

Report to Council

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018/2019

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Reason for Decision

To provide Council with an overview of the contribution made by Overview and Scrutiny during the 2018/19 Municipal Year as required in line with the Council's Constitution.

Executive Summary

The report outlines the purpose of overview and scrutiny, the roles and responsibilities of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, Performance and Value for Money Select Committee and the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee, a summary of the work undertaken by overview and scrutiny during 2018/19 and an outline of how individuals can get involved in overview and scrutiny in Oldham.

Recommendations

Council is asked to note the contribution of Overview and Scrutiny during the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

1. **What is Overview and Scrutiny?**

1.1 All local authorities with an executive model have an Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) function, which was introduced by the Local Government Act 2000.

1.2 Further legislation for scrutiny was introduced under:

- Health and Social Care Act 2001
- Local Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committee Health Scrutiny Functions) Regulations 2002
- Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007
- Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009
- Localism Act 2011
- The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012
- Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013
- Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016
- Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017

1.3 Overview and Scrutiny bodies are made up of Elected Members (Councillors) who are not members of the Cabinet but who hold those decision makers who are members of the Cabinet to account. The Overview and Scrutiny process is not political – it is driven by the interests of the residents of Oldham.

1.4 Overview and Scrutiny bodies cannot make decisions, but instead examine policies, decisions, areas of work and make recommendations to the Cabinet. It acts as a “critical friend” to the Council and its partners around the decision-making process and uses informed debate and evidence to make its recommendations.

1.5 Scrutiny works to drive forward improvements to the Council’s policies, procedures and delivery.

2 **Policy Development**

2.1 The key focus of overview and scrutiny work is to influence and develop policy. Overview and Scrutiny can do this through the following ways:

- Decision-Making Scrutiny - Holding the Executive to account is a key part of the Overview and Scrutiny role. This is done through receiving reports at Committee, Call-in and questioning of Cabinet Members at scrutiny meetings.
- Pre-Decision Input - Input on draft policies and strategies before they have been agreed by Cabinet or Council helps to ensure they are more robust and that a check and balance process is in place. It also provides an opportunity for cross party consensus to be developed on issues such as the Corporate Plan, Education Strategy and Council Tax Reduction. Overview and Scrutiny can act as a consultee in respect of such policies and potential new legislation.
- Monitor and Track Implementation of Recommendations - Ensuring that the views and contributions of Overview and Scrutiny have been considered when work is undertaken to improve services – an essential part of the scrutiny process.

3 Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

3.1.1 Membership

- Councillor McLaren (Chair)
- Councillor Ball (Vice-Chair)
- Councillor Curley
- Councillor Larkin
- Councillor Leach
- Councillor Taylor
- Councillor Toor
- Councillor Sheldon
- Councillor Williamson
- Councillor Phythian (substitute)
- Councillor Rehman (substitute)
- Councillor Garry (substitute)
- Councillor Davis (substitute)
- Councillor Harkness (substitute)

3.1.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board leads the development of the Overview and Scrutiny process in Oldham. The Board chooses issues and topics to look at during the year, be it reviewing a proposed policy in advance of decision or considering the impact of a key decision made by the Council.

3.1.3 The Board is also responsible for:

- Publicly holding the Executive to account for delivering the Council's priorities and for the decisions they make.
- Examining any matters of wider public interest (not just Council services) which affect the wellbeing of the Borough and its people.
- Having a statutory role scrutinising substantial developments or changes to National Health Services and Crime and Disorder issues.

3.1.4 During the last year, the Chair also continued to meet with the senior managers in each of the Council's Directorates. At these meetings, the Chair and officers considered issues Overview and Scrutiny could potentially add value to regarding the development of Council services, policies and the decision making process.

3.1.5 Full Council may refer matters to Overview and Scrutiny for examination of the viability of implementing proposals contained in the motions and report back on their findings.

3.2 Performance and Value for Money Select Committee

3.2.1 Membership

- Councillor Ahmad (Chair)
- Councillor Stretton (Vice-Chair)
- Councillor Davis
- Councillor Malik
- Councillor Phythian
- Councillor Qumer
- Councillor Harkness
- Councillor Curley
- Councillor Salamat (substitute)
- Councillor F. Hussain (substitute)

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- Councillor Dean (substitute)
 - Councillor Azad (substitute)
 - Councillor Hewitt (substitute)
 - Councillor Williamson (substitute)
 - Councillor Byrne (substitute)
- 3.2.2 The Performance and Value for Money Select Committee considers how the Council and its partners are performing and whether value for money is being provided for the people of Oldham. It also monitors the implementation of recommendations which Overview and Scrutiny has had accepted by the Council's Cabinet.
- 3.2.3 One of the most important aspects of the Select Committee's role is to examine the Council's budget proposals each year. This involves considering both the administration's budget and any alternative budget proposals put forward by the opposition.
- 3.2.4 The Select Committee also examines the Council's corporate performance report on a quarterly basis and considers the performance and value for money of the Council's work undertaken with partners.

3.3 Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee

The Sub-Committee was established to discharge the responsibilities of the Council for health scrutiny functions, receive and respond to referrals from Healthwatch Oldham and also scrutinise the Health and Wellbeing Board and its appropriate policies and strategies and the Health and Wellbeing Subgroups (Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Health Protection).

4 Where has O&S contributed in 2018/19?

4.1 Overview and Scrutiny Board: Key Plans and Strategies

- 4.1.1 Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS) – The Board gave consideration to an update on the annual data return, the current position in Oldham and areas of development. The annual data return had shown an increase in the number of applications and members noted the significant time invested in each application. Members asked and it was confirmed about family members being involved in the assessment process. Members were informed about the assessment process and the funding challenges which came from the core budget. Members also sought and received clarification on assessments which were not granted, low BME intake but was expected to rise when DOLS would be looked at outside of the care home and hospital environment. Members also received clarification on the impact on staff. The Board requested that the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care write to the Borough's three MPs to ensure referral of the proposed legislation of the Liberty Protection Safeguards.
- 4.1.2 Oldham Work and Skills Strategy Update – The Board gave consideration to an update on the work and skills strategy which was one of the three components of the Oldham Strategic Framework (SIF), together with business investment and housing and infrastructure. The strategy had been developed around an outcomes framework which committed the Council and its partners to working collaboratively in pursuit of 12 priority themes. The Board was provided with an update on each of the 12 themes and trends were highlighted. There were some key areas on skills and employability that the Council intended to bring to the attention of the Government and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). Members

commented on Oldham College and its future sustainability, the security of the £1.4 European Social Fund, the Get Oldham Working result but noted work placements being below target with work to be done with local businesses and the alignment of the Oldham College offer with employers' demands.

- 4.1.3 Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2018/19 – The Board were provided with the strategy for the Youth Justice Service with an outline action plan which set out how the service would achieve its primary functions and key objectives. The Youth Justice Service was subcontracted by the Local Authority and delivered by an independent charitable trust, Positive Steps. The Service was overseen by the Youth Justice Management Board which included representatives from the Local Authority and other statutory partners. Members sought and received clarification and commented on problem solving courts pilot, low communications skills, probation service contribution, specific work related to knife crime, outcomes of the “Which Way” project, strong volunteer workforce and community payback.
- 4.1.4 Thriving Communities and Placed Based Integration – The Board were informed of work undertaken. The assets in Oldham in terms of its people and communities would be built upon to improve the health and wellbeing of residents. The Board were informed on early intervention and prevention, using the strengths and ingredients for change that were already within communities and wider systems and linking residents with the right kind of support earlier in the care pathway. The Board noted that Oldham was leading on the Place Based Working within Greater Manchester. The Board queried what had been learned that could be used in the future, about the framework, the make-up of the teams, district working, exit strategy and review of the impact.
- 4.1.5 Oldham Local Plan (Oldham’s Monitoring Report 2017/18) – The report detailed whether the Council was meeting the milestones as set out in the Local Development Scheme (LDS) in the preparation of various Local Plan Documents. Performance was monitored against the LDS. The report also monitored a range of planning indicators such as housing, employment and bio-diversity which sought to assess the effectiveness of the Council’s land-use planning policies and achievement of those objectives. The Board queried the use of brownfield sites, and informed the new Local Plan would need to take into account social and environmental need as well as economic need.
- 4.1.6 Generation Oldham – the Board were provided with an update on the Generation Oldham Community Energy Programme and progress of the Council working with Forum for the Future to develop ‘Power Paired’ which was an online service to match up community energy groups with owners of assets which could be used for community energy schemes.
- 4.1.7 GM2040 Delivery Plan Update – The Board were provided with an update on the GM2040 Transport Strategy Delivery Plan 1 and the development of the Draft Delivery Plan 2. A progress report provided an update on the programme made in in developing and delivery the schemes and an assessment of whether the interventions and policies were supporting the delivery of the vision. A final version of Delivery Plan 2 would be prepared for publication later in 2019 which would ultimately form part of the GMSF evidence base. The Board queried the disabled access to Greenfield Station, use of electric vehicle charging points, progress related to flood management schemes and transport services possibly becoming fragmented.
- 4.1.8 Housing Strategy – The Board gave consideration to the Local Housing Strategy (LHS) which was the Council’s main document for housing and interrelated services.

The strategy helped set out the Council's approach to tackling fuel poverty, improving housing conditions as well as meeting the allocations and homelessness responsibilities. The LHS underpinned and supported the delivery of a range of statutory housing responsibilities. The Board noted the new LHS was an evidence backed strategy that added value to developing Oldham's new Local Plan. The Board queried the infrastructure such as schools and doctors, quality and affordability of housing, the type of housing needed, vision for Oldham as a whole, options needed to make it easier for people to downsize, addressing absentee landlords and unsuitable accommodation, input by the voluntary sector and homeless and what evidence had shown.

4.2 Overview and Scrutiny Board: internal and external consultations

4.2.1 Business Growth and Investment Review – The Board were provided with progress on the review which looked at how the Council optimised business engagement and provided a competitive business support offer. Improved business engagement was outlined to the Board which required the development of a shared approach to business intelligence, engagement and marketing across a range of partners working with businesses in Oldham. The business offer was strong but needed to be strengthened to support business start-up, growth and investment. The Board queried the support offered to new businesses and the range of support provided through the Oldham Enterprise Trust. The Board queried the support provided to small businesses, gender balance and encouragement to women. It was explained that Oldham did not have a targeted approach but was open for all, however, some funding was geographically restricted. This could be addressed by Council funding. Members also queried how the service was publicised and account management. The Board recommended ward councillor information be provided in information packs to encourage engagement on a district basis. A further workshop was held to discuss the development of ward councillor involvement.

4.2.2 Gambling Policy Review – The Board gave consideration to an update on the review of the Council's Gambling Policy. The policy was largely concerned with the regulation of business and included a section related to gambling-related harm. The majority of the alterations to the policy were references to changes from national guidance. The revised policy also focused on the issues of public health and harm. The board were informed of work undertaken by officers in Licensing and Public Health which had shown the Council's commitment to support those who were suffering or likely to suffer from the effects of gambling and detailed areas of help and support whilst recognising there was a problem. Members commented on the services offered by GambleAware, statistics and fixed-odds terminals.

4.2.3 Clean Air Plan: Outline Business Case – The Board gave consideration to the Outline Business Case for the Greater Manchester Clear Air Plan as part of the feasibility study being carried out on behalf of the Transport for Greater Manchester. The Board sought clarification on funding provision, enforcement and publicity.

4.3 Overview and Scrutiny Board: Services monitored

4.3.1 Children's Social Care 'Getting to Good' Implementation Plan – The Board received information concerning service demand profiles, financial performance, progress against the Ofsted recommendations and the strengths and challenges of the service.

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- 4.3.2 SMART Update – the Board were provided with a progress report on the review of the Unity Partnership Limited and the action taken to align its function and form with the delivery of the Council’s strategic requirements.
- 4.3.3 Resident First Programme Update – The Board received an update on the programme overview, programme priority areas, achievements and benefits to date, member engagement and the next steps. The Board were informed of an overall 10% increase in online activity. Customer satisfaction had been positive. The Board queried access through libraries, reduction on the use of paper, access for members on information related to potholes and performance indicators.
- 4.3.4 Oldham Council Libraries Update – The Board were provided an update on the performance and current challenges and developments. The Library Service had made improvements which built on past achievements and continued to innovate and invest in both service and staff development. The Board were informed of improvements to the library environment which reflected the changing use of libraries and offered greater flexibility to use the space for cultural and digital events. The Board were informed that a Sensory Room had been launched in March 2018 and Oldham was the first library service in Greater Manchester to provide this type of facility. The Board were also informed about activity work with youth workers and partners and the working relationship with Manchester University and participation with the Carnegie Library Development Programme. Members asked about support for areas without a library and the possibility of supplementing schemes delivered by partner organisations. Members commented on the audio offer and other innovative projects.
- 4.3.5 Oldham Cares – The Board were provided with an update on the aims of Oldham Cares, a summary of the change programme and the utilisation of the £21.3 million transformation fund. Oldham Cares brought together services from across local authority, health partners and social organisations into a single system to share knowledge, resources and skills to deliver a better health and social care experience to residents. The newly established Alliance Board, the Outcomes Framework which had been agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Greater Manchester Transformation Fund monies which supported the Oldham Cares ambitions were highlighted to the Board. An Investment Review and Assurance Process was in place which enabled robust and transformational proposals to be developed. The Board questioned the health and social care clusters link to Thriving Communities. The Board also commented on the role of Sure Start Centres and work that could be done at a district level. The Board recommended the simplification of the changes for councillors and communities. The Board also requested a report on Thriving Communities.
- 4.3.6 Local Government Ombudsman and Review of Complaints System – The Board were informed of the Council performance related to enquiries received from the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO). The recent changes to how the LGO reported upheld cases was explained where decisions were more understandable for users and other stakeholders and ensured that only cases passed forward for investigation following the assessment stage were upheld. Since 2014, the LGO also publicly reported on Local Authority complaints performance. Oldham was ranked as the third lowest local authority in Greater Manchester for complaints reviewed by the LGO. The Council gave robust consideration to the issues raised at local level. The LGO applied attention to learning from complaints which was the approach shared by Oldham Council. The Board commented on changes to processes following a complaint, financial costs to the Council when the LGO upheld a complaint and signposting to the LGO.
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- 4.3.7 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Performance Report – The Board were provided an update on the SEND inspection and the positive actions that the Council and its partners had undertaken to improve the outcomes of children and young people with SEND. Following the Ofsted Inspection in October 2017, the Council and CCG with other stakeholders were requested to develop a Written Statement of Action (WSOA). The statement was written and outlined Oldham’s vision for children and young people with SEND, the five key areas of concern were addressed and the WSOA had been signed off by Ofsted. The Board were advised of the revised SEND governance structure to strengthen joint partnership and improve effective leadership. Members were advised of the increase in staff capacity, bi-monthly monitoring visits and the outcome of the latest review. Members commented on the service capacity and the securing of additional resources, alternative provision overspend and young people Out of the Areas, Voice of the Child, historic data, barriers to reducing the time to complete the assessment process, waiting time to access Mental Health services, staffing and budget issues, Oldham’s Education and Health Care Plan Figures and Mental Health Intervention and Whole School Approach training.
- 4.3.8 The Board were provided with a progress report on Children’s Health and Wellbeing. It was recognised that giving every child the best start in life is the highest priority for reducing health inequalities. The Healthy Child Programme was a prevention and early intervention public health model offered to all families. The Child Health Profile for Oldham published in June 2018 identified areas for improvements. Activities to improve performance in the areas were explained. The Board were informed of a wide range of programmes which supported babies, children, young people and families specifically aimed to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes. A new integrated 0 – 19 delivery model for Oldham commenced in 2016, called Right Start which brought together a number of services into a single integrated service. The Start Well programme which is aligned to the Greater Manchester Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2022. Through this programme Oldham was taking a lead in GM piloting an approach to reducing avoidable admissions. The Board were informed that local authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups were required to work together to develop and implement the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Transformation Plan. The Board were also informed of the plan to develop a new strategic framework for children and young people and current improvement programmes. Members sought and received clarification on the Oral Health Improvement Plan, smoking and use of drugs during pregnancy, support for sixth forms and colleges on sexual health and eating disorders, and that Mental Health and Obesity be added to the work programme of Health Scrutiny.
- 4.3.9 Local Safeguarding Children’s Board and Adults Board Annual Reports - The Board noted the annual reports which set out the achievements of the subgroups, the benefits of the peer review undertaken with Stockport, activity data related to Safeguarding and the Deprivation of Liberty, reports from partner agencies on their challenges, achievements and ambitions and priorities. Members commented on targeting in the recognition of learning disabilities and the number of applications granted for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards. Members were informed of improvements on the Local Safeguarding Children’s Board following the 2015 Ofsted report. The core functions had shown significant improvements. The Board were informed that arrangements for the Board would change in 2009 with revised procedures.
- 4.3.10 Virtual School Annual Report and Term Update – The Board were provided with an overview of the work of the Virtual School during 2017/18. The Virtual School worked to promote the achievements of Oldham’s children looked after regarding
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where they were placed. Members were informed of work on supporting access to education, re-engaging pupils and monitoring attendance and exclusions. The Board were provided the performance of the Virtual School which provided an improving picture, the relaunch of the ePEP system, no permanent exclusions for looked-after children and admissions support for social workers and carers for children starting in Reception and moving into Year 7. The Board were provided with the priorities for 2018/19. The Board asked questions related to designated teachers, the outcome of the Ofsted inspection, work experience, support for individuals interested in drama, dance, etc., and if there were any patterns in exclusions.

- 4.3.11 Oldham Education Disadvantage and Social Mobility Update – The Board were provided with a summary of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Group on disadvantage and work of the Opportunity Area to influence social mobility for disadvantaged children and people.

4.4 **Motions Referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board**

The following motions were referred to Overview and Scrutiny for investigation:

- 4.4.1 Street Charter: The Board received a progress report on a motion that had been referred to them in March 2017 – The Board were provided an update on the implementation of the street charter. The Street Charter had been embedded in all Council services. The “A” Board and Sign policy was devised to address the need for an area to be attractive and easy to use for all by providing guidelines to businesses on the use of advertising structures on public land. Members received clarification on the suitability of the Licensing regime, impact of the policy on business revenues and that the police would be reviewed in 12 months.
- 4.4.2 Making Oldham a ‘Single Use Plastic-Free’ Local Authority – The Board were informed that a project team had been established and the issue of how to reduce, reuse and recycle them had been part of the authority’s work around waste reduction for many years. The team looked at key areas of focus for an effective strategy and opportunities to engage and leverage change through processes, partners and relationships with both businesses and residents. The Board queried progress in recycling technology and informed that equipment used by GM Waste would not be changed soon. Members raised the complicated recycling and suggested the establishment of a local recycling plant. The Board queried the work of other authorities and were informed that the Mayor of Greater Manchester wished to make Greater Manchester single use plastic free by 2020. The completed strategy and action plan was brought back to the Board later in the Municipal Year and commended to Cabinet for approval. The Cabinet approved the strategy on 17 December 2018.
- 4.4.3 Land Value Taxation – The Board received information related to the history of Land Value Taxation. The Board gave consideration to the implications for tax administration at local authority level and the issues for the Local Government Finance System which could arise on transition from current forms of local taxation to LVT. Many aspects of the billing and collection arrangements currently in place would have to be changed as well as significant changes for bill payers as well as significant implications for the financing of local authority activities. Members were informed of current arrangements and that a Fair Funding Review was being undertaken to look at distribution of funding to Local Authorities. Members asked if it would be possible for Oldham to introduce LVT on its own and were informed that it would be difficult to support. The Board recommended a joint workshop with the Performance and Value for Money Select Committee. The joint workshop was held

on 21st November 2018 to discuss the implications of the motion. It was agreed that the motion could not be supported as a change to tax administration was not in the Council's remit. Tax administration was set at a national level and governed by primary legislation.

4.4.4 Restricting New Hot Food Takeaways Near Schools – The Board gave consideration to the Motion and agreed that the motion be incorporated with the issue of obesity and the workshop related to Urgent Care.

4.4.5 'Keeping Our Villages and Rural Areas HGV Free' – a motion was referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Board on 12 September 2018. A workshop had been convened on 8 January 2019 with members from the Board, Residents' Associations, Head of Public Protection and Highways Officers. The Workshop agreed to:

- Work with residents' association, starting with one or two pilot schemes within existing weight restriction areas in place with six to eight observers who would be trained. Funding was raised as an issue.
- Current weight restriction areas would be reviewed with regard to signage.
- Highways England was to be approached regarding signage on the M60 to continue through to the M62 and not via Broadway
- Diversion signs in the event of any M62 Closure be progressed with Highways England.

4.4.5 'Improving Public Safety in Oldham's Night Time Economy' – a motion was referred to the Board on 12 December 2018. An update was received on the work which was already undertaken and the Board would seek further information during the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

4.4.6 Two further motions were referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Board on 20th March 2019 related to:

- Tackling Dog Fouling and Nuisance; and
- Tackling Speeding.

These will be addressed as part of the Overview and Scrutiny Board's 2019/20 Work Programme.

4.5 **PVFM Select Committee: Finance Scrutiny**

4.5.1 Scrutiny of Budget Proposals – The Council's overall budget proposals for 2018/19 were considered by the Select Committee. The Administration's proposals were presented to the Committee during January 2019 and the Opposition's proposals were presented in February 2019.

4.5.2 Local Government Financial Resilience – The Select Committee were provided information related to the financial sustainability of Local Authorities and highlighted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's efforts to ensure attention on financial sustainability through the development of a financial resilience index. The Select Committee were informed that members and officers worked together to ensure current financial and demand pressures were managed in line with the Council's governance arrangements. Members received clarification on the finance settlement, use of reserves and sustainability for local authorities, different levels of need, financial sustainability issues involving County Councils and the National Audit Office's recommendation to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

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- 4.5.3 Income Generation Proposals were reviewed as part of the performance monitoring process.
- 4.5.4 Finance Performance of the MioCare Group – The Select Committee were provided with the annual update on the financial performance of the group, business developments, challenges and an outline budget for 2019.
- 4.6 **PVFM Select Committee: Performance Scrutiny**
- 4.6.1 Quarterly Council Performance Report and Challenge – Reports were presented to the Committee in terms of how the Council was performing against its key local and statutory priorities. The Committee undertook more detailed scrutiny of a number of topics through examining the performance report.
- 4.6.2 Oldham Community Leisure Limited – the Select Committee were presented with the current performance of Oldham Community Leisure by the Head of Service and the Chief Executive of OCLL.
- 4.6.3 Free Early Education Entitlements for 2, 3 and 4 Year Olds – The Select Committee were provided with an overview of key trends and developments in the delivery of free early education entitlement and school readiness. Members were informed about the uptake and work to be done to enable all children to be ready for school by age five. Members asked about the quality of nursery provision and funding. Members recommended that it would be beneficial to speak to Members who were school governors.
- 4.6.4 Transformation Fund: Smoking Cessation, Health Trainer Service and Sexual Health Advice Service for Young People – The Select Committee were provided an update on teenage pregnancy, chlamydia detection & screening, HIV testing coverage and smoking cessation rates. The Committee were informed about savings needed and matching opening hours to service usage. Members were also informed about pregnancy rates, detecting and testing rates. Members asked about information available through the school curriculum. Members noted that the smoking cessation figures did not include information related to e-cigarettes.
- 4.6.5 6 – 8 Week Breastfeeding Performance Review – The Select Committee were informed about the percentage of infants who were fully or partially breastfed at 6 – 8 weeks. The report had been brought due to the non-achievement of the corporate target for 2017/18. Members were provided with rates in Oldham, ward level performance, benefits & challenges and support, interventions and services in place to improve breastfeeding. Members supported the proposal to develop a policy which supported Oldham becoming a ‘breastfeeding friendly town’ and agreed a revised target.
- 4.6.6 SEND Performance Report – The Select Committee were provided an overview of the recent inspection and actions that the Council and its partners had taken to improve the outcomes for children and young people with SEND. A co-produced Written Statement of Action (WSOA) had been submitted in March 2019 and explained how areas of weakness would be tackled. Members were informed of progress made, any areas of practice which had been questioned and a robust model of governance put into place. The Committee asked about communications with young people to obtain their feedback, quality of EHC plans, how families and young people had been involved in the process and whether lay people had been involved in assessing progress.
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- 4.6.7 Regeneration - the Selection Committee were provided an update on the progress of a number of projects.
- 4.6.8 Improving Attendance and Health and Wellbeing - The Select Committee were provided with sickness absence data for 2017/18 (end of year figure) and for 2018/19 (as at month 7). It was reported that whilst absence rates were above Council aspirations, the Council continued to outperform both the GM Local Authority average, the Nationwide Local Authority average and the NHS. The Select Committee were also provided with an update on the 'Fit for Oldham' employee health and wellbeing programme. It was reported that over 300 activity sessions take place in each 10 week period and more than 800 staff representing all of the service areas within the Council have attended at least one Fit for Oldham session. The Select Committee acknowledged the importance of supporting employee's health and well-being, and asked about mechanisms for managing absence, monitoring policy compliance and the effect of headcount reductions on sickness absence. The Select Committee commended the work on mental health and the support in place for employees.
- 4.6.9 Looked After Children – The Select Committee were provided with information related to the number of children in care, types of placement, review, education outcomes and the cost to the local authority. Members were informed about the number of cases, the management oversight of decisions and the complexity of some cases. A revised operating model had been proposed to achieve better value for money. Members were informed on the education outcomes. Members asked about adoption timescales, placements, overspends, foster parent recruitment, spikes in CLA figures, austerity and the impact on society and placement stability.
- 4.6.10 Update on Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) – The Select Committee were provided with a progress update on the current NEET position and activity. This included information about a number of other programmes which ran alongside the Local Authority commission and aligned and positively contributing towards participation rates for young people in Oldham.
- 4.6.11 Unity Partnership – The Select Committee gave consideration to the performance and value for money provisions as well as monitoring the contract between Oldham Council and Unity Partnership.
- 4.6.12 Position Statement on Education Standards 2018 – The Select Committee gave consideration to the statement on education standards in Oldham in 2018 as indicated by outcomes across key stages and in Ofsted inspections. Members commented on measures to address issues including food poverty and children's health and wellbeing.
- 4.6.13 School Places Application Process – The Select Committee were provided with an update and statistical analysis of the allocation of school places over recent years which included places available, take up of places, percentage of residents offered place of choice, number of parent missing the application deadline, overview of schemes and initiatives to assist parent, overview of the current school place plans and future plans to increase parental choice. Members received clarification on redirection, people on waiting lists, predicted pressure, in-year transfers, information to parents and appeals.
- 4.6.14 Adoption Performance in Oldham – The Select Committee gave consideration to the overview of the Adoption Scorecard and performance of the Adoption Service. The report also provided an update on local, regional and national developments in adoption. The scorecard measured performance against a set of indicators over a
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three-year period. Members sought information on recruitment of BME adopters, Ofsted inspection outcome, adoption of multiple children by single parents, dividing siblings and nationwide adoption.

