating to Older People, the city's BME communities and the city's LGBT communities that are being developed in recognition of the particular needs faced by these groups. These strategies are currently in development and will be submitted for approval later in the current year.
- 3.4 The strategy development timetable was stretched to take advantage of new government guidance that was expected in June 2008. Unfortunately, as a result of the announcement in May that the housing reform green paper is due to be published towards the end of 2008, it is now unknown if this guidance will be produced. However, our planned timetable will now allow us to reflect in the strategy relevant parts of the green paper and also the Community Empowerment, Housing and Economic Regeneration Bill expected shortly.
- 3.5 The Homelessness Strategy, Supporting People Strategy Review and Temporary Accommodation Strategy were approved at Housing Committee in March 2008.
- 3.6 We recognise that housing plays an important part of all aspects of people's lives, particularly health and wellbeing. To support the new strategy the Primary Care Trust is carrying out a Health Impact Assessment on the city's housing needs. The results of this assessment are helping us to ensure that our strategy and action plans contribute to improving the health and wellbeing of local people.
- 3.7 Oversight of the strategy development process has been by the Strategic Housing Partnership of the Local Strategic Partnership which has been acting as the Project Board.
- 3.8 The Housing Strategy 2008-2013: healthy homes, healthy lives, healthy city will be submitted for joint approval to both Council and the Local Strategic Partnership and will become a key component of the Community Strategy.

4. CONSULTATION:

- 4.1 Our strategies have been developed in stages to maximise opportunities for local people, advocacy groups, partner organisations, staff and other stakeholders to engage in the process.
- 4.2 The first round of consultation was undertaken over 3 months in summer 2007. The consultation was shaped around a Briefing Pack developed to highlight key areas of housing need to provide stakeholders with relevant information to help facilitate discussion. This pack was available on the council website and throughout the city in libraries and other public places. It was also sent out to many stakeholders, voluntary organisations and residents.
- 4.3 To support this consultation we also organised a 2 day Consultation Fair that included a Saturday, officers went out into the community, attended social functions, service user groups meetings and other events. Where possible we also linked in with other research and consultation being carried out across the city, such as the groundbreaking *Count Me In Too!* research looking at the needs and aspirations of the city's LGBT population.
- 4.4 In winter 2007/08 we published strategy frameworks outlining the proposed key priorities and actions for the Housing Strategy, Older People's Housing Strategy, BME Housing Strategy and LGBT Housing Strategy. These priorities and actions were developed from the Consultation Briefing Pack and findings of the first round of consultation. Consultation on the strategy frameworks together is being used to help develop the draft strategies and action plans.
- 4.5 To support the development of the specialist strategies, two Housing & Support Working Groups have been set up:
- Older People's Cross Sector Housing & Support Working Group
 - LGBT Housing & Support Working Group
- These groups are made up of representatives from a wide range of support and advocacy groups, the community and voluntary sector, the Primary Care Trust and the local authority. Whilst these groups have been instigated and facilitated by the local authority, they are led by our stakeholders.
- 4.6 These groups have reviewed each stage of the strategy development process and made many valuable contributions to our strategic priorities, action plan and equality impact assessment. We hope that these groups will have an ongoing input into monitoring and review once the strategies are published.
- 4.7 We are working with the BME communities to explore the potential for a similar group to be a critical champion of the BME Housing Strategy.

- 4.8 Sub groups of the Strategic Housing Partnership have been looking at the role of housing co-ops and the issues around student housing. The findings of these groups are helping to inform the draft strategies.
- 4.9 In tandem with the strategy development process, a number of Chairman's Focus Groups have been set up to consider key issues affecting the council's social housing stock and impacting on the lives of tenants. These groups are looking at a number of issues such as sheltered housing, adaptations and allocations which are also helping to inform the draft housing strategies.
- 4.10 The draft Housing Strategy, Older People's Housing Strategy, BME Housing Strategy and LGBT Housing Strategy are expected to be published in the autumn for a final round of stakeholder consultation before being submitted for approval early in the new year.
- 4.11 We do not want consultation to end with the publication of our strategies, but would like it to be a part of an ongoing process, involving local people and other stakeholders throughout the life of the strategies helping us to monitor its implementation and review our services.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 Financial Implications: [Mike Bentley, Accountant, 16 June 2008]

There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations made in this report. However the final published strategies will need to have close links with the various financial recovery plans in place/being developed across Adult Social Care & Housing.

