





Brighton & Hove
City Council

Overview & Scrutiny

Title:	Overview & Scrutiny Commission
Date:	3 June 2008
Time:	4.00pm
Venue	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
Members:	Councillors: Mitchell (Chairman) Pidgeon (Deputy Chairman), Alford, Morgan, Elgood, Meadows, Bennett, Mrs Cobb, Older, Randall and Wakefield-Jarrett
Contact:	Mary van Beinum Scrutiny Support Officer 01273 - 29 - 1062 mary.vanbeinum@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMISSION

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OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMISSION

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For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Mary van Beinum, (01273 - 29 - 1062, email mary.vanbeinum@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email scrutiny@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Date of Publication - Tuesday, 27 May 2008

1. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS.

A. Declaration of Substitutes

Where a Member of the Commission 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 Commission. 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 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.

Declaration of Party Whip

C.

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.

Exclusion of Press and Public

D.

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.

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ORGANISATION COMMITTEE

5.00PM – 21 APRIL 2008

HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Young (Chairman); Councillors Alford, Allen, Davis, Duncan, Harmer-Strange, Janio, Simpson, Smart, Steedman and Watkins.

PART ONE

ACTION

74. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

74A. Declarations of Substitutes

74.1 Councillor Smart declared that he was attending the meeting as Substitute Member for Councillor Barnett.

74B. Declarations of Interest

74.2 During discussion on item 82, Councillor Simpson advised that although she did not have a personal or prejudicial interest in the item, she felt the committee should be aware that she was an employee of Age Concern.

74.3 During discussion on item 85, Councillor Harmer-Strange advised that although he did not have a personal or prejudicial interest in the item, he felt the committee should be aware of his private sector housing interests.

74C. Exclusion of Press and Public

74.3 The Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A, Part 5A, Section 100A(4) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

74.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting.

75. MINUTES

75.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2008 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

76. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

76.1 The Chairman welcomed all to the final meeting of this Committee and thanked the Members, Lead Councillors, departmental and support officers who had participated in meetings during the year. She also gave an update on the Dual Diagnosis Review, as a Member of the Panel.

77. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

77.1 There were none.

78. INTRODUCTION TO ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HOUSING

78.1 Councillor K Norman gave an introduction to the work of Adult Social Care. He said the service had retained a 3-star rating in its latest inspection; there had been steady improvement plus high levels of satisfaction from service users. There was no complacency however; improvements had to continue for example in the personalisation of services. Learning Disabilities Services was a key priority. Councillor Norman thanked all the staff and in particular those working with service users.

78.2 Councillor Mears started by thanking staff in the Housing divisions, tenants and cross-party Members. She said meeting the Decent Homes Standard would be challenging. She noted considerable progress in the learning disabilities service, and was pleased that Housing Strategy had achieved the highest rating – 4 out of 4 - of all Unitary Authorities in the South East.

78.3 She said a recent meeting of tenants was very lively and well-attended. She looked forward to the challenges ahead. Answering a question on adult social care and housing scrutiny, she said the new constitution would be reviewed.

78.4 **RESOLVED:** - that the report be noted

79. PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 3, 2007/2008: EXTRACT FROM REPORT TO 3 MARCH POLICY & RESOURCES

- 79.1 The Performance Analyst introduced the Quarter 3 Performance Report of the Director of Strategy & Governance. (See minute book)
- 79.2 He said performance against the indicators were broadly on track and since the report was compiled there had been improvements, for example on BV201 – adults and older people receiving direct payments. He pointed out that BV 64 – private sector vacant dwellings returned to occupation or demolished was, as agreed by the Government of the South East, rewardable via the Local Area Agreement.
- 79.3 This was the final report on Best Value Performance Indicators. The new performance framework, to include the National Indicator set was currently being developed.
- 79.4 Answering questions, the Head of Adult Social Care and Performance and Development described BV 195 and 196, acceptable waiting times for new older clients, and said there had been a great improvement. Slower assessment times in the past had been caused by the volume of adults' safeguarding work which took priority and by the year end 86% of clients had received services within the acceptable time (4 weeks).
- 79.5 The Head of Housing Needs answered questions on homelessness and homelessness prevention.
- 79.6 **RESOLVED:** - that the report be noted.

80. ADULT SOCIAL CARE: PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 80.1 The Head of Adult Social Care and Performance and Development presented the report of the Director of Adult Social Care & Housing on the outcomes emerging from Commission for Social Care Inspections review of performance in Adult Social Care for the year 2006-07. (See minute book)
- 80.2 He noted that some local authorities had lost their 3-star rating and the fact that 3-star had been achieved by this authority for a second time was a good reflection on the hard work of front-line staff. Performance against delayed transfers of care had improved greatly in recent years and the reduced number of admissions to residential/nursing care was also encouraging. Closer partnership working between the council, voluntary sector and NHS was particularly helpful. There were still areas for improvement.

80.3 Asked about data collection within integrated services the Head of Adult Social Care and Performance and Development said this was a technical issue nationally. Though integrated working was doing well, performance information at present has to be input separately to both NHS and Council's Social Care databases, which was onerous. A project to improve data quality was expected to be completed later this year. The Committee asked for a future update to scrutiny. **PL/MvB**

80.4 He also answered questions on partnership working, the assessment of performance, adult safeguarding incidents and direct payments.

80.5 The Assistant Director of Housing outlined the various ways the Council was trying to help individuals and families to move away from institutions, by expanding the choice of houses and services. He also answered a question on waiting times and processes for structural alterations.

80.6 **RESOLVED:** - that the report be noted and an update be provided to a future scrutiny meeting. **PL/MvB**

81. ADULT SOCIAL CARE: COMPLIMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

81.1 The Head of Adult Social Care and Performance and Development gave a summary and key themes of Adult Social Care complaints 2007 – 2008. (See minute book)

81.2 **RESOLVED:** - that the summary be noted.

82. ADULT SOCIAL CARE: TRANSFORMATION AGENDA

82.1 The Director of Community Care (Adult Social Care) gave a presentation and answered questions on the Council's Transformation Agenda. (See minute book)

82.2 **RESOLVED:** that the presentation be noted

83. HOUSING MANAGEMENT: OVERVIEW

83.1 OSOC received a presentation by the Investment Manager on the Procurement Strategy for the Housing Revenue Account Stock. (See Minute Book.)

83.2 The Investment Manager outlined the procurement process and strategy options. He and the Assistant Director, Housing Management, replied to questions on the involvement of tenants in the procurement process, service failures, the linking of responsive and planned maintenance and the management

and monitoring of contracts.

