

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 7

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Committee Terms of Reference
Date of Meeting: 16 June 2008
Report of: Director of Strategy and Governance
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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To set out the Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules for the Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) To note the report.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Following the adoption of the new Constitution on 15 May 2008, the Council has appointed an Overview and Scrutiny Commission (OSC) and five Overview and Scrutiny committees: Adult Social Care and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee (ASCHOSC), Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC), Culture Tourism and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CTEOSC), Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee (ECSOSC) and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC).
- 3.2 The main new scrutiny roles, to be carried out by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission (OSC) and the five Overview and Scrutiny Committees, include monitoring compliance with the Council's Forward Plan of key decisions and the Budget and Policy Framework, and being involved in policy development at an early stage.
- 3.3 The full committee terms of reference and procedure rules (Constitution Part 6.1) are included at Appendix 1 to this report. A

separate report on Overview and Scrutiny and the Council's Forward Plan appears elsewhere on this agenda.

Work Programme

- 3.7 The committee is responsible for setting its own objectives and work programme in coordination with the OSC. A separate report appears on this agenda.
- 3.8 Each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees have a responsibility to consider the plans and strategies within the Budget and Policy Framework that relate to their functions prior to their approval by Full Council.
- 3.9 Overview and Scrutiny work programmes may also include examination of items on the Council's Forward Plan.
- 3.10 Any Member of the 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 and how it wishes to pursue the suggested item (see flow chart at Appendix 2).
- 3.11 The committee should also respond, when their work programme allows it, to requests from the Council and if it thinks appropriate, the Cabinet/Cabinet Committees to review particular areas of Council activity.

4. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

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

Legal Implications:

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

Equalities Implications:

- 4.3 One of the functions of the OSC is to review and scrutinise all matters, Executive decisions and service provision relating to Equalities.

Sustainability Implications:

- 4.4 One of the functions of the OSC is to review and scrutinise all matters, Executive decisions and service provision relating to sustainability.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

4.5 None directly in relation to this report.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

4.6 None directly in relation to this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

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

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Overview and Scrutiny Terms of Reference
- 2 Flowchart of scrutiny reviews process

Background Documents:

15 May 2008 Council Constitution