5.2 Legal Implications: [Celine Hayden, Lawyer, 16 June 2008]

Under the Local Government Act 2003 the Council is required to produce a Housing Strategy (section 87–88) setting out the objectives, targets and policies on how the Council intends to manage and deliver its strategic housing role. The Housing Strategy document should also provide an overarching framework against which the Council considers and formulates other policies on more specific housing issues. The Council's Housing Strategies are made available and appraised by Government Officers for the region (section 65 Local Government and Housing Act 1989) to ensure they are fit for the purpose i.e. that they are capable of delivering the housing function to a standard demanded by Government. The Housing Strategy should also address energy efficiency issues in the housing stock (Home Energy Conservation Act 1995). Policies must be consistent with any national housing strategies at present.

5.3 Equalities Implications:

An equality impact assessment is being carried out on each strategy as it is being developed, with the strategy containing a summary of the assessment. Assessments will be completed during the last stage of consultation to inform

the final drafts of the strategies. Additional Equality Impact Assessments will be required as the strategy action plans are implemented over the next few years. Below is a summary of our approach to each of the 6 equality strands:

- **Race:** BME Housing Strategy in development
- **Disability:** Strategy Statement on Physical Disabilities incorporated in Housing Strategy and Older People's Housing Strategy. Disability of all kinds, including physical disability, learning disability and mental health issues, are also a key feature of the Supporting People and Learning Disability Housing Strategies
- **Gender and gender identity:** Actions from the Gender Equality Scheme have been fed into the strategic development process. Gender Identity is also a key feature of the LGBT Housing Strategy.
- **Age:** Older People's Housing Strategy in development. Youth Homelessness Strategy developed in 2007. Supporting People Strategy links to older people's services, youth homelessness services, and action to fund LGBT support worker for young people at risk
- **Religion / Belief:** The BME Housing Strategy includes community safety objectives which also cover religion and belief.
- **Sexual Orientation:** LGBT Housing Strategy in development

5.4 **Sustainability Implications:**

Housing is one of the 12 key objectives of the council's Sustainability Strategy which aims ***to ensure that everyone has access to decent, affordable housing that meets their needs***. The Housing Strategy 2008-2013 and related specialist strategies support this aim.

5.5 **Crime & Disorder Implications:**

Ensuring appropriate housing and support is essential in helping to reduce antisocial behaviour and other crime and also to support the victims of crime. Specific actions within the LGBT and BME housing strategies recognise hate crime and aim to support victims and help develop safer communities.

5.6 **Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:**

The current economic climate brings with it the risks of increased levels of home repossessions, increased numbers of empty homes, increased overcrowding, reduced access to equity funding for maintenance and improvements and reduced levels of house building. This could increase pressures relating to homelessness, housing support and community cohesion. A robust housing strategy is essential to help mitigate these risks and resultant budgetary pressures.

5.7 **Corporate / Citywide Implications:**

Housing is a fundamental aspect of people's wellbeing affecting the daily lives of 250,000 residents in Brighton & Hove. Poor or inappropriate housing has a direct impact on the ability of residents to maintain their independence – this has implications for social care, education and the health. 22,000 households

in the city have someone with a support need and vulnerability affects 1 in 5 households. Housing also has a significant impact on the economy, with the housing stock currently valued at approximately £26bn. Homes worth more than £1bn are sold every year with around a further £1bn being spent on maintenance, rents, mortgages and other associated housing costs. Our housing aims support the priorities and aims of the 2020 Community Strategy.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1. None

Documents In Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents:

All available at: <http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1188834>

1. Draft Housing Strategy Framework, December 2007
2. Draft Older People's Housing Strategy Framework, December 2007
3. Draft BME People's Housing Strategy Framework, December 2007
4. Draft LGBT People's Housing Strategy Framework, December 2007
5. Housing Strategy 2008: Consultation Briefing Pack, May 2007

ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 12

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Housing Green Paper Options Stage 1
Date of Meeting: 26 June 2008
Report of: The Director of Adult Social Care and Housing
Contact Officer: Name: Giles Rossington Tel: 29-1038
E-mail: Giles.rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report contains information on the ongoing process of examining the council's options in terms of the development of its social housing stock.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) That the report be noted.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Since local residents voted for the retention of housing stock, the council has been working hard to review its strategic housing options.
- 3.2 Current Government thinking has also moved towards strengthening the Local Authority role in housing provision.
- 3.3 This thinking is encapsulated in the Housing Green Paper. This consultation paper throws up a number of opportunities that could be of interest in meeting our strategic housing needs. Many authorities are already taking forward opportunities highlighted within the Green Paper to lever in additional investment and meet their strategic priorities.

- 3.4 In March 2008 the Housing Committee noted the range of options and opportunities offered in the Housing Green Paper. These are currently being examined in detail in order to establish whether a sustainable business case can be made for further development on order to support strategic housing and other objectives in the city.
- 3.5 officers from the Housing Strategy, Finance and Legal Departments have worked closely in an initial assessment of the Green Paper. We reported to Committee that we were seeking specialist external legal and financial advice to examine in detail whether there is a sustainable business case for taking forward any option to meet the strategic needs of the City. The objective would be to obtain best value from assets, bring in additional investment, meet housing need, promote regeneration and assist with meeting the Decent Homes standards.
- 3.6 Specialist legal and financial advice was sought in order to inform the Council on potential implications in areas such as tax, partnerships and risk. The Council did not seek general consultancy services.
- 3.7 Members were advised that it was anticipated a report back on the analysis would be made in the summer.
- 3.8 The Council has now completed the process of procuring expert advisers through competitive tender in order to support officers in undertaking a detailed analysis of the practicalities of taking forward any model and/or opportunity outlined in the Housing Green Paper.
- 3.9 PWC and Trowers and Hamlins have successfully tendered to supply this financial and legal advice.
- 3.10 These firms are now engaged on intensive time limited project work with officers to produce an initial assessment to ascertain whether a sustainable business case can be made for the development of any option within which the Council retains an interest, without any freehold transfer. The initial report back on this work is due in mid June 2008.
- 3.11 When complete, a detailed report on the analysis of options will be brought forward through the Council decision making process and the case made to enable the further development of any appropriate model.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 No consultation was undertaken in preparing this report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications in regard to this report, although any eventual actions taken in regard to the Housing Green paper may have considerable financial implications.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 No legal advice has been sought for this update report.

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are no direct equalities implications to this report; eventual actions in regard to the Housing Green Paper will be taken with regard to equalities issues.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no direct sustainability implications to this report; eventual actions in regard to the Housing Green Paper will be taken with regard to sustainability issues.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are no direct crime and disorder implications to this report; eventual actions in regard to the Housing Green Paper will be taken with regard to crime and disorder issues.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None in relation to this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 There are no direct corporate/citywide implications to this report, but options for the use and maintenance of housing stock may form a key component of future corporate/citywide plans.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

There is none.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 13

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: The Sussex Partnership Trust Contract
Date of Meeting: 26 June 2008
Report of: The Director of Strategy and Governance
Contact Officer: Name: Giles Rossington Tel: 29-1038
E-mail: Giles.rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report contains information on possible changes to Council contracts with the Sussex Partnership NHS Trust.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Council has in place joint commissioning arrangements ("section 75 arrangements" as set out in Section 75 of the 2006 National Health Service Act) with Brighton & Hove City teaching Primary Care Trust (PCT) covering a number of services.
- 3.2 The Council also has a Section 75 arrangement with the Sussex Partnership Trust for the provision of some services.
- 3.3 The Sussex Partnership Trust is currently in the process of applying for NHS Foundation Trust status. If, as is anticipated, Foundation Status is granted, this may entail some changes to the current Section 75 arrangements.

