

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

21 MARCH 2014

**UPDATE OF THE SCRUTINY FUNCTION: POLICY REVIEW
RECOMMENDATIONS 2013/14 AND SETTING THE SCRUTINY WORK
PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15**

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF SCRUTINY AND AREA ARRANGEMENTS

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Health and Wellbeing Board with an update in regard to the key issues and developments within the council's Scrutiny Function.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 This report seeks to outline progress on the work of the Scrutiny Function for the Municipal Year 2013/14 to date.
- 2.2 On 26 July 2013, a report was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board detailing the policy reviews to be undertaken by the six Scrutiny Panels. In the interim months the reviews have progressed and are now in the final stages of completion.

3. SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS 2012/13

- 3.1 Progress against each of the scrutiny reviews is detailed below. **Appendix 1** provides the recommendations of the Child Obesity and Alcohol and Licensing Policy reviews undertaken by the Children's Services and City Services Scrutiny Panel respectively. These reviews will be considered by Cabinet at its meeting of 16 April 2014.
- 3.2 The Patient Engagement review undertaken by the Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel will make recommendations to the Health and Wellbeing Board and is listed as a separate item elsewhere on this agenda.
- 3.3 The remaining four policy reviews are nearing completion as follows:

Scrutiny Panel	Policy Review Topic
City Services	Flood Risk Management
Health Housing and Adult Services	Supporting Carers in Sunderland
Responsive Services and Customer Care	Volunteering: Increasing Community Capacity
Skills, Economy and Regeneration	The Growth and Diversification of the Local Economy

These policy reviews will be presented to Cabinet in June 2014.

4. SETTING THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15

- 4.1 At this point in the municipal year the Scrutiny Function invites council directorates and partners to identify key issues or topics worthy of being the focus of a scrutiny policy review.
- 4.2 As a decision maker the Health and Wellbeing Board may wish to refer issues to scrutiny in order for those issues to be fully investigated, and to provide recommendations for improvement.
- 4.3 The issues and topics put forward will inform the discussions at the Annual Scrutiny Debate to be held on 24 June 2014. Following the Debate, the Scrutiny Team will work with Lead Scrutiny Members, their Panels and relevant officers to finalise the draft Work Programme for consideration and endorsement by the Scrutiny Committee early in the new Municipal Year.
- 4.4 Potential questions to consider when determining potential topics for consideration by the Scrutiny Committee and its supporting Scrutiny Panels are:
 1. Will the issue be one in which a scrutiny review could have a real influence and impact?
 2. How would a scrutiny review of the issue assist you in the development / delivery of the service or policy?
 3. Is the issue one of public concern and will a review promote community well-being and improve the lives of residents?
 4. What might be the outcome of a review of the issue?

To assist, a list of the Scrutiny Panels and their remits can be found at **Appendix 2**.

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 The Board is requested to:-
 - i. To consider the recommendations of the Childrens Services and City Services Scrutiny Panels;
 - ii. To receive an information item detailing the recommendations of the remaining five policy reviews; and
 - iii. To consider and suggest potential topics or issues worthy of a scrutiny policy review in 2014/15.

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Appendix 1:

Children's Services Scrutiny Panel; Child Obesity

The Scrutiny Panel recommends:

- (a) That Public Health Strategy looks to monitor the implementation and impact of the School Food Plan reforms on local schools and that this is complimented by an enquiry to the Secretary of State for Education as to how this will be undertaken at a national level;
- (b) That Public Health and Planning teams within the local authority look to conduct joint training sessions related to Health Impact Assessments (HIA) considering the practicalities to incorporating HIAs within the planning process;
- (c) That data gathered from the National Childhood Measurement Programme (NCMP) along with intelligence gathered from the impact of other obesity and lifestyle programmes, including LAF Programmes and community based or led services across Sunderland, is utilised to model and target intervention resources effectively;
- (d) That Public Health Strategy explore and consider ensuring that key policy documents including the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, other local needs assessments and strategies, and where appropriate local area committees and frontline councillors consider and take into account realistic opportunities to increase active travel.