83.3 RESOLVED: - that the presentation be noted.

84. HOUSING MANAGEMENT: PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

84.1 The Policy Performance and Community development manager presented a report of the Director of Adult Social Care & Housing concerning performance management. The report had also been to the four Area Panels and Housing Management Sub-Committee. (See Minute Book). He said a new forum for tenants, a Citywide Assembly was to be established.

84.2 **RESOLVED:** - that the report be noted.

85. HOUSING STRATEGY: OVERVIEW

85.1 The Housing Needs Manager gave an overview presentation on the Housing Strategy pointing out that in the Comprehensive Performance Assessment 2007, the service achieved 4 out of 4, the highest strategic housing rating in the South East. (See Minute Book)

85.2 Asked about the YMCA, he outlined the role of the Association for young people, homeless and rough sleepers in Brighton and Hove.

85.3 **RESOLVED:** - that the report be noted.

86. HOUSING STRATEGY STATISTICAL BULLETIN

86.1 OSOC noted the latest Housing Strategy Statistical Bulletin.(See minute Book)

87. HOUSING STRATEGY AND HOUSING MANAGEMENT COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS

87.1 The Standards and Complaints Manager presented a report of the Director of Strategy & Governance providing details of complaints about Housing dealt with under the Corporate Complaints Procedure received from April 2007 to the end of December 2007. (See minute Book)

87.2 He said complaints about repairs and maintenance had been gradually reducing. Any complaints service relies on receiving information from the public and it was important to ensure the service was open and easily accessible.

87.3 A template was being developed to give a more detailed analysis of the sources and causes of complaints.

87.4 **RESOLVED:** - that the report be noted

88. CARBON MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME ANNUAL REVIEW

88.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Finance & Resources providing an update on the progress of the council's Carbon Management Programme. (See minute book)

88.2 The Head of Sustainability and Environmental Policy said the reduction in Council's carbon dioxide emissions (ref report para 4.4.2) was achieved largely through staff awareness and change in behaviour rather than by technology.

88.3 Better energy management was needed. A number of initiatives were being developed and the Council had also joined the Carbon Trading Counties 'dummy' scheme. The national performance framework from April 2009 would include assessment of emissions from local authorities for the first time. The Housing Stock data (para 4.2.1) was now available.

88.4 Members commented on overheated council buildings and equipment left on out of hours. There was a query about the responsibility for inspecting schools' energy performance and how to assess feasibility of individual projects. More information on the Council's total emissions was asked for.

88.5 **RESOLVED:** - that officers be asked to provide OSOC Members with an estimate of the total carbon dioxide emissions by the Council as a proportion of the city as a whole.

TC

89. CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

89.1 The Head of Corporate Communications introduced himself to the committee. He explained in his new role he was allowing 100 days to assess current communications activities and operations. He would then plan stronger processes, taking into account best practice information and targets for example from the Local Government Association, Improvement and Development Agency and Best Value Performance Indicators.

89.2 Asked about City News Policy the Head of Corporate Communications said he would be working on a set of protocols for press releases and all council publications, including City News. Quotes attributed to the Lead Councillor or Cabinet Member would be issued in press items under the new protocol; this is supported under the Local Government Act and the Code of Practice on local government publicity.

89.3 Some Members felt that City News should profile all Ward

Councillors.

90. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IN THE NEW CONSTITUTION

- 90.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Strategy & Governance outlining the proposed arrangements for Overview and Scrutiny under the council's new Constitution. (See minute book.)
- 90.2 Some Members were disappointed that two suggestions for new scrutiny arrangements as put forward by informal meetings of OSOC in January and February, had not been included in the proposals.
- 90.3 Some felt that the Overview and Scrutiny Commission should simply be an Overview and Scrutiny Committee; its proposed role would introduce undue delay in taking forward scrutiny recommendations from the other O&S Committees and co-ordination could instead be carried out by informal meetings of Chairmen and officers.
- 90.4 In addition, noting that this meeting of OSOC which happened to be focussing on both Adult Social Care and Housing had already been in progress for nearly three and a half hours, some Members felt that Adult Social Care and Housing should not be combined in the same Scrutiny Committee to allow enough time for consideration of key issues.
- 90.5 It was agreed to write to the Chief Executive.
- 90.6 **RESOLVED:** - That the Committee write to the Chief Executive with concerns as minuted above.

91. AUDIT PANEL – 31 MARCH 2008

- 91.1 The Committee noted the summary of proceedings of the meeting of the Audit Panel held on 31 March 2008.

92. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 1 APRIL 2008

- 92.1 The Committee noted the draft minutes of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 1 April 2008.

93. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL

- 93.1 **RESOLVED -**

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Agenda Item 7

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Overview and Scrutiny Commission Terms of Reference		
Date of Meeting:	3 June 2008		
Report of:	Director of Strategy and Governance		
Contact Officer:	Name: Mary van Beinum	Tel: 29-1062	
	E-mail: mary.vanbeinum@brighton-hove.gov.uk		
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 new Overview and Scrutiny Commission (OSC).

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 both the 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 OSC 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.

3.4 The Council's Budget and Policy Framework Documents are listed at Appendix 2.

3.5 In addition to the roles also undertaken by the five Overview and Scrutiny Committees the OSC has a coordinating role for the overview and scrutiny function and its work programme.

3.6 OSC is responsible for reviewing and scrutinising all matters relating to the specific functions of the Leader of the Council, Finance and Central Services functions, and other matters including joint working with other authorities and performance monitoring.

3.7 OSC and 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.

3.8 In line with the new scrutiny provisions in the Local Government Act 2007 the OSC has extra functions with regard to scrutiny of partner authorities and partnership working. These are summarised at Appendix 3 below.

3.9 The Commission can itself, or on the recommendation of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee, determine whether or not to establish an in-depth time-limited Sub-Committee, a 'Select Committee' to investigate a particular issue related to the functions of the Council or other issues of concern.

3.10 An Overview and Scrutiny Committee may not establish a Select Committee without the approval of the OSC but it can make recommendations to OSC. (see Part 6.1 paragraph 4)

3.11 Short sharply focused scrutiny reviews (Ad Hoc Panels) may be carried out by the OSC and each Committee at their own instigation. None of the Committees nor the Commission should normally appoint more than one Panel at any one time. The Panels may be on specific matters that do not warrant a full Select Committee inquiry and should be covered within 3 meetings or less.

3.12 When a Member requests scrutiny, that Member should not serve on any scrutiny review of the matter although this would not preclude the Member providing information as a witness.

Work Programme

3.13 The OSC is responsible for setting its own objectives and work programme. The Overview and Scrutiny Committees agree their own work programmes in consultation with the OSC.

3.14 The OSC and 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.

3.15 Overview and Scrutiny work programmes may also include examination of items on the Council's Forward Plan.

3.16 Any Member of the OSC and each 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 OSC or Overview and Scrutiny Committee will then determine if and how it wishes to pursue the suggested item. (See flow chart at Appendix 4)

3.17 The OSC and each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees 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. List of Budget and Policy Framework documents
3. Scrutiny of Partnerships
4. Flowchart of scrutiny reviews

Background Documents:

15 May 2008 Council Constitution

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Agenda Item 8

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Annual Report Overview and Scrutiny 2007- 2008
Date of Meeting: 3 June 2008
Report of: Chairman of Former Overview and Scrutiny Organisation Committee
Contact Officer: Name: **Mary van Beinum** Tel: **29-1062**
E-mail: mary.vanbeinum@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 This report details the work undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and Panels at Brighton & Hove City Council during the year 2007-2008.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the report be presented to the next available meeting of full Council by the Chairman of OSOC, who also Chaired Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee during the year.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Background

3.1 This Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny is the last under the committee-based constitutional arrangements for Brighton & Hove. The introduction of cabinet-style decision-making is expected to have a significant impact on the future work of overview and scrutiny.

3.2 During 2007/2008 Overview and scrutiny has continued to form an integral part of the committee structure by holding the decision-making committees to account and by playing a key role in monitoring performance to ensure the delivery of high quality services.

3.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Organisation Committee (OSOC) is responsible for administering the Council's overview and scrutiny function. OSOC has two sub-committees; the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC) and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC). There is also a standing sub-group of OSOC, the Audit Panel which meets in non-public session.

3.4 The committees overview performance and monitor services and policies; where necessary they can form in-depth Scrutiny Panels to investigate issues, report findings and make recommendations to the decision-makers.

3.5 The OSOC and the CYPOSC may determine requests made in exceptional circumstances to call in, or reconsider, a decision made by the executive committees but not yet implemented.

4. Overview and Scrutiny arrangements

4.1 From May 2007, Councillor Jan Young chaired all three scrutiny committees OSOC, CYPOSC and HOSC. Councillor Dawn Barnett served as OSOC Deputy Chairman. Councillor Peltzer Dunn was appointed Deputy Chairman of CYPOSC and Councillor Kevin Allen was Deputy Chairman of HOSC.

4.3 OSOC comprised 11 elected Members.

4.4 CYPOSC comprised 10 elected Members, 4 Statutory co-optees with Voting Rights and 4 non-statutory Co-optees without Voting Rights.

4.2 HOSC comprised ten Councillors and 5 co-optees from health organisations, patients' fora and the Older People's Council. The Deputy Chairs were Councillors Bennett and Young.

4.4 The work undertaken by CYPOSC and HOSC in 2007-08 is detailed in sections 8 and 9 below.

4.5 The Audit Panel, a standing sub-group of OSOC continued to meet to consider matters of financial control, risk management, performance and governance and to provide an additional framework to help Overview & Scrutiny Members to identify key challenges and successes. See section 10 below.

4.6 The scrutiny function is supported by the Principal Solicitor (Governance) and four scrutiny support officers (3 FTE's) who assist in managing and coordinating the work of the scrutiny committees and panels.

5. Scrutiny Reviews

Street Trees Scrutiny Review

5.1 At its January 2007 meeting, OSOC agreed to a request by former Councillor Edmond-Smith to carry out a review of Street Trees in Brighton and Hove. The Councillors nominated to sit on the Panel were Councillor Young (Chair), and

Councillor Elgood, and former Councillors Hazelgrove and Paskins. The proximity of the local elections meant that this was designed as a 'light-touch' review and it completed its evidence-gathering before the local elections in May.

5.2 Recommendations related to

- a) The arboriculture budget and sources of income
- b) Removal and commercial disposal of hazardous street trees
- c) Draft Tree and Woodland Strategy
- d) Inspection and maintenance of Council-owned street trees
- e) Annual Stock report
- f) Integrated working in areas close to street trees
- g) Education and publicity
- h) Trees on Housing land
- i) Good practice in new street tree planting
- j) Unnecessary application of asphalt to tree bases

5.3 The report of the Scrutiny Panel was endorsed, with an addition to a recommendation concerning the budget for tree provision on Council land, by OSOC at its meeting on 16 July.

5.4 The Environment Committee replied to the recommendations of the final report on 13 September and an officer report back to overview and scrutiny on implementation of the agreed actions has been requested for around a year after that date.

Dual Diagnosis Scrutiny Review

5.5 In January 2008 following a request from Councillor Wrighton, OSOC agreed to establish a scrutiny panel to investigate and suggest improvements to the provision of health, housing and support services for those in the community, who because of an actual or perceived co-existing substance misuse and mental health problem, fail to receive adequate medical and social care.

5.6 Panel Members are Councillors Watkins (Chairman), Hawkes, Taylor and Young.

5.7 At the time of writing, the review is at the information-gathering stage.

6. Overview and Scrutiny Organisation Committee (OSOC)

6.1 One way in which the OSOC fulfils its overview function is to focus on the work and performance of one directorate at each meeting, as well as receiving reports from all the service areas within their remit. During the current year, it

heard from Strategy & Governance, Finance & Resources, Environment, Adult Social Care & Housing, discussing key areas of work with Directors and Lead Councillors.

6.2 During the year the Committee has endorsed the findings and recommendations of the Street Trees scrutiny review and as part of the monitoring process, has requested an officer report back on action taken in reply to the recommendations.

6.3 OSOC Members have suggested items for subsequent meetings and a number of issues have been brought forward in this way. These include preparedness for flooding, planning enforcement, absence management, parking management contract, carbon management programme and the Council's agricultural portfolio.

6.4 The Committee wrote to the Planning Applications Sub-Committee regarding the risks of flooding from various sources during consideration of proposed developments and asked for more details of gulley cleansing. At meetings in January and March officer reports on green roofs and on the Downland Initiative were requested, to future O&S meetings. After a discussion on the Local Strategic Partnership, a report on the governance arrangements was also asked for.

6.5 OSOC received and considered four scrutiny requests during 2007 – 2008. These related to the waste management contract, consultation on parking zone W, dual diagnosis (of mental health and substance misuse) and Falmer Academy.

6.6 OSOC considered all four requests at its January meeting and agreed to establish a four-member scrutiny panel on dual diagnosis.

6.7 The Committee referred the matter of the Falmer Academy to the CYPOSC with the recommendation that no panel be set up but that CYPOSC receive progress reports on the academy proposals.

6.8 On the request for scrutiny of parking zone consultation, OSOC resolved that this be deferred until the outcome of the ombudsman's investigation is known.

6.9 The request relating to the waste management contract was deferred until May.

6.10 The Committee has received updates on scrutiny reviews and monitored the outcomes of completed scrutiny reviews. For example, it received monitoring reports on implementation of the recommendations of three reviews: Access, Procurement and Housing Decision Procedures.

6.11 Scrutiny provisions in the Local Government (Public Involvement in Health) Act 2007 and Police and Justice Act (2006) which will have a significant impact on the scrutiny function, have been reported to the Committee.

6.12 OSOC gave its approval in June 2007 to HOSC joining a Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) to examine the forthcoming joint West Sussex and Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust proposals to reconfigure regional NHS healthcare services ("Fit For the Future").

6.13 It also authorised in principle its sub-group, the Audit Panel to meet in private and public session, subject to an agreed protocol.

6.13 OSOC also received minutes from meetings of the HOSC, the JHOSC, CYPOSC, and the Audit Panel, as part of its co-ordination of the scrutiny function.

7. Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC)

7.1 The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC) has the remit of overview and scrutiny of education and children's health and social care issues, mirroring the responsibilities of the new Children and Young People's Trust, a partnership of organisations aiming to deliver integrated children's services in Brighton and Hove.

7.2 After its first meeting of 2007-08, CYPOSC agreed to receive more focused overview sessions at its meetings, each focusing on an area of the work of Children and Young People's Trust under the headings of the Every Child Matters agenda – Be Healthy, Stay Safe, Enjoy and Achieve, Make a Positive Contribution, and Achieve Economic Well-being – with an emphasis on the performance of that service area. The committee took this opportunity to both understand more about the work of the various teams operating under the Children and Young People's Trust, and also to ask questions about priority areas and about performance.

7.3 The committee's received reports on a wide variety of issues, including alcohol and substance misuse, school attendance, mental health services commissioning and the authority's parenting strategy.

7.4 The committee was referred a petition received by council regarding the use of fingerprint identification systems in schools. The committee considered an initial report on the issue and resolved to look into the matter in greater depth. The committee contacted all schools in the city to determine how widely fingerprint identification systems were used, investigated the legal issues surrounding the use of the systems, and agreed that guidance could be issued to all schools to assist

them in making decisions on whether to use the systems. This work represented a good use of the scrutiny process – fingerprinting systems in schools is a controversial subject, which has received a large amount of national attention. The committee was able to compile all the relevant information and offer guidance to schools to ensure decisions about whether to use the systems were taken openly and with the co-operation and participation of governors, students and parents.

7.5 The committee continued to receive Ofsted reports for all maintained schools in the city. The relevant section of the minutes of CYPOSC meetings are forwarded to the Children’s Trust Board. The committee also writes to the Head Teachers and Governors of outstanding schools to congratulate them on success. The committee extended this role this year to include receiving Ofsted reports for nurseries and early years settings and also Diocesan reports, helping the committee to keep an overview of all maintained education settings in the city.

8.0 Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8.1 The Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) has a remit which covers the scrutiny of health related matters, including examining local NHS Trusts and services commissioned by these Trusts.

8.2 During 2007-2008, the HOSC was extensively involved in scrutinising the “Fit For the Future” plans to reconfigure acute healthcare services in West Sussex and Brighton & Hove. This involved examining the Fit For the Future plans pertaining to Brighton & Hove healthcare at HOSC meetings, as well working together with colleagues from East Sussex, West Sussex, Portsmouth, Surrey and Hampshire on a formal Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) examining the impact of the proposals upon West Sussex and Brighton & Hove. The JHOSC recently published its Report on the Fit For the Future process (May 02 2008), and final NHS decisions on the reconfiguration plans are anticipated in July 2008.

8.3 During the course of the past year, the Committee was also involved in examining a number of other issues relating to the health of local residents. Topics covered included:

- Sussex Partnership NHS Trust’s application to become an NHS Foundation Trust

- Plans to significantly alter Sussex Partnership Trust’s services in Brighton & Hove (including the reconfiguration of Mill View Hospital and changes to the structure of the Community Mental Health Team)

- The City Strategic Commissioning Strategy

- The City-wide Estates Strategy (medium term planning for healthcare estates in the city, including plans to re-develop the Brighton General Hospital site, plans to re-develop city GP surgeries and plans to develop the city polyclinics network)
- Dentistry
- Delayed Transfers of Care (from acute hospital beds to the community)
- Local Involvement Networks (The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act (2007) created Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) to replace Patient & Public Involvement Forums (PPIFs) as organisations facilitating public involvement in health and social care)
- Maternity

8.4 Throughout 2007-2008, the HOSC has been extensively involved in partnership working with our local health partners (in Brighton & Hove City teaching Primary Care Trust, West Sussex Primary Care Trust, Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust, South Downs Health NHS Trust, Sussex Partnership Trust, South East Coast Ambulance Trust and NHS South East Coast (the South East Strategic Health authority). The HOSC has also been closely involved with Scrutiny colleagues from across the region, both formally as part of the Fit For the Future process, and informally via a number of regional “networks”.

9. Audit Panel

9.1 During 2007-08 the Audit Panel comprised councillors from all political groups who met in non-public session five times during the year: Councillor Watkins (Chairman) and Councillors Simpson, Randall and Young.

9.2 It provided the following in relation to the Council: -

- independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the associated control environment;
- independent scrutiny of the authority’s financial and non-financial performance to the extent that it affects the authority’s exposure to risk and weakens the control environment;
- assurance on the adequacy of the Council’s audit arrangements;
- to oversee the financial reporting process; and
- to oversee the performance and risk management arrangements in the Council.

9.3 Under the Council's new governance arrangements the Audit Panel is scheduled to change to a full Audit Committee, meeting in public except where confidential business is being transacted.

9.4 During the year the Panel has received plans and reports on internal and external audit, risk management, the annual statements of account, internal control and governance, and quarterly performance monitoring reports. The Members have received direct verbal answers to key questions and where necessary further information has been brought to a future meeting, for example on the Education PFI and the security of data and information technology systems.

9.5 In considering the Annual Audit and Inspection Plan with representatives of the Audit Commission the Audit Panel has discussed their perspective of the Council's Value for Money, Use of Resources and Performance Management. A Risk Assessment process and approach to the preparation and production of the Council's Financial Statements has been reported to the Panel.

9.6 During the year the Panel considered a report on the effectiveness of the Council's system of internal audit and endorsed the Internal Audit Charter which sets out the purpose, role, responsibility, status and authority of internal auditing within the Council. Progress reports on local outcomes from the National Fraud Initiative and Citywide Anti-Fraud Campaign have also been presented. The Audit Panel received the first draft report on the Code of Corporate Governance for comment.

9.7 The Panel in March 2008 received information on the gas servicing works undertaken on Council-owned properties. In September 2007 it has considered its own Operation and Effectiveness and has resolved to review the collective and individual skills and training needs of each Audit Panel member.

9.8 The Members have stressed the importance to the future Audit Committee, of continuing to receive risk management reports and at the February 2008 meeting expressed the wish for health and safety risk monitoring including fire risk assessments for Council buildings including schools be taken forward to the new Audit Committee.

9.9 The main officer group in support of the Audit Panel has been the Internal Control and Risk Management Board comprising the Director of Finance & Resources, Head of Law and Deputy Monitoring Officer, the Risk Manager and the Head of Audit and Assurance Services.

10. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

10.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Legal Implications:

10.2 A role of the OSC is to co-ordinate the production of an annual report to Council on the activity of the Overview and Scrutiny function.

Equalities Implications:

10.3 Equalities implications are taken into account in exercising the Council's overview and scrutiny roles.

Sustainability Implications:

10.4 Sustainability implications are taken into account in exercising the Council's overview and scrutiny roles.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

10.5 Crime and disorder implications are taken into account in exercising the Council's overview and scrutiny roles.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

10.6 No risk assessment has been undertaken in relation to this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

10.7 Overview and scrutiny is concerned with the overall well-being of the City including not only Council services but also those of other agencies

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

None.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Agenda Item 10

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: O&S and the Council's Forward Plan
Date of Meeting: 3 June 2008
Report of: Director of Strategy and Governance
Contact Officer: Name: **Mary van Beinum** Tel: **29-1062**
E-mail: mary.vanbeinum@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 how the Overview and Scrutiny Commission (OSC) and Overview and Scrutiny Committees may choose to use it.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

(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 Section 15.

3.2 As set out in Article 13 of the Constitution 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 shall 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) may request such a report, or the committee itself may pass a resolution requesting a report.

3.9 The Forward Plan can be accessed on the Wave and 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 OSC Chairman meetings and the Chairman will make recommendations to the OSC on items the Commission may wish to consider further.

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. Timeline for Key Decisions

Background Documents

15 May 2008 Council Constitution

APPENDIX 1

Days before key decision taken	Action on key decisions
Four months or more	Matter for key decision may be included on the Forward Plan
One month or more	Matter for key decision is normally expected to be included on the Forward Plan
Less than one calendar month	Report on the key decision to the executive meeting shall state the reason why the matter was not included on the Forward Plan
Less than one calendar month but at least three clear days (General Exception, Part 8 Paragraph 16)	Key decision may still be taken if the Chairman of a relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been informed (or if there is no such person each Member of that Committee and the Leaders/Conveners of all political groups have been informed) in writing by notice of the matter and copies of that notice are available to the public at offices of the Council
Less than three clear days (Special Urgency, Part 8 Paragraph 17)	Key decision may still be taken if the Chairman of a relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee (or if there is no Chairman or he/she is unable to act, the Mayor/Deputy Mayor) agrees that the decision cannot be reasonably deferred. All Leaders/Conveners of political parties must be notified. Quarterly reports are submitted to Council on decisions made under special urgency rules.

AGENDA ITEM 12: BRIGHTON AND HOVE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2008-2011

1. Introduction

1.1 Over the past few years, the public, private and voluntary sector organisations in Brighton & Hove have come together in partnership to plan for the city's future and deliver better, more joined-up services. Our first Local Area Agreement, signed in 2005, was a sign of that shared commitment. In preparing the new agreement for 2008-11, we have a strong basis for further and deeper collaboration.

- In **strategic planning**, partnership working has bedded down, and the future shape of the city is being guided by all those with the ability to influence it, whether from the public, private or third sectors.
- As **service providers**, we are all engaged in a new drive towards efficient, cost-effective services for the city as a whole.
- In **supporting the most disadvantaged**, the case for personalised, tailored support has been revealed by the Reducing Inequality Review, showing that - despite the economic growth of past decades - the city still has areas of severe disadvantage.

1.2 We will not deliver on the city's potential unless we act together, and this three-year plan is the first step towards our new approach. It has been agreed with all the city's partner organisations, and with central Government.

1.3 The transformations that are needed to achieve these goals will not happen overnight. They will not happen over the course of this three-year plan. They are, however, a shared ambition towards which we will work over the coming years, and which will be reflected in the twenty-year Sustainable Community Strategy when it is revised in 2009.

1.4 In signing this document, we have committed to taking forward our work together and to five principles for our partnership work over the next three years. We will:

- Provide personalised services and solutions for all who need them
- Empower people and communities, whether they identify themselves through shared interests or a shared sense of place
- Build a strong, sustainable economy
- Reduce people's vulnerability through prevention and early intervention
- Provide seamless services

1.5 And we agree that we will:

- direct our activity towards the goals set out in this agreement;
- work in partnership across the city on all issues of common concern; and

- work together in new ways to deliver this plan.

**AGENDA ITEM 12:
BRIGHTON AND HOVE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2008-2011**

2. The situation of the city today

Physical situation and population

2.1 Brighton & Hove is densely populated with just over a quarter of a million people within its 222km². The city lies between the South Downs and the sea, offering great benefits in terms of quality of life but also great challenges, as it is impossible for the city to expand its physical area. Reflecting that, 98% of recent residential development and 100% of new employment floor space has been built on brownfield land.

2.2 The city is a popular place to live – its present population is expected to grow to 295,700 by 2026, a growth rate which is higher than both the region and England as a whole. The highest growth is predicted in the 33-44 age group with some decline among retired people and children.

2.3 The city is known for its lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, estimated to be about 1 in 6 people in the city. With two Universities, the city hosts approximately 32,000 students, many of whom stay on after university.

2.4 The city is also a destination for migrants from other parts of Europe, with Poles and Spaniards the most populous European communities. 15% of the city's population was born outside England, higher than averages for the region and for England. At the same time, the BME population, at 5.7%, is comparatively low, suggesting that those not born in England are predominantly from white European backgrounds.

Economy

2.5 Economically the city has prospered over the past decade, though growth rates have slowed in recent years. Its Gross Value Added, at £3.2bn, is approximately 2.7% of the overall South East output, more than its proportion of the total population, 2.5%. The city has potential for growth that can benefit the whole of its sub-region, and for this reason has been identified by SEEDA as a 'Diamond for growth and investment'.

2.6 In recent years, technology and knowledge based businesses have been thriving, along with business and financial services which account for approximately one quarter of all employment. The number of VAT registered businesses has increased in line with regional and national increases and job density is currently similar to the regional average.

