

Select Committee on Health and Adult Social Care – 6th April, 2011

Report of the Lead Officer to the Committee

Provisional Work Programme for 2011/12

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the provisional work programme of the Committee for the 2011/12 municipal year and request that Members consider any additions/deletions they would wish to make.

Background

2. Selecting the right topics is crucial to ensure scrutiny adds value to the work of the Council and partners and produce tangible outcomes for communities that result in real service improvements.
3. The provisional workplan is attached at appendix 1. It covers priorities highlighted by Dudley's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (which identifies local health and well-being needs to plan future services) and issues flagged up by Dudley's Local Involvement Network. Matters to carry forward and service reconfigurations identified in 2010/11 are also considered.

Consultation

4. Dudley Health and Well-Being Partnership¹, Dudley NHS (formerly Dudley PCT) and Dudley's Local Involvement Network (LINK) will be consulted on the development of the work plan in order to ensure its effective development.
5. Further discussion with wider voluntary and community bodies is also envisaged to ensure the plan is representative and responsive to needs.

¹ This partnership brings together all key health agencies to lead and co-ordinate joint working to improve health and wellbeing and reduce the health inequality in Dudley and feeds into Dudley's Community Strategy.

6. Issues may arise that need to be included in the Work Programme as similarly some issues that have been included may be overtaken by events, so there is a need to keep some slack in the system.
7. The final work plan will be presented at the first meeting of the new municipal year

Key issues for 2011/12

Dignity in Care Review

8. The Committee agreed to look into Dignity in Care for older people in Hospital Settings as it's theme for in-depth review for 2010/11. A members' workshop comprising colleagues from Dudley Group of Hospitals was held in February 2010 to attain a deeper understanding of practices that support; the full review findings will be reported in July.

Joint Scrutiny Committee with Walsall

9. The Committee will be invited to consider the future of Joint scrutiny arrangements with Walsall in overseeing the progress of the Dudley Walsall Mental Health Trust.

NHS White Paper

10. Finally, the on-set of new commissioning structures and health improvement role for Councils envisaged in the NHS White Paper will clearly be a priority, particularly with Dudley's early implementer status for the development of Health and Well Being Boards and GP Consortia – two key components. HASC will have an interest in exploring how to best engage scrutiny in the development of the new system.

Finance

11. There are no significant cost implications arising from this report.

Law

12. Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1972, enables the Council to do anything, which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of its functions.

13. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 provides for Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees to review and scrutinise the actions of key health and social care bodies.

Equality Impact

14. The work of the Committee can be seen as contributing to the equality agenda in its pursuit of improving care for all. This implies a challenge to ensure that services meet the needs of all sectors of the community to make this an even greater reality in Dudley.

Recommendation

15. That consideration be given to the provisional work programme for the Committee for 2011/12 so that, following consideration and wider consultation, the formal work programme might be reported to the July 2011 meeting of the committee for approval.

Brendan Clifford

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List of Background Papers

Appendix 1

Outline Workplan 2011/12

It is envisaged that further sub-categories and priorities will be identified from ideas and themes emerging from consultation envisaged ahead of the first meeting of the municipal year (July 2010)

JSNA issues

- Smoking Cessation/update on Tobacco strategy
- Obesity: strategy evaluation and responsiveness of diabetes services
- Alcohol: delivery of agencies against 2010 strategy

LINK: identified priorities

- Language Interpretation in GP Surgeries
- Development of the Patient Experience strategy

Matters of for Tracking

- Follow-up of HASC's 2010/11 Review: Healthy Workforce
- Quality Accounts – follow-up of priorities identified in 2010/11

Watching Brief

- NHS White Paper: engaging scrutiny in the development of new system including: Health and Well-being Boards; Commissioning structures; Public Health; and the transition of LINKs into HealthWatch.

Joint matters

- Proposals for the future of trauma care: Black Country HOSC Chairs will be meeting in March to discuss how best engage scrutiny
- Future of discretionary joint committee with Walsall MBC regards oversight of the Dudley Walsall Mental Health Trust.
- Vascular Reconfiguration – national quality standards requires inpatient vascular surgery to be centralised in a single hospital; the aim is to maintain specialist skills.

Routine items

- Need for slack in the system for corporate/standing items