City Services Scrutiny Panel; Alcohol and Licensing in Sunderland

The Scrutiny Panel recommends:

- (a) That further work be undertaken to assess evidence from Accident and Emergency in order to identify any areas of the city that may demonstrate a link between the level of crime and disorder and the number of licenced premises;
- (b) That the Council, in consultation with partners, considers whether there is any evidence of a need for a Cumulative Impact Policy in any part of the city;
- (c) That the Council investigates the activities of premises selling takeaway food in relation to the delivery of alcohol with a view to obtaining evidence which may inform future licensing decisions;
- (d) That the Council, at the next revision of the Licensing Policy Statement, includes a model condition which would require an alcohol licensee to be a member of a relevant Pubwatch Scheme;

- (e) That the introduction of a voluntary agreement with licensed premises for a suitable closing hour be explored firstly with partners and then, if necessary, with the relevant Pubwatch scheme in any appropriate areas of the City;
- (f) that the Council lobbies central government to introduce measures to tackle the low unit cost of alcohol sold in many supermarkets and other off licensed premises, which can lead to the excessive consumption of alcohol and associated harm to health, and the disparity in cost with alcohol sold at on-licensed premises where alcohol consumption occurs in a regulated environment;
- (g) That the Place Boards receive information on licensing law in order to facilitate the assistance of residents in pursuing their rights to apply for the review by the Council of the licences of premises that they feel create problems for the community .

Scrutiny Panel remits

Health, Housing & Adult Services	Responsive Services & Customer Care	City Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Social Care Services • Mental Health Commissioning • Supporting People including people with Disabilities • Supporting Carers • Promotion of Decent Homes and • Good Housing Standards in Private Sector Housing • Specialist Housing Support Services and Provision • Housing Renewal • Strategic Relationships with Registered Social Landlords and Private Sector Housing Providers • Homelessness and Housing Advice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Locality Working Initiatives • Responsive Local Service Initiatives • Area Committees, Partnerships and Area Boards • Local Area Plans • Area Budgets including the Community Chest • Customer Care Policy and Practice • Improving the Responsiveness of Neighbourhood Services and Facilities to Local Circumstances and Customer Feedback • Improving the Responsiveness of Personal Services to Customer Feedback • Contact Centre and Customer Services Network including Customer Services Centres • Community Development • Adult and Community Learning • Section 17 Responsibilities • Safer Sunderland Partnership • Anti-Social Behaviour • Drugs Awareness, Prevention and Treatment • Local Multi-Agency Problem-Solving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of place • Neighbourhood • Environmental Services and Street Scene • Highways, Traffic and Transportation • Highways Maintenance • Strategic Transport • Parking and Road Safety • Facilities Management • Registrars, Cemeteries and Crematoria • Play Provision • Grounds and Buildings Maintenance • Waste Management including Strategy, Refuse Collection and Recycling • Coastal Protection/Flood Risk Management • Seafront Management • Licensing, Licensing Regulation and Controlled Drinking Zones • Trading Standards • Public and Environmental Health

	<p>Groups (LMAPS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Resilience 	
<p>Public Health, Wellness & Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic partnership with the health community of Sunderland • promotion of Public Health and Wellness • Effective transition of public health responsibilities to the City Council • Transformational approach to the achievement of improved health and well being outcomes • WHO Euro Healthy City Network • Health Awareness • Healthy Lifestyles • Healthy Environment • Sports and Wellness Initiatives and Facilities 	<p>Children's Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Trust • Corporate Parenting • Protecting Children and Young People from Harm • Promoting Good Health and Health Awareness in Children and Young People • Reduction of Child Poverty • Safeguarding and Securing the Well-Being of Children and Young People • School Renewal and Improvement Programmes • Developing the Potential of Children and Young People through • Education, Training, Personal Development and Preparation for Working Life • Promoting the Development of Skills and Capacity which will enable Children and Young People to support and benefit from the City's continuing economic development 	<p>Skills, Economy & Regeneration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosperous city • Partnership working to promote the skills of the residents • Economic prosperity • Inward Investment & business support • Regeneration • Improved employability • Boosting the skills and knowledge of the workforce • Prosperous city centre • Tourism, resorts & events