

Report to HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2020/21

Chair:

Councillor Shoab Akhtar

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8th December 2020

Purpose of the Report

For the Health Scrutiny Committee to review the Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2020/21.

Recommendations

The Health Scrutiny Committee is asked to note and comment on the attached Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2020/21.

Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2020/21**1. Background**

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 4.1 requires each Overview and Scrutiny Committee to prepare and maintain a Committee Work Programme.
- 1.2 The Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme presents the issues that the Committee will be considering and scrutinising during the 2020/21 Municipal Year. The 2020/21 Work Programme covers the issues to be discussed at each meeting, issues and actions arising, matters identified for consideration at workshops or in task and finish groups, and other matters that have been identified as issues for possible consideration.
- 1.3 The Committee's area of interest covers health, social care and public health functions and the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic on work programming and Committee business was considered briefly in the report to Committee in July 2020. It was noted that the Public Health have a focus on mandated functions related to the pandemic meaning that public health-related business identified in the Work Programme had been listed as 'pending' until such time as re-assessment of public health activities going forward means that these items can progress and be brought to the Committee.

1.4 Making Safeguarding Personal

At the meeting of the Committee in July, on receipt of a general presentation on Adults Safeguarding issues which had included a consideration of 'making safeguarding personal', Members agreed to have a session that would allow Committee members an opportunity to consider anonymized safeguarding cases which might allow Members to be satisfied as to the personalization approach. This session was held on 10th November 2020 and positive feedback has been received from both attending Members and the safeguarding service. The inclusion of such a session in the general Members' Development Programme has been proposed and this will be pursued.

1.5 Chatty Checkouts and Cafes

The meeting of the Committee in September considered a report in respect of an action referred to the Committee arising from the Council Motion "Chatty Checkouts and Cafes", noting that the matter had been referred in the first instance to the Thriving Communities Programme Manager for initial consideration as the action linked the Motion to social prescribing which forms part of the Thriving Communities programme. At this stage, the Committee can be advised that a fast grant has been allocated to Chatty Café which will support many chatty café locations packs and a meeting has been held to draw together Chatty Café, the Thriving Communities Team and Libraries. Post-Covid, the plan is to have chatter and natter tables in libraries and chatty Monday and Wednesdays: social distancing makes this impossible currently but it will be revisited in spring 2021.

Looking ahead, there is an offer to link with the existing volunteering offer in Oldham to grow the digital offer that Chatty Café have developed and a meeting with Action Together can be supported; information has been shared with the five social action fund projects to see how they can be linked in; and there is potential for developing a digital offer with libraries to support people digitally through, for example, zoom chats. It is intended that further updates related to chatty café issues be submitted within the periodic Thriving Communities and Health Improvement update reports.

- 1.6 The Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme has been updated to reflect the outcomes of the Committee meeting on 13th October 2020 and is attached for consideration and noting.