

## QUAD OF AIMS (MEMBERS' REQUEST FOR ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED BY SCRUTINY)

### PROCESS FOR ADDING AN ITEM TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE'S PREVIOUSLY APPROVED WORK PROGRAMME

#### SECTION 1 TO BE COMPLETED BY MEMBERS

**NOTE** – This document should only be completed if there is a clearly defined and significant outcome from any potential further work. This document should **not** be completed as a request for or understanding of information.

REASON FOR REQUEST?	RESOURCE (WHAT OFFICER SUPPORT WOULD YOU REQUIRE?)
<p>Chronic diseases and long-term conditions are highly prevalent within Darlington communities. The distribution and severity of these conditions vary across the borough, leading to inequalities. Evidence suggests that individuals with long-term physical conditions are more likely to experience poor mental health as a result of their ongoing health issues</p> <p>To mitigate the impact and cost of long-term conditions and improve the quality of life for those affected, evidence suggests that addressing both the mental and physical health needs of individuals is crucial. It is not clear what mental and psychological support is available to residents in Darlington who are living with long term conditions. It is not clear what referral pathways or other means to access mental health or psychological support are in place to support Darlington residents diagnosed or living with a long term health condition.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Health support</li> <li>• Data Analyst capacity</li> <li>• Input from key agencies/partners including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NHS –                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Commissioners (NENC ICB)</li> <li>○ Primary Care (Primary Care Network)</li> <li>○ Mental Health (TEWV)</li> <li>○ NHS Talking Therapies</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Patients and their advocates e.g. Healthwatch, Macmillan cancer services</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Examples of services and pathways with integrated mental health support e.g. prehabilitation and rehabilitation</li> </ul>
<p><b>PROCESS (HOW CAN SCRUTINY ACHIEVE THE ANTICIPATED OUTCOME?)</b></p>	<p><b>HOW WILL THE OUTCOME MAKE A DIFFERENCE?</b></p>

<p>I suggest that the Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee lead an initiative to...</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Examine the Impact:</b> Investigate and understand the mental health effects on individuals living with long-term conditions and chronic illnesses.</li> <li>• <b>Assess Support Systems:</b> Evaluate the mental health and psychological support available to those diagnosed with or undergoing investigation for chronic illnesses in Darlington.</li> <li>• <b>Review Service Pathways:</b> Ensure that pathways to appropriate services are in place and that both local residents and professionals are aware of these pathways.</li> <li>• <b>Recommend Improvements:</b> Provide recommendations to enhance the commissioning and provision of local services.</li> </ul>	<p>The project will:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map existing provision of mental health/psychological support related to long term conditions</li> <li>• Identify gaps in provision</li> <li>• Map and identify pathways into services</li> <li>• Identify examples of good practice</li> <li>• Make recommendations for improvements in practice and commissioning</li> <li>• Improve the experience and outcomes for local people living with long term conditions.</li> </ul>

Signed Councillor Kate Mammolotti

Date 20 August 2023

**SECTION 2 TO BE COMPLETED BY DIRECTORS/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS**  
**(NOTE – There is an expectation that Officers will discuss the request with the Member)**

<p>1. (a) Is the information available elsewhere? <span style="float: right;"><b>Yes</b></span></p> <p>If yes, please indicate where the information can be found (attach if possible and return with this document to Democratic Services)</p> <p><b>There is information about the range of long-term conditions and chronic illnesses including mental health conditions available through a range of local and national statistics and data. There would have to be a focus on one or two specific conditions as there is too much data to be interrogated and analysed across the full range of long terms conditions, as defined by the NHS.</b></p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Criteria</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information already provided/or will be provided to Member</li> <li>2. Extent of workload involved in meeting request</li> <li>3. Request linked to an ongoing Scrutiny</li> </ol>
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<p>(b) Have you already provided the information to the Member or will you shortly be doing so?</p> <p><b>This specific information has not yet been provided to the member however following a meeting with the elected member a more specific and targeted data set was identified to focus on. This will be collected and analysed at a high level for the elected member to review. More information is required from partners to fully inform this work.</b></p> <p>2. If the request is included in the Scrutiny Committee work programme what are the likely workload implications for you/your staff?</p> <p><b>If this request was included in the Committee Work Programme it would require specific input from a number of different officers at different stages of the project, which would need to be scheduled and coordinated.</b></p> <p>3. Can the request be included in an ongoing Scrutiny Committee item of work and picked up as part of that?</p> <p><b>It could potentially compliment or be informed by some existing topics scheduled on the Work Programme including topics such as Primary Care ((26/02/25) or Community Mental Health Transformation (02/04/25).</b></p> <p>4. Is there another Council process for enquiry or examination about the matter currently underway?</p> <p><b>Not specifically although the Health and Wellbeing Strategy being developed by the Health and Wellbeing Board will have a focus on Health Inequalities, health outcomes and mental health. However, it would not be specific to the detail included in the Quad of Aims.</b></p> <p>5. Has the individual or entity some other right of appeal?</p> <p><b>Not applicable</b></p> <p>6. Is there any substantial reason (other than the above) why you feel it should not be included on the work programme?</p> <p><b>No, the evidence and data indicate that long-term conditions have a significant impact on people living in our communities in the Borough. Long-term conditions not only cost the local authority and the NHS substantial amounts of money and resources to manage, but they also effect the economy due to the impact of long-term sickness and absences from work.</b></p>	<p>Committee item of work and can be picked up as part of that work</p> <p>4. Subject to another Council process for enquiry or examination (such as Planning Committee or Licensing Committee)</p> <p>5. About an individual or entity that has a right of appeal</p> <p>6. Some other substantial reason</p>
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<p><b>Population projections suggest that more people in Darlington will develop and live with these conditions for longer. Residents should be able to be supported through a holistic approach, which considers the physical and mental health needs of the individual.</b></p> <p><b>It is within this committee’s responsibility to assess the factors that impact the health of the local community, both positively and negatively.</b></p>	
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**Signed** Ken Ross OBO Director of Public Health

**Position** Public Health Principal

**Date** 17 September 2024