

COUNCIL
30 JANUARY 2020

OVERVIEW OF HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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

Work Programme 2019/20

2. We have given consideration to the Work Programme for this Committee for the Municipal Year 2019/20 and possible review topics. In light of the agreed amendments to the Scrutiny Committee, Members were advised that the items on the Work Programme would be reviewed.

End of Life Care for People with Dementia Joint Review Group – Final Report

3. The End of Life Care for People with Dementia Joint Review Group has now concluded its findings and Scrutiny received the final report and recommendations.
4. Members considered the recommendations within the report. We discussed in particular the importance of ensuring people with dementia are included in any discussions in respect of their care whilst still they are still competent as this will achieve the best outcome for the individual. Members agreed that the recommendations be updated to reflect this discussion.
5. A representative from the Darlington NHS Clinical Commissioning Group in attendance at the meeting advised Members that the Clinical Commissioning Group would consider the recommendations from the Joint Review. We have requested an update in six months' time.
6. I would like to thank those who were involved and contributed to the findings of the Review.

Voluntary and Community Sector Funding: Update on Pilot Community Based Initiatives

7. We welcomed an update on the pilot of community based initiatives which were being funded from voluntary Sector Development Fund monies and piloted during 2019/20.
8. We noted the priorities for the non-recurring funding; to reduce isolation and loneliness in adults to improve health and wellbeing and provide early intervention support to vulnerable families to support children and young people to remain in education and live at home.
9. We also noted the details of the seven community based initiatives including the funding available and aims of each initiative.

10. Scrutiny was pleased with the progress and look forward to receiving an update in respect of the impact and outcomes of the funding at a future meeting.

Darlington CCG Financial Challenges and Impact on Services 2019/20 and beyond

11. Scrutiny Committee received a PowerPoint Presentation on the Darlington CCG financial challenges and impact on services for 2019/20 and beyond.
12. We were advised of the breakdown of spending for services in 2018/19 and forecast spending for 2019/20, and noted that expected outturn for 2019/20 was comparable with 2018/19, with the majority of spend on acute care.
13. Members noted that the CCG were on track to deliver an in-year break-even position and Scrutiny was provided with details of the 2019/20 efficiency programme, outlining key areas for efficiency plans with an overall target saving of £2.33m.
14. We also noted the merger of Darlington CCG with Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees CCG; and that a plan would be produced that combined commissioned services for the three CCGs.

Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2018/19 Healthy New Towns: Darlington and Local Authority Health Profile 2019

15. We gave our consideration to the Director of Public Health 2018 statutory annual report which has a focus on the legacy of the Darlington Healthy New Towns programme.
16. We received an update on key messages contained in the Local Authority Health Profile 2019 which provides a snap shot of child and adult health in Darlington.
17. Reference was made to the percentage of women that smoke at the time of delivery in Darlington which remained statistically worse than the England average and Members noted the measures in place to address this.

CQC Scoring Across the Borough – Review Group

18. Members of this Scrutiny Committee were invited to attend a meeting to scope the review of CQC scoring across the Borough of Darlington for health and care settings. An invitation was also extended to the Chair and Vice Chair of the Adults Scrutiny Committee.
19. A meeting was held on 18 November 2019 and were advised of the work being undertaken by the Local Authority in respect of monitoring care settings in Darlington. We were pleased to note a mapping exercise was underway and would include details of CQC and Ofsted ratings for all settings in Darlington.
20. The Review Group will be reconvened to discuss the next steps following the completion of the mapping exercise.

Councillor Ian Bell
Chair of the Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee