

Health Scrutiny Committee 8th July, 2015

Report of the Lead Officer to the Committee

Work Programme - 2015/16

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to approve the committee's work programme for 2015/16.

Background

2. Close consultation across the system is crucial for health scrutiny to remain a legitimate contributor to health, care and wellbeing services.
3. Key health improvement bodies including Dudley's Clinical Commissioning Group, Dudley Group of Hospitals and Public Health have been engaged in the development this year's work intentions; helping lay the foundations for targeted, incisive and timely scrutiny on issues of local importance. This is attached at Appendix 1 for approval.
4. The proposed programme accounts for issues and commitments experienced in 2014/15, along with new system developments envisaged through 2015/16.
5. With transformational agendas remaining elevated, a commensurate degree of flexibility ought to be recognised in order to respond to new matters. Similarly, some issues that have been included in the proposed plan may be overtaken by events.

In-depth Review

6. On 10th June, 2015 the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board approved proposals to roll-forward work on the committee's Sports Participation and Physical Activity review into 2015/16.

7. The scope of work was originally agreed September 2014 overseen by a small working group comprising elected members and field specialists. However, more immediate work pressures affected momentum directly resulting in delays against project milestones; necessitating work to extend into 2015/16.
8. It is envisaged that members will be consulted on a fresh review topic later in the year; allowing opportunity for Cabinet to consider conclusions and recommendations arising from the current investigation in the shorter term.
9. As such, it is proposed to reappoint to the 2014/15 working group with the specific aim of ensuring work is treated with added impetus in 2015/16.

Guide for Members

10. A members guide has been circulated exploring different parts of the health system, national, regional and local their interrelationships with each other; including the role of local government and scrutiny. It specifically provides:
 - a quick introduction to the health and social care system since the reforms of 2012 for all councillors
 - a brief outline of the purpose of the reforms and how they are intended to improve health
 - a discussion of the role and potential contribution of elected Members to health
 - 'must knows' for councillors with different roles and where they can get further information

Finance

11. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Any costs associated with specific work items would need to be scrutinised further.

Law

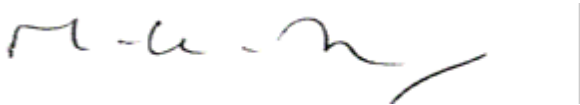
12. Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1972, enables the Council to do anything, which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of its functions.
13. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 places oversight and scrutiny of the planning, development and provision of health, care and well-being services by Local Authority members onto a statutory footing.

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. It is recommended that members:
- note the contents of the report;
 - approve the outline work plan described at paragraphs 2-5 and;
 - endorse the proposal to reappoint the Sports Participation and Physical Activity Review working group in order to finalise recommendations to Cabinet.



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Appendix 1

The following work programme for 2015/16 is proposed:-

July

- Member Workshop: Setting the Scene - health, care and well-being priorities and interrelationships
- Scrutiny Terms of Reference
- Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) : Vanguard Scheme and Better Care Fund
- CCG: Co-Commissioning and Primary Care Development
- Local Healthwatch: Priorities going into 2015/16

September

- Sandwell and Birmingham CCG: Stroke Review: Follow-up
- Dudley Walsall Mental Health Trust: Older Adult Mental Health Services
- Dudley Group of Hospitals (DGH) : Regulatory Follow-up

November

- All key NHS Bodies: Winter Pressures: Mortality Follow-up and Resilience
- CCG: Urgent Care Centre: Specification Follow-up
- West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS): Hospital turnarounds
- Council: Physical Activity Framework and Community Sport

January

- DGH: Maternity: Delivery against National Standards
- Carers Review and Care Act Follow-up
- Committee Review: Sport Participation and Physical Activity: Final Report
- Public Health: Embedding 0-5 years Framework
- Committee Review: Approve Scope of 2015/16 Investigation

February

- Quality Accounts

March

- WMAS: Strategic direction / operational plan
- 2015/16 Committee Review: Interim Report
- CCG/Council: Vanguard Scheme and Quality Transfers of Care Follow-up
- Public Health: Delivery against Tobacco Strategy and Committee Recommendations