

**Report to HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

# **Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2022/23**

**Lead Officer:** Elizabeth Drogan, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

**Report Author:** Mark Hardman, Constitutional Services

**6<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

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## **Purpose of the Report**

For the Health Scrutiny Committee to review the Committee's Work Programme for 2022/23.

## **Recommendations**

The Health Scrutiny Committee is asked to note and comment on the attached Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2022/23.

## 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 2022/23 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 2021/22 Municipal Year have been reviewed to ensure continuation of business where appropriate. The business likely to come forward through the year has been considered and, where possible, scheduled in the programme. Such items particularly relate to public health issues and local health and social matters.

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- 1.4 The Health Scrutiny Committee has 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 which presents some difficulties in meaningfully separating out health scrutiny from scrutiny of social care functions which thereby has the potential to cause significant duplication of time and effort. As a result, the Committee now holds some responsibility for scrutiny relating to social care. Reflecting a broader definition of 'health' than the statutory function, the Committee also 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 With regard to Health Scrutiny and the NHS, the Committee has followed the White Paper "Integration and Innovation: Working Together to Improve Health and Social Care for All" through its passage into law as the Health and Care Act 2022 and will be reviewing the implementation of the resulting integrated care arrangements through the year and, following the transaction of local acute services and the Royal Oldham Hospital to the Northern Care Alliance, will be reviewing the progress of services subject to that process.
  - 1.6 While overview and scrutiny should be regarded as a 'dynamic' process in that issues might be expected to pass from one Overview and Scrutiny Committee to another at appropriate times, because much of the Health Scrutiny Committee terms of reference reflect statutory scrutiny functions, there is a general expectation that all business pertinent to this Committee, whether it might be regarded as a 'policy' or 'performance' issue, would be considered solely by this Committee. Notwithstanding, the flow of business across all three of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees is managed by the Statutory Scrutiny Officer in consultation with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the 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 2022/23 is attached as an Appendix to this report. The Work Programme will be updated and re-submitted to each meeting of the Committee as the year progresses.

## **2 Options/Alternatives**

- 2.1 Option 1 – To receive and consider the Committee Work Programme for 2022/23.  
Option 2 – Not to consider the Work Programme.

## **3 Preferred Option**

- 3.1 Option 1 is the preferred option as there is a Constitutional requirement for the Committee to have a Work Programme.

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#### **4 Consultation**

4.1 Consultation has taken place with lead Officers around scheduling and consideration of business relevant to the Committee. Initial consultation has been undertaken with the Chair and will continue with the Chair and the Committee through the Municipal Year.

#### **5 Financial Implications**

5.1 N/A

#### **6 Legal Services Comments**

6.1 N/A

#### **7. Co-operative Agenda**

7.1 N/A

#### **8. Human Resources Comments**

8.1 N/A

#### **9 Risk Assessments**

9.1 N/A

#### **10 IT Implications**

10.1 N/A

#### **11 Property Implications**

11.1 N/A

#### **12 Procurement Implications**

12.1 N/A

#### **13 Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

13.1 N/A

#### **14 Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

14.1 N/A

#### **15 Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

15.1 No

#### **16 Key Decision**

16.1 No

#### **17 Key Decision Reference**

17.1 N/A

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**18 Background Papers**

18.1 None.

**19 Appendices**

19.1 Appendix 1 – Draft Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2022/23.