

Report to HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2021/22

Chair: Councillor Yasmin Toor

Lead Officer: Elizabeth Drogan, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

Report Author: Mark Hardman, Constitutional Services Officer

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Purpose of the Report

For the Health Scrutiny Committee to review the Committee's Work Programme for 2021/22.

Recommendations

The Health Scrutiny Committee is asked to note and comment on the attached Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2021/22.

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 2021/22 Municipal Year. The Health Scrutiny Committee is working to new terms of reference as agreed by the Council in June 2020 -
- a) To discharge all health scrutiny functions of the Council under s 21-23 and 26-27 of The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 including:
 - the review and scrutiny of any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the Council's area;
 - the making of reports and recommendations to relevant NHS bodies and health service providers;
 - responding to proposals and consultations from NHS bodies in respect of substantial variations in service provision and any other major consultation exercises;
 - referral of comments and recommendations on proposals referred to the Committee by a relevant NHS body or relevant service provider to the Secretary of State if considered necessary; and
 - all matters relating to Healthwatch.
 - b) To scrutinise the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board, including the development, implementation, review and monitoring of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
 - c) To scrutinise the development and implementation of any joint arrangements established under a s75 Agreement between the Council and a relevant NHS organisation.
 - d) To scrutinise public health services generally.
 - e) To scrutinise issues identified as requiring improvement by external assessors in respect of social care matters.
 - f) To establish Task and Finish groups, Inquiries etc to give in depth consideration to issues within the purview of the Committee.
 - g) To consider called in business arising from the Commissioning Partnership Board.
 - h) To consider relevant matters referred from Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.11(g).
 - i) To make recommendations to the Cabinet, Health and Wellbeing Board, the Commissioning Partnership Board or to any partner organisation on issues scrutinised relevant to those bodies.
 - j) To participate in/and or review the considerations of any joint committee established to respond to formal consultations by an NHS body on an issue which impacts on the residents of more than on Overview and Scrutiny Committee area.
- 1.3 In drafting the Committee Work Programme, the work programmes and outcomes from the three overview and scrutiny bodies that worked through the 2020/21 Municipal Year were reviewed by the Statutory Scrutiny Officer and officers from Constitutional Services in consultation with the Chairs of the former and current Overview and Scrutiny Committees, with business being assigned in accordance with the agreed terms of reference for the three new Overview and Scrutiny Committees. This process is not intended to replicate

previous years business but looks to ensure that ongoing, longer term oversight of particular issues is not lost in the move from one structure to another.

- 1.4 The Health Scrutiny Committee has retained its delegated powers to undertake the Council's statutory health scrutiny function, the principal elements of which are specified in the terms of reference. Since establishment of those statutory responsibilities much has changed in both NHS structures and service delivery, not least in developing integrated health and social care services. The progress of integration means it would be difficult to meaningfully separate out health scrutiny from scrutiny of the Council's social care services that fall in scope of the 'Section 75 Agreement' between the Council and the Oldham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) without the risk of significant duplication of time and effort. As a result, the Committee now holds some responsibility for scrutiny relating to social care. Reflecting this, the Committee has a particular scrutiny role with regard to the Commissioning Partnership Board. Reflecting a broader definition of 'health' than the statutory function, the Committee has a 'lighter touch' scrutiny role in respect of the Health and Wellbeing Board and matters related to the Council's Public Health function.
- 1.5 Since approval of the new terms of reference, a White Paper "Integration and Innovation: Working Together to Improve Health and Social Care for All" has been published which proposes change to the structure and delivery of local health and social care services. The Committee will be scrutinising the implications of the White Paper and its passage into law, a process which may lead to further consideration of the Committee's terms of reference over the coming months.
- 1.6 Overview and scrutiny should be regarded as a 'dynamic' process in that issues, particularly corporate issues, should be expected to pass from one Committee to another at appropriate times: for example, activities and services following from approval of a Policy would in many cases be expected to be monitored by the Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee. In all cases, the flow of business across Committees would be managed by the Statutory Scrutiny Officer in consultation with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees. It should, however, be noted that the scheduling of Committee business is, to some degree, in the hands of others: for example, the Council and the various partners contributing to the work of the Committee each have their own business cycles.
- 1.7 The Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme at this stage only notes business scheduled for meetings of the Committee. However, the use of workshops or of task and finish groups are a tool of the overview and scrutiny function, enabling longer and more in-depth consideration of issues than is possible in a Committee setting. Such events will be recorded in the Work Programme as they are called for, scheduled and held.
- 1.8 The initial Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2021/22 is attached as an Appendix to this report. The Work Programme will be updated and re-submitted to each meeting of the Committee (excluding dedicated budget meetings) as the year progresses.