

- to make reports or recommendations to the Council or the Cabinet with respect to the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive;
- to make reports or recommendations to the Council or the Cabinet on matters which affect the borough or the inhabitants of the borough.

### *General role*

(2) Within their terms of reference, overview and scrutiny committees will between them –

- review or scrutinise decisions or review and scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;
- make reports or recommendations to the full Council or the Cabinet (or both) and to a joint committee, area assembly or area assembly co-ordinating group in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;
- consider any matter affecting the borough or its inhabitants; ~~and~~
- exercise in the case of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee and the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel the right to call-in for reconsideration decisions made but not yet implemented by the executive or an area assembly co-ordinating group (if applicable); **and**
- **under the Council's scheme for handling petitions,**
  - i make reports or recommendations in response to petitions referred by the Council**
  - ii question senior officers in response to qualifying petitions holding officers to account**
  - iii review the Council's response to petitions upon request by the petition organiser**

### *Policy development and review*

(3) Overview and scrutiny committees may –

- assist the Council and the Cabinet in the development of its budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues;
- conduct research and consult with local communities and others, in the analysis of policy issues and possible options;
- consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options;
- question members of the Cabinet and committees and chief officers about their views on issues and proposals affecting the borough; and
- liaise with other external organisations operating in the borough, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local communities are enhanced by collaborative working.