- 3.4 In addition, the PCT is currently seeking to revise and formalise its contracting arrangements, which may require the establishment of a more formal agreement with the Sussex Partnership Trust.
- 3.5 There is therefore a need to ensure that agreements between the Council, the PCT and the Sussex Partnership Trust continue to be as robust as possible in the face of changes to the organisation of the Local Health Economy, and that the Council's best interests and those of the Adult Social Care agenda are maintained.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 No consultation was undertaken in preparing this report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications to this report, although eventual actions in regard to the Housing Green Paper may have major financial implications.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 No legal advice has been sought for this report.

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are no direct equalities implications to this report, eventual actions in regard to the Housing Green Paper should be undertaken with reference to equalities issues.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no direct sustainability implications to this report, although eventual actions in regard to the Housing Green Paper will be undertaken with reference to sustainability issues.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are no direct crime & disorder implications to this report, although eventual actions in regard to the Housing Green Paper will be undertaken with reference to crime & disorder issues.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None in relation to this report

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 There are no direct Corporate/Citywide implications to this report, but future options for the use and maintenance of housing stock are a key part of corporate/Citywide planning.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

There is none.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 14

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: **Review of Learning Disability Day Services**
Date of Meeting: **26th June 2008**
Report of: **The Director of Adult Social Care and Housing**
Contact Officer: Name: Naomi Cox Tel: 29-6400
E-mail: naomi.cox@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report contains information on possible changes to day services for people with Learning Disabilities.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 A review of the council's directly provided day services for people with Learning Disabilities has identified areas in which services could be improved.
- 3.2 The intention would be to change services in order to make them more person-centred, more flexible and more efficient and to increase service users' access to community and mainstream opportunities. The aim would also be to make the entire range of day services more widely available than is currently the case

- 3.3 In order to improve services, it is envisaged that a “day options team” would be formed; this team would co-ordinate day activities and ensure that the best use was made of all available forms of support, thus reducing the reliance upon “building-based” day services.
- 3.4 There would be no reduction in the amount of support offered to service users and their families. The important role day services play in supporting family carers to continue caring is recognised. In some cases the source of the day support might be changed to facilitate additional opportunities and reduce the use of dedicated transport and dedicated buildings.
- 3.5 There is a requirement to consult with stakeholders before any planned changes to these services are implemented.
- 3.6 This issue will be taken to a future meeting of the Cabinet Member for Housing where endorsement of the recommendations for change will be made after formal consultation has taken place in regard to the planned changes.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 No consultation was undertaken in preparing this report. However the work of the Learning Disability Partnership Board’s Improving Day Services Group and the Day Service “Visioning Days” involving key stakeholders have informed these proposals for change.
- 4.2 The formal 12-week consultation will involve all key stakeholders: service users, family carers, the Learning Disability Partnership Board and key partners in the 3rd sector. We will ensure account is taken of the most accessible ways of communicating with our service users given their specific communications needs as a result of their learning disabilities.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications to this report, although eventual actions in regard to the provision of Learning Disability day services may have considerable financial implications.

Legal Implications:

5.2 No legal advice as yet

Equalities Implications:

5.3 There are no direct equalities implications to this report; eventual decisions in regard to the provision of Learning Disability day services should be taken with regard to equalities issues.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 There are no direct sustainability implications to this report; eventual decisions in regard to the provision of Learning Disability day services should be taken with regard to sustainability issues.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 There are none.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 None in relation to this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 None in relation to this report, but eventual decisions in regard to the provision of Learning Disability day services should be taken with regard to corporate priorities.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Background Documents

1. Learning Disability Day Services Review (Adult Social Care Committee Report 17th Sept 2007).
2. Valuing People White Paper 2001 & Valuing People Now 2008.
3. Putting People First 2007.
4. Having a Good Day - Social Care Institute for Excellence 2007.

