
OVERVIEW OF HEALTH AND PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. Since the last meeting of the Council, the following are the main areas of work the Health and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee has undertaken.

Sustainable Community Strategy

2. We were invited to contribute to the development of the revised Sustainable Community Strategy prior to consideration by Council.
3. We were advised that the role and priorities of the Local Strategic Partnership were now within the Strategy and that it now encompassed a statement regarding tackling plans together with a diagram outlining delivery plans.
4. It was highlighted that the document was a working draft and that further development and refinement will be carried out before its final approval by Council this month and that it had been presented to Scrutiny as a working draft to enable Members of the Committee to contribute to the development of the document in the areas of specific interest to this Scrutiny Committee.
5. Members gave particular attention to the outcomes for 'more people healthy and independent' and 'more people active and involved' and gave their views thereon. Scrutiny will continue to contribute to the on-going development of the document.

Performance Management Framework

6. We received a presentation on the Performance Management Framework (PMF) currently being developed which outlined how the indicators aligned to the strategies and outcomes of the Sustainable Community Strategy.
7. Committee was advised that the PMF will assist Members in developing their work programmes over the next Municipal Year thereby ensuring that work undertaken will reflect the strategic aims of the Council.
8. We were informed that work is currently being undertaken on the high level indicators which have been devised as a set of key indicators to measure performance. The high level indicators are strategic indicators which include all the Partners and will be used to assess the outcomes of the Strategy.
9. We were assured that the indicators would show if Darlington was going in the right direction and flag any issues which would be included on our Work Programme for further investigation. It was stressed that high level indicators would take a while to

move although low level indicators would give a better idea of movement.

10. We were keen to continue to continue our partnership working and in doing so have input into the Health Agenda; explore the definition of poverty which would have a totally different meaning in ten years' time; ensure more services were available for veterans; and examine mental health issues.

Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group – Two Year Operational Plan

11. We received a report from Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group (DCCG) regarding its two year plan and commissioning priorities.
12. The Everyone Counts : Planning for Patients 2014/15 to 2018/19 document sets out the need for bold and ambitious five year strategic plans from NHS commissioners.
13. We were advised that the Plan described an approach to deliver transformational change with the first critical steps over the next two years, to achieve the continued ambition to secure sustainable high quality care for all, now and for future generations.
14. Scrutiny was advised of the rising demands on health care and the challenges facing commissioners and providers.
15. It was also stated that the gap of £30bn between 2013/14 and 2020/21 could have a detrimental effect on providing high quality health care.
16. Scrutiny gave consideration to the priorities of urgent care, planned care, the frail and elderly, securing quality and seven day working, long term conditions and mental health and well-being.

County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust Operational Plan

17. We received a report from County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust (CDDFT) regarding its two year plan and commissioning priorities and in doing so were advised that the CCG and CDDFT plans were to be more aligned in future.
18. Scrutiny was advised of the Trust Planning Process and the staff and stakeholder feedback that had been received.
19. The Strategic Breakthroughs in relation to integration and care closer to home, transforming unscheduled care and centres of excellence were highlighted and Scrutiny were advised of the work ahead for the Trust.

Quality Accounts

20. Members of this Committee have recently attended Working Group meetings with Officers from Tees, Esk and Wear NHS Foundation Trust. Members also attended

Stakeholder events held during February and March.

21. The information gathered at these meetings will assist us when we have to submit our commentaries to the Draft Quality Accounts for 2013/14 this month.

Healthwatch Consultation

22. Scrutiny's views were sought on the consultation document Healthwatch England, The Way Forward by 10 March 2014. The document highlighted the four main areas of work in Healthwatch Plans as safer services, rights and things we all should do, making sure services meet the needs of the people and making Healthwatch stronger.
23. A member of Health Watch had attended several Health Watch North East meetings at which the consensus of opinion was that the document was clearly written with minimum jargon, it was well set out and accessible to all.

Work Programme 2013/14

24. We have given consideration to the Work Programme for this Committee for the Municipal Year 2013/14 and possible review topics and in doing so, we have taken into account the reduced resources available and ensured that, in recommending our work programme to Monitoring and Co-ordination Group, any work we undertake will have demonstrable outcomes and contribute to the work of the Council and its strategic aims and objectives.

Councillor Wendy Newall
Chair of the Health and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee