
ADULTS AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the work programme items scheduled to be considered by this Scrutiny Committee and to consider any additional areas which Members would like to suggest should be added to the previously approved work programme.

Summary

2. Members will recall that, at previous meetings of this Scrutiny Committee, discussions have been held and agreement reached on areas where this Scrutiny Committee would like to focus its work and work has been, and is currently being, undertaken in relation to some of these areas of work is still due to commence on others.
3. For Members information, the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee are planning to undertake a piece of work later this year in relation to the IT support to Social Workers and social services and it has been suggested that it might be useful if Members from this Scrutiny Committee were involved in that review. It is therefore suggested that consideration be given at this meeting to nominating Members from this Scrutiny Committee in preparation for the Review Group being established

Recommendation

4. It is recommended that Members :-
 - (a) note the current status of the work programme; and
 - (b) nominate Members of this Scrutiny Committee to participate in the proposed review by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee in relation to IT support to Social Workers and social services.

Paul Wildsmith
Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources

Background Papers

There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report.

Shirley Burton : Extension 2233

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder
Health and Well Being	This report has no direct implications to the Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington.
Carbon Impact	There are no issues which this report needs to address.
Diversity	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address
Wards Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal.
Groups Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Group is considered to be minimal.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report contributes to the Sustainable Community Strategy in a number of ways through the involvement of Members in contributing to the delivery of the five themes.
Efficiency	The Work Programmes are integral to scrutinising and monitoring services efficiently (and effectively), however this report does not identify specific efficiency savings.

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

5. For Members information, it has been previously agreed that a number of topics be included on the Work Programme of the Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee and Terms of Reference have previously been approved. The status of each of those areas is detailed in the table below :-

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
Welfare Reforms Review Group	To consider the future planned reforms and their impact on affected residents.	<p>Task and Finish Review Group established. Initial work undertaken but work now to be included as part of wider Welfare Reform Proposals.</p> <p>Partnership Work – update from Partnership Director elsewhere on this agenda.</p>
Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults	To provide Members with an overview of the Safeguarding Adults Board and its functions and to also examine the roles and responsibilities of Darlington Borough Council.	<p>Satisfied with the arrangements in place. Some further work to be undertaken through a Task and Finish Review.</p> <p>Task and Review Group meetings on-going and work programme to be developed for next 12 months.</p> <p>Work to be commenced in relation to medication in Care Homes and Mental Health Services In January, 2014.</p> <p>Dr Sawyer to update Members on the implementation of the revised GP arrangements in Care Homes, to be given as part of the Medication in Care Homes review work..</p>

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
Telehealthcare	To explore the current benefits of telehealthcare.	Deferred at this time
Multi Agency Safeguarding	To advise Members of the establishment of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Unit and its work	Visit held on 12 November, 2103. Members to consider whether any further work is required through a Task and Finish Review. The Head of Review and Development Safeguarding and Police representative attend a future meeting.
Young Carers and transition to Adult Carers		Review Group established by Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – two Members from this Scrutiny Committee appointed to represent it.
VOIDS	To consider a report of the Tenants Board	Item to be included on the agenda for the meeting scheduled for June 2014.
Medium Term Financial Plan	To monitor progress on the delivery of proposals under the remit of this Scrutiny Committee	<p>Co-production Work - Interim Assistant Director, Commissioning will provide an update on the Co-production work elsewhere on this agenda.</p> <p>Lifeline Review – Update on the review to be given 22 April, 2014 and final report to be submitted June 2014.</p> <p>Adult Social Services – update on work to be programmed for a future meeting.</p>
Housing Team – Roles and Responsibilities	To enable the Scrutiny Committee to understand the different roles of the Housing Division.	Item elsewhere on this agenda.

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
Direct Payments		Item elsewhere on this agenda.
Council Housing Stock – Heating and Insulation	To provide Members with the current position of the Council Housing Stock in terms of heating and insulation.	Item elsewhere on this agenda
Performance Management Update	To provide Members with an update regarding the Performance Management framework.	To receive a report on the Performance Management framework to be programmed.

Forward Plan and Additional Items

6. Members are also requested to consider Cabinet’s Forward Plan, which is available on the Council’s website, to assist in determining any further items which they might wish to include on their work programme.
7. If, during the course of the year, Members wish to add any topics to the work programme, a Quad of Aims will need to be developed and submitted prior to the item being brought to Scrutiny Committee, to ensure that it does contribute to the strategic aims of the Council.