4.7 Motion Referred to PVFM:

Street Lighting – A motion was referred to PVFM which had highlighted the potential to achieve savings on the Council’s budget, to reduce the emission of carbon dioxide and to decrease light pollution by switching to LED street lights. The Committee were informed that the Council had undertaken a high-level review on the current energy efficient apparatus with LED would require a capital investment of £6.5million. The option would not be financially feasible and would be a significant risk/liability. The existing PFI contract including replacement of lanterns at no additional cost and the service provider had already planned to replace 20% of the lighting using LED in 2023/24. The Select Committee supported the current approach.

4.8 Health Scrutiny Sub Committee

4.8.1 The Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee has met six times since June 2018. The Committee has received a number of reports from across the Health and Care Sector in Oldham, but has shown a particular interest in the Locality Plan Implementation and the development of an Integrated Care Organisation (ICO).

4.8.2 The focus of the Sub-Committee was on the impact of plans for the devolution of health and social care responsibilities to Greater Manchester. Additionally, the implementation of the Healthier Together reforms of the provision of acute services across Greater Manchester which will impact on the service offer available at the Royal Oldham Hospital and across North-East of Greater Manchester, for Oldham residents. Another area was the CQC inspection of the Hospitals Trust which is detailed below.

4.8.3 The Sub-Committee addressed the following areas:

- Urgent Care Strategy – The Sub-Committee received a report on the next steps in Urgent Primary Care in Oldham to ensure it was effective, affordable and sustainable. The strategy document set out and defined the vision and strategic aims for urgent care. The primary drivers were outlined to the members as well as the priorities for change over the next three years. A second report during the municipal year informed of winter planning progress for Urgent Care Services. Members were also informed of developing urgent care in the community to release pressure at A&D. Members sought clarification on the future of Integrated Care Centres, primary care services which could be accessed on Sundays, access service to GP appointments, alternatives to A&E and the North West Ambulance Service. A subsequent report provided a further update on the walk-in centre and IT systems.
- Air Quality – The Sub-Committee received a report which provided information on the mandate to undertake comprehensive feasibility studies, assessing options and identification of solutions to specific local exceedances. Oldham was not required to undertake the study, but it had been agreed all 10 Greater Manchester districts would be included. Oldham's feasibility study had restricted to the stretch of road identified in the directive and measures were submitted by the end of July. The Sub-Committee received a further report which identified a shortlist of measures identified as part of the feasibility study. Members received clarification on proposed measures to address air quality and sustainability in the current financial climate and clean air zones.
- Update on Tobacco Control and the Review of the Council's Smoking Policy – The Sub-Committee received information on the Council's position on tobacco control and proposed changes to the Council's current smoking policy. Members noted that Oldham's smoking prevalence had reduced. Members were also informed of consultation on the new smoke free policy.
- Elected Member Safeguarding Training – The Sub-Committee were informed on the new member training package which had been developed to bring together an overview of safeguarding of children and adults and Prevent (i.e. part of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy). The Sub-Committee were asked to approve an information gathering exercise to identify safeguarding concerns to inform training.

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- Pennine Acute CQC Inspection – The Sub-Committee were provided with an update following the publication of a report in March 2018. The members were informed about continuous improvement and were provided with illustration on the level of achievements.
 - Pennine Care Foundation Trust CQC Inspection – The Sub-Committee were informed of progress made by the Trust against their CQC Improvement Action Plan. Members were informed of progress made since the inspection. Members received clarification on support for staff, concerns about staffing shortages, electronic records, progress made as part of the transitional change, budget management and the action plan.
 - Adult Mental Health – The Sub-Committee received information related to the current status and plans for adult mental health in Oldham which included the Mental Health Concordat and the 5 Ways to Wellbeing. The Prevention Concordat had been signed by a wide range of partners and stakeholders. The multi-agency approach in Oldham had attracted funding from government.
 - All Age Obesity in Oldham – The Sub-Committee gave consideration to a report related to overweight and obesity, the scale of these issues in Oldham and activities undertaken to prevent and address the problem.
 - Regional Adoption Agency – The Sub-Committee gave consideration to the Annual Report. It had been a year since the changes in delivering Adoption Services had been introduced. The Adoption Leadership Board was responsible to improve performance. Oldham had done well outperforming the England average and statistical neighbours. Members received clarification on the Agency Decision Maker, Adoption Leadership Board Scorecard, lessons learnt from previous years, opportunities for fostering, placements with family of origin, monitoring placements and activity days.
 - Oral Health – The Sub-Committee was presented with a progress report on all age oral health improvement activity being delivered across Oldham. Significant improvements had been registered since 2012/13. Oral health had been embedded in a wide range of primary care services plus teachers, health visitors and early years professionals.
 - Public Health in Primary Care – the Sub-Committee were presented with information related to the role of Public Health in Primary Care and the plans for Oldham Clinical Commissioning Group clusters, NHS Health Checks and Mental Wellbeing. Members were informed about the engagement with pharmacies through the Healthy Living Pharmacies Programmes to 'Make Every Contact Count'. Members commented on the statistics and outcome, women's health and mental wellbeing, encouraging men to attend health checks and the five ways to wellbeing and the voluntary sector.
 - North East Sector Clinical Services Strategy – the Sub-Committee received a report which outlined why the NHS was changing in Oldham, Rochdale and Bury and set the scene for current and future service change in the North East Sector of Greater Manchester. Members sought clarification on the central booking line, lack of discharge planning, GP clusters/neighbourhood hubs, speed of test results, Northern Care Alliance timeframe, management of the voluntary sector, publicity and simple messages to help the public understand the changes, use of facilities at community centres and the next steps.

- Outcome of the Public Consultation on Proposed IVF Changes – the Sub-Committee were informed of the methodology and outcome of Oldham CCG’s consultation on the funding of IVF.
- Thriving Communities – The Sub-Committee were provided an update on the plan which set out the Oldham model for delivering tangible and sustained change through an integrated focus on inclusive economy, thriving communities and co-operative services. Key projects were highlighted to members and the decision made related to the award of the contract for the Social Prescribing Innovation Partnership. The partnership would be mobilised and the offer rolled out borough wide over the coming months. Members requested the number of organisations contacted be widened, queried the work with Action Together, queried the obesity issue as part of social prescribing on a practical level and arrangements in place to address problems and access support.
- Over the Counter Medicines Review – The Sub-Committee were provided information on the public engagement review related to the over the counter medicines review which was designed to communicate and engage with the public on the proposed changes. The Sub-Committee were invited to participate in the engagement work and gave consideration to the questions being asked as part of the survey. The CCG wanted views on the proposals. The policy had been written following a GM-wide public consultation and was in-line with guidance from NHS England. Members asked if the policy applied to hospitals and expressed concern about hospital pharmacies and ‘trapped’ audiences. Members referred to change of behaviour, management of change and how information was publicised. Members recommended a task and finish group be established to address local pharmacies and look how to highlight and promote changes in medication behaviour.
- Mayor’s Healthy Living Campaign – the Sub-Committee received updates on the campaign and what activities had been undertaken throughout the year.

4.8.4 **Motions referred to Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee**

Motions which had been referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board, and subsequently referred to Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee:

- Restriction of New Takeaways – the Committee were informed that most Oldham Schools had a stay on site policy during breaks/lunchtimes for safeguarding reasons and many offered a varied healthy option menu for snack and meal choices. Most schools did not allow the delivery of takeaways to the school gates.

5 **Ways to get involved with O&S?**

- 5.1 Overview and Scrutiny Board, Performance and Value for Money Select Committee and Health Scrutiny have rolling work programmes. These can be found as part of the meeting’s agendas.
- 5.2 If you are interested in attending a meeting of either the Board or Select Committee, meeting dates can be found on the website at: <https://committees.oldham.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=366>
- 5.3 Contact and speak to your local Councillor about issues you feel have an impact on your local community in Oldham. Overview and Scrutiny will consider issues raised by Councillors.

5.4 You can contact the Head of Business Intelligence on 0161 770 1559 to ask Overview and Scrutiny to consider an issue which has an impact on Oldham and local people. This could be a problem, Council service or an issue which you think the Council should take in lead in improving.

6 Legal Services Comments

6.1 n/a

7. Co-operative Agenda

7.1 The Annual report contains examples of work aligned to the Council's co-operative approach in relation to issues that have an impact of local communities.

8 Environmental and Health & Safety Implications

8.1 None

9 Equality, Community Cohesion and Crime Implications

9.1 None

10 Equality Impact Assessment Completed?

10.1 No

11 Key Decision

11.1 No

12 Key Decision Reference

12.1 N/A

13 Background Papers

13.1 None

14 Appendices

14.1 None