2.7 The city is also a regional transport hub, where rail and road routes from London meet the coastal networks. The city is marginally a net exporter of commuters, with 33,000 residents living in the city but working outside it and 28,000 of the city's workers living outside the city. Car ownership in the city is the lowest of any authority in the South East and one of the lowest nationally. Public transport within the urban area is notably well developed, with a high level of bus usage and resident satisfaction with public transport.

Culture and tourism

2.8 The city's cultural life is a large part of its identity, and a key contributor to its visitor economy. One fifth of all businesses in the city are in the creative cultural sector, which is the fastest growing economic sector in the city. The city holds England's largest arts festival. The city also has an annual children's festival to encourage home-grown talent and promote understanding of and respect for cultural diversity. Arts play a key role in the regeneration of the city affecting its fabric as well as its economic and social well-being.

2.9 Its cultural heritage encompasses the internationally renowned and iconic Royal Pavilion, regionally recognised museum collections, historic parks and gardens. It is also famous for its Regency and Victorian architecture and has approximately 3,400 listed buildings.

Participation and involvement

2.10 The City Council has recently been chosen as one of 18 community empowerment champions in England, identified as "pioneering a range of people power measures" and "helping to spearhead a reinvigoration of local democracy".

2.11 This work will build on a good record of community and voluntary sector engagement within the city. The sector plays a key role not only as a service provider but also as a means of identifying service user needs and involving service users in the continual improvement of service design and delivery. For example, the Children and Young Peoples Trust has agreed a service level agreement with the Community and Voluntary Sector Forum, which represents a range of third sector organisations across the city, which recognizes and specifies the different roles of the third sector in strategic planning, service design, commissioning processes and monitoring and delivering services.

2.12 Much work has been done through Neighbourhood Renewal to establish neighbourhood-level community engagement, with communities and service providers producing neighbourhood action plans and forming neighbourhood action groups. In January 2008 the Eastern Road Partnership was selected as one of 11 national trailblazers for community contracts.¹

Crime

AGENDA ITEM 12: BRIGHTON AND HOVE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2008-2011

2.13 The total level of police recorded crime has remained stable between 2004/05 and 2006/07 at around 32,500 crimes, though early signs for 2007/8 are encouraging, with a 15.8% reduction in the BCS Comparator Crimes in the first nine months compared with the same months in 2006/07. Overall, good reductions have been achieved in vehicle crime, domestic burglary, personal robbery and wounding offences. The Brighton and Hove Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) is currently ranked 3rd out of 15 most similar CDRPs, in terms of its performance on the ten British Crime Survey Comparator crimes.

Sustainability and the natural environment

2.14 The city has a reputation for promoting environmental protection and sustainability. For example, it has long been a fair trade city and in the Forum for the Future Sustainable Cities Index for 2007, the city was ranked as the most sustainable city in Britain. The BBC has designated the city as one of 15 in the country in its 'Breathing Space' programme.

2.15 Despite this reputation, the city has the highest carbon footprint of any of the major south east economies, and matching growth with reductions in carbon and ecological footprint is one of the major challenges for the future. Current local plan policies, development briefs and supplementary guidance have been successful in securing the issue of renewable energy sources in major developments, for example the Brighton Eye will generate 20% of its energy from a wind turbine.

2.16 Because of its location by the Downs, one sixth of the local authority area is covered by a nature conservation designation and the extensive network of parks and open spaces leading to the downlands play a key role in the well-being of the city, hosting a range of community and cultural events as well as being places of relaxation and recreation. There has been significant progress in sports related regeneration and investment in sports facilities in schools and colleges.

Deprivation

2.17 Based on the Index of Deprivation 2007, Brighton and Hove is ranked as the 79th most deprived authority in England (out of 354). This compares to its ranking of 86th in the 2004 IMD and 95th in the 2000 IMD. This means the City falls within the most deprived 25% of all authorities in England. 15 of its 164 super output areas (9% of all SOAs in the City) fall within the 10% most deprived SOAs in England and 8 SOAs falling in the 5% most deprived. The city is characterised by pockets of severe deprivation, some in areas of relative wealth.

2.18 Learning from the experience of the Neighbourhood Renewal programme

and the New Deal for Communities, the city's Reducing Inequalities Review has highlighted that significant inequalities continue to exist between different areas and communities in the city. Critically, whilst individual families/households may have been helped by the two programmes, overall, statistically, the gap has not been closed. If anything, it has increased especially when considering those claiming DWP benefits.

2.19 The Reducing Inequalities Review found that the majority of 'deprived people' do not live in the 'deprived areas', though those experiencing multiple deprivation do tend to live in the City's most deprived areas. It also indicated a wider range of people who services need to consider. For example, pensioner poverty is above the England average. This means that going forward, service providers must consider both people and places when designing their services and allocating resources, and not one or the other. When considering the city's challenges LAA partners must recognise the persistence of these inequalities and plan their response accordingly.

2.20 The major socio-economic problems the city faces are around:

- Health inequalities particularly around mental health
- Drug, alcohol and substance misuse
- Low or no skills among sections of the population
- A quarter of all children living in households with no working adults
- High, static number of people claiming incapacity benefits
- High churn of people on and off Job seekers Allowance
- Above-average number of young people not in education, employment and training

3. Our ambitions

Prosperity

3.1 We want to secure the future prosperity of the city and give people the skills they need. Over the next three years we will work together to:

- Increase the city's Gross Value
- Increase the number of residents in employment from 127,000 to 131,632
- Increase the number of businesses locally
- Take forward the development of the Brighton Centre and other major development projects
- Engage more residents in the arts and the cultural life of the city
- Reduce average journey time per mile during morning peak hours
- Promote access to services and facilities, including home to work travel, by public transport, walking and cycling
- Increase the percentage of 19 year olds with a level 2 qualification from 68% to 82%.
- Increase the percentage of adult learners achieving a at least Level 2 or higher from 75% to 77%

AGENDA ITEM 12: BRIGHTON AND HOVE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2008-2011

Tackling worklessness

3.2 We want to reduce worklessness and support people back into the labour market. Over the next three years we will work together to:

- Reduce the number of working age people on out of work benefits from 21,702 to 19,612
- Reduce the percentage of 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET) from 9% to 6%
- Increase the percentage of adults in contact with secondary mental health services in employment

Sustainability

3.3 We want to protect the natural and built environment. Over the next three years we will work together to:

- Reduce per capita CO2 emissions in the LA area by 12%
- Decrease in number of households living in properties with a SAP rating of less than 35 by 0.9%
- Increase number of households living in properties with a SAP rating of 65 or over
- Improve our environment by making our streets cleaner

Disadvantaged people: prevention

3.4 We want to ensure that those in vulnerable situations are given support early enough to prevent them becoming seriously disadvantaged. Over the next three years, we will work together to:

- Reduce obesity among primary school age children in year 6
- Reduce the number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17
- Improve young people's access to support from the child and adolescent mental health (CAMHs) services
- Increase the percentage of carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information from 12% to 21%
- Reduce the numbers of young women under 18 years of age becoming pregnant

Disadvantaged people: seamless support

3.5 We want to provide seamless services to those in most need. Over the next three years, we will work together to:

- Increase the percentage of vulnerable people who are helped to achieve independent living
- Increase the number of social care clients receiving Self Directed Support (Direct Payments and Individual Budgets) from 180 to 700
- Increase the percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral
- Improve the specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence

Affordable Family Housing

3.6 We want to ensure that families are housed in decent, affordable homes. Over the next three years, we will work together to:

- Increase the percentage of decent council homes from 44% to 54%
- Provide 570 family affordable additional homes
- Increase the number of properties available for renting or purchase by supporting landlords to improve their properties

Health

3.7 We want to improve the health of people in the city . Over the next three years, we will work together to:

- Reduce current smoking rate prevalence among over 16s
- Increase the self reported measure of people's overall health & well being
- Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents from 171 to 93
- Increase the number of drug users in effective treatment

Crime

3.8 We want to reduce rates of and fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. Over the next three years, we will work together to:

- Decrease perceptions of antisocial behaviour from 36% to 32.5%
- Reduce the re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders to 27%
- Reduce the number of incidents of domestic violence
- Reduce the drug-related (Class A) offending rate
- Reduce alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates
- Reduce number of hate crimes

Strong communities and engaging people

3.9 We want to support geographical and non-geographical communities within the city. Over the next three years, we will work together to:

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- Increase the percentage of people who feel they can influence decision in their locality from 29% to 32%
- Increase participation in regular volunteering
- Support a thriving third sector.

TABLE OF INDICATORS

National Improvement Indicator	Baseline	08/09	09/10	10/11	Lead Partner
Promoting enterprise & learning					
NI 79 - Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19	68%	78%	80%	82%	Learning Skills Council (LSC)
NI 177 - 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET)	9.2%	7.60%	7.10%	6.70%	Learning Partnership (LP)/LSC
NI 152 - Working age people on out of work benefits	21,702 (average of four quarters to May 2007 in accordance with guidelines)	20,630	20,115	19,612	EP/ CESSG
NI 163 - Proportion of men aged 19-64 and women aged between 19-59 qualified to at least level 2 or higher	12.9%	12.3%	12%	11.7%	
NI 171 - New business registration rate	75.8%	76.3%	76.8%	77.3%	LP/LSC
		Pending further guidance - confirm in 2009.			EP/ CESSG
Take forward the					EP/BHCC

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National Improvement Indicator	Baseline	08/09	09/10	10/11	Lead Partner
development of the Brighton Centre					
Increase GVA per head	£17,230 (2005)	£18,418	£18,943	£19,484	EP/ CESSG
Increase number of people in employment	127,000 (July 06 - June 07)	129,316	130,474	131,632	EP/ CESSG
Improve the Visitor Economy	2006 – £408m	£427.8m	£434.2m	£440.7m	EP/ CESSG
Reducing crime & improving safety					
NI17 - Perceptions of anti-social behaviour	36%	32.5%	TBC - 2009	TBC - 2009	Crime Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP)
NI 30 - Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders	21%	27%	TBC- 2009	TBC- 2009	CDRP/Police
NI 32 - Repeat incidents of domestic violence	New indicator	Pending further guidance – confirm in 2009.			CDRP/Police
NI 38 - Drug-related (Class A) offending rate	New indicator	Pending further guidance – confirm in 2009.			CDRP/Police

National Improvement Indicator	Baseline	08/09	09/10	10/11	Lead Partner
NI 40 - Drug users in effective treatment	New indicator	1% increase			CDRP
NI 111 - First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17		Pending further guidance – confirm in 2009.			
NI 47 - People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	163			103	BHCC
Specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence (NI 26)	New indicator	Pending further guidance – confirm in 2009.			CDRP
Reduce numbers hate crimes & incidents (LGBT)	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			CDRP
Reduce numbers hate crimes & incidents (racially or religiously motivated)	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			CDRP
Reduce numbers hate crimes & incidents (disability)	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			CDRP
Reducing arson incidents (NI 33)	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			ESFRS
Improving health & well being					

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National Improvement Indicator	Baseline	08/09	09/10	10/11	Lead Partner
NI 39 - Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			HCP/PCT
NI 51 - Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHs) services	New indicator	4x4 = 16 4x4= 16 4x4 = 16 Target means that we will fully meet the criteria for assessments	4x4 = 16 4x4= 16 4x4 = 16	4x4 = 16 4x4= 16 4x4 = 16	CYPT
NI 56 - Obesity among primary school age children in year 6	16.1%	15.6%	15.2%	14.9%	CYPT/HCP
NI 59 - Initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral	56% (06/07 baseline)	76%	77%	78%	CYPT
NI 116 - Proportion of children in poverty	Data N/A	Between 17.3% - 19%	Between 15.6% - 18.1%	Between 13.8% - 17.2%	ALL

National Improvement Indicator	Baseline	08/09	09/10	10/11	Lead Partner
NI 119 - Self reported measure of people's overall health & well being		Pending further guidance – confirm in 2009.			HCP/PCT
NI 123 - 16+ current smoking rate prevalence	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			HCP/PCT
NI 130 - Social Care clients receiving Self Directed Support	90 per 100,000 (180)	150 per 100,000 (300)	250 per 100,000 (500)	350 per 100,000 (700)	BHCC
NI 135 - Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information	12%	15%	18%	21%	BHCC
NI 150 - Adults in contact with secondary mental health services in employment	Pending further guidance – confirm in 2009.				SPT/EP/CESSG
NI 122 - Teenage pregnancy	43 per 1,000	34.7 per 1,000	30.6 per 1,000	26.4 per 1,000	HCP/CYPT
Services for disabled children (NI 54)	Pending further guidance – confirm in 2009.				CYPT

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National Improvement Indicator	Baseline	08/09	09/10	10/11	Lead Partner
% of people contacting the Access Point whose needs were met at the access point	New indicator	90%	90%	90%	BHCC
Reduction in bullying in schools	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			CYPT
Reduction in suicide	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			SPT/HCP
Increase uptake of risk assessment and screening for hypertension and cholesterol in general practice.	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			HCP/PCT
Take up /offer of 'talking therapies'	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			SPT/PCT
Strengthening communities & involving people					
NI 4 - % of people who feel they can influence decision in their locality	29%	32%			Stronger Communities Partnership(SCP)/ALL
NI 6 - Participation in regular volunteering	Target to be set at a level of statistically significant measurable change on Place Survey Baseline , with option to review in 2009				SCP/ALL

National Improvement Indicator	Baseline	08/09	09/10	10/11	Lead Partner
NI 7 - Environment for a thriving third sector	Statistically significant improvement between the first and second waves of the national survey of third sector organisation, calculated in accordance with OTS guidance.				SCP
NI 11 - Engagement in arts	Target to be set at a level of statistically significant measurable change on Survey Baseline , with option to review in 2009				Arts Ccssn/BHCC
% of people who feel that they can get on with others from different backgrounds (NI 1)	86%	Maintain high performance			SCP/ALL
Adult participation in sport (NI 8)	New indicator	TBC by 30/5/08			Sports Forum/HCP
% of communities with local communication / involvement mechanisms	New indicator	TBC by 30/5/08			SCP/ALL
% of people who are satisfied with opportunities to engage in local decision-making	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			SCP/ALL
Public Libraries and Local Engagement Indicator		Increase % of			BHCC

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National Improvement Indicator	Baseline	08/09	09/10	10/11	Lead Partner
		elements in the top quartile			
Number of school age children in organised school visits to museums	TBC by 30/5/08	TBC by 30/5/08			BHCC
Improving housing & affordability					
NI 154 - Net additional homes provided	TBC 23/5/07	570	570	570	Strategic Housing Partnership (SHP)
NI 158 - % non-decent council homes	56.6%	46%			BHCC
NI 141 - Number of vulnerable people achieving independent living	New Indicator	TBC by 30/5/08			SHP/BHCC

National Improvement Indicator	Baseline	08/09	09/10	10/11	Lead Partner
Bringing empty properties back into use (BVPI 64)	153	Maintain high levels of performance			SHP/BHCC
Number of (fire) Home Safety Visits carried out	New Indicator	TBC by 30/5/08			ESFRS
Promoting resource efficiency & enhancing the environment					
NI 186 - Per capita CO2 emissions in the LA area	5.4 tons per capita (2005)	4% reduction	4% reduction	4% reduction (12% overall)	City Sustainability Partnership (CSP)
NI 187 - Tackling fuel poverty – people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating	New Indicator	a) 0.9% decrease in number of h/holds living in props with a SAP rating of less than 35 b) Increase number of h/holds living in props with a SAP rating of 65 or greater			City Sustainability Partnership (CSP)
NI 195 - Improved street and environmental cleanliness	Graffiti target 9%	8%	7%	6%	BHCC
CO2 reductions from local authority operations (NI 185)	TBC by 30/5/08				City Sustainability Partnership (CSP)

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National Improvement Indicator	Baseline	08/09	09/10	10/11	Lead Partner
Promoting sustainable transport					
NI 167 - Congestion – average journey time per mile during the morning peak	TBC 23/5/07	TBC by 30/5/08			BHCC
NI 175 - Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling	TBC 23/5/07	TBC 23/5/07			BHCC

The shaded boxes represent our local targets.

ANNEX 2

STATEMENT OF PARTNERSHIP INVOLVEMENT

During the Spring of 2007, the LSP agreed that it would conduct a 'roadshow' with all of its thematic partnerships, as well as service providers within directorates that may not be attached to thematic partnerships. These were commenced in April / May and ran until September.

The thematic partnerships cover all sectors involved in strategy or delivery of any specific theme.

The main vehicle used to cover key messages going out to partnership managers was the partnership managers group. We were also able to ensure that colleagues from different areas were invited even though they may not be directly involved in one of our family of partnerships. This includes colleagues from the learning and skills council, Sussex partnership trust, the Police, as well as representatives from the voluntary and business sectors.

This group agreed an approach that involved each partnership, and as a consequence, each sector taking a full role in the agreement of priorities, to prepare a business case. This piece of work needed to be signed off by the relevant partnerships, thereby helping to ensure partnership members were aware of their submission.

Partnership Managers' Group requested that the business cases were submitted by the end summer 2007. We built in some flexibility to ensure that different schedules were incorporated. The partnerships developed different approaches to the business case preparation. Some were very detailed as they worked out a very specific case whilst others were more generic; we were able to accept all cases and this enhanced the inclusivity of the process.

At the same time, the LSP commissioned a review into how inequality in Brighton and Hove, including an examination of how well NRF had been utilised and how effective it had been.

In order to obtain an independent view the LSP commissioned OCSI to conduct the review on the LSP's behalf, supported by a Neighbourhood Renewal adviser to act as a critical friend through this process. This approach was agreed by the 2020 Community Partnership in May.

The aim of this work was to provide a contemporary shared knowledge base which would help form our emerging story of place.

The next stage of preparation involved the lead officers for the LAA (2020 CP manager, Performance Manager and Policy Team Manager) distilling the business cases. Joint priorities and synergies were identified. These were arranged in a number of ways, by Community Strategy theme, existing LAA headings and also by political priority. As soon as the National Indicator Set was available, the priorities were also arranged according to the new indicators.

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The LSP as part of this process organised a seminar for the Partnership Managers' Group, facilitated by the same NRA that had acted as a critical friend for the Reducing Inequality Review. This seminar was very well attended (see attached list), and we were able to agree on a number of principles/ approaches that we felt underpinned the LAA. The National Indicator Set was not available at this stage, and so we were not able to allocate specific indicators to priorities. The workshop focused mainly on understanding joint priorities, shared outcomes and developing partnership relationships.

This work was fed back to the LSP on 4th Dec, and then in more detail to the Public Service Board on 6th. The Public Service Board were asked to agree 5 principles underpinning the approach to the LAA. All members of the Public Service Board were briefed by their representatives on the Partnership Managers' Group prior to this meeting.

Following on from this, as the National Indicator Set was published, the LAA lead officers re-convened and further distilled the priorities in line with the National Indicator Set. The priorities were also further refined by this group in light of the story of place as presented to us by GOSE. These versions were then presented back to the Partnership Managers' Group at the meeting of Dec 19th.

Over the past month feedback on this first cut of indicators has been gathered and work has been undertaken with individual Partnership Managers on our 'story of place'.

The process for ongoing refinement of the LAA (including the development of local targets and refinement of the Story of Place) will take place over the next 2 months, with further iterations being brought to the council's Management Team, Public Service Board and Partnership Managers' Group for comment and agreement.

The LSP Partnership Data Group is supporting this process by ensuring the negotiation process around targets incorporates learning from performance management of the current Local Area Agreement.

