
Meeting of the Health Select Committee – Wednesday 31st July 2024

Report of the Lead for Law and Governance

Programme of Meetings and Business Items for 2024/25

Purpose

1. To consider the programme of meetings and potential items of business for this Select Committee during 2024/25.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended: -
 - That the programme of meetings for 2024/25 be noted.
 - That Members consider potential business items, as referred to in paragraph 4 of this report, subject to the need for flexibility during the municipal year.
 - That the Lead for Law and Governance, following consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, be authorised to make all the necessary arrangements to enable this Committee to undertake its work during the 2024/25 municipal year.
 - That the terms of reference for the Select Committee, as set out in the Appendix, be noted.

Background

3. As agreed at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 16th May, 2024, meetings of this Select Committee have been programmed during the 2024/25 municipal year to undertake its work and consider any relevant items of business during the municipal year.

4. At the Annual Meeting of the Council on 16th May, 2024, approval was given to the establishment of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, together with six Select Committees, for the 2024/25 municipal year.
5. Initial consideration has been given to the Select Committee Work Programme for 2024/25 informally with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Select Committees on 10th June, 2024. The items listed below are recommended for consideration at programmed meetings of this Select Committee during 2024/25:

Wednesday 31st July 2024

- Programme of Meetings and Business Items for 2024-25
- Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust Quality Account 2023/24
- Financial Wellbeing and Mitigating Poverty Strategy 2024-2025
- The Poplars Move Proposal

Thursday 3rd October 2024

- Programme Update
- Mental Health Needs Assessment
- Corporate Quarterly Performance Report (Quarter 1)
- Public Health Grant

Thursday 5th December 2024

- Programme Update
- Progress of Health and Wellbeing and Inequality Strategy (Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy)
- 0 – 19 Contract
- Corporate Quarterly Performance Report (Quarter 2)

Thursday 23rd January 2025

- Programme Update
- Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2025-2027
- Director of Public Health Annual Report
- Corporate Quarterly Performance Report (Quarter 3)

Thursday 20th March 2025

- Programme update.
- Annual Report 2024/25 and potential items of business for 2025/26
- NHS Quality Accounts

- Corporate Quarterly Performance Report (Quarter 4)
 - Update on the refreshed Integrated Care Partnership Strategy.
6. Action Tracker reports will also be included as a standing item on each agenda to ensure that any outstanding actions agreed by the Committee are progressed and monitored.
 7. The Committee is requested to consider the outline programme of business as outlined above taking account of the need for considerable flexibility due to changing circumstances and any issues that might arise during the municipal year.
 8. Subject to the views of the Committee at this meeting, the Lead for Law and Governance, following consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, will make the necessary practical arrangements for the Committee to conduct its work during 2024/25.
 9. A report was submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20th June, 2024 proposing consequential updates to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny arrangements arising from decisions made at the Annual Meeting of the Council. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee resolved that the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) implement the necessary updates to the Council's Constitution including the revised Article 6 of the Constitution and the associated Procedure Rules within Part 4 of the Constitution together with the terms of reference of the Scrutiny/Select Committees. The terms of reference of this Committee are set out in the Appendix.
 10. An "Effective Scrutiny/Select Committee Working" Development Workshop was provided to all Scrutiny/Select Committee Members by the Local Government Association on 23rd May, 2024, with emphasis on the importance of the Members role and essential scrutiny techniques to assist in the development of scrutiny work for the 2024/25 municipal year.

Finance

11. At the Annual Meeting of the Council on 16th May, 2024, it was resolved that the Director of Finance and Legal, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Legal and Human Resources, be authorised to amend the budget to reflect the Democratic Services resources and Special Responsibility Allowances arising from the revised structure of Committees. Costs associated with the operation of the Overview and Scrutiny arrangements, including Select Committees, will be reflected in the Council's budget for 2024/25 and future years.

Law

12. Committees are established in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and the requirements of the Council's Constitution, which was adopted under the Local Government Act 2000, subsequent legislation and associated Regulations and Guidance.

Risk Management

13. Reports to Select Committees will include a paragraph to ensure proper consideration of any ongoing material risks as part of the Council's Risk Management Framework.

Equality Impact

14. Provision exists within the Council's scrutiny arrangements for overview and scrutiny to be undertaken of the Council's policies on equality and diversity.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

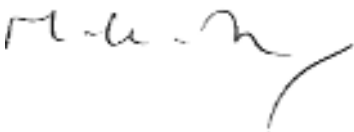
15. The issues referred to in this report are administered within the resources available to the Democratic Services Team with support from Directorates and other Officers as required.

Commercial/Procurement

16. Individual items may have commercial or procurement implications, which will be reported to relevant Select Committees.

Council Plan

17. Work undertaken by Select Committees will contribute to the delivery of key Council Plan priorities. Reports to meetings will include details of how proposals impact on key Council Plan priorities.



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Appendix

Appendix 1 – Terms of reference

List of Background Documents

The Council's Constitution

Appendix 1

HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE

Membership

11 Councillors, 1 non-voting Co-opted Member

Terms of Reference

To fulfil scrutiny functions as they relate to the improvement of local health and associated services in accordance with relevant legislation, regulations, and associated guidance.

To make reports and recommendations to local National Health Service (NHS) bodies and to the Council on any matter reviewed or scrutinised.

To proactively receive information within given timescales, with some exceptions, as per Government Guidance, requested from local NHS bodies.

To be consulted by and respond to (as appropriate) NHS bodies in connection with the rationale behind any proposal and options for change to local health services made by the NHS.

To ensure the involvement of local stakeholders in the work of the Committee.

To act in accordance with Government Guidance relating to Health and Scrutiny functions.

Where practical, necessary, or appropriate, to establish joint scrutiny arrangements with other local authorities.

In accordance with the Work Programme and any statutory requirements:

- (a) To undertake reviews and inquiries on a 'task and finish' basis and contribute to policy development relating to matters falling within the portfolio responsibilities of the relevant Cabinet Members.
- (b) To consider and determine any items that are called in for scrutiny in accordance with the Scrutiny Procedure Rules.
- (c) To submit reports and recommendations to the relevant decision taker(s).