

ANNUAL REPORT

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF MEMBER SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS**

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To approve the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee report as part of the overall scrutiny annual report 2018/19 that is to be presented to Council.

2. Background

- 2.1 As in the previous 2017/18 municipal year the annual report will be a single combined report of all seven scrutiny committees. The annual report will outline the development in the scrutiny function and provide snapshots of the outcomes achieved during the last 12 months.

3. Current position

- 3.1 The proposed Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee report is attached at **appendix 1** for member's consideration. The report provides a very brief snapshot of some of the main work undertaken by the committee during 2018/19. It should be noted that the report is written from the perspective of the Chair of the Committee reflecting over the year.
- 3.2 Some of the main themes covered in the annual report revolve around the following issues:
- Urgent Care Services
 - 0-19 Service
 - All Together Better Alliance
 - NHS Foundation Trusts Merger.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The Committee has delivered another ambitious work programme in 2018/19, which is reflected in the annual report. The Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee has worked well with Council Directorates, stakeholders and partner organisations to deliver the work programme and the committee has tackled a number of key issues throughout the year and looked to work with officers and stakeholders to provide solutions and improvements to services delivered across the city.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 That Members approve the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee report for inclusion in the Scrutiny Annual Report 2018/19.

6. Glossary

n/a

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APPENDIX 1: ANNUAL REPORT

HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Chair: Cllr Darryl Dixon

Vice-Chair: Cllr Margaret Beck

Committee Members: Councillors Jack Cunningham, Ronny Davison, Miles Elliott, Jill Fletcher, Juliana Heron, Kevin Johnston, Shirley Leadbitter, Neil MacKnight, Barbara McClennan, and Stephen O'Brien.

In introducing this year's Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee report, we have delivered on another ambitious work programme providing debate and challenge on a wide range of health related topics and issues.

The health services commissioned and delivered across Sunderland continue to change due in part to central government legislation, the ideals of the NHS long term view and the need to get as much value for money as possible. This year's annual report is a reflection of some of these changes and how scrutiny has challenged, collaborated and been involved with council health colleagues and NHS health partners.

Through the majority of the year Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has consulted on the way urgent care services are structured and delivered across the city. The CCG outlined a case for change around confusion in the current system, increased demand, national guidance and policies and the need to spend and use resources that provide value for money. The Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee provided a formal response to the consultation outlining a number of issues including on transport and travel, the proposed location of the urgent treatment centre, the enhanced NHS 111 service and on aspects of the consultation itself.

The final decision on urgent care services in Sunderland was taken at a meeting of Sunderland CCG governing body held in public. The CCG governing body acknowledged many of the public concerns and has looked to address these in the final decisions taken. The Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee has ...

As noted in the previous annual report, the committee had agreed to closely monitor developments around the Multispecialty Community Provider (MCP) and I am pleased to report that the committee has done this. There were initial concerns expressed by the committee around the early proposals for development of the MCP, Members were pleased to learn that the CCG have opted for a collaborative approach and business model in going forward. This approach, now known as the All Together Better Alliance, has received overwhelming support and the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee continues to receive progress updates as well as providing challenge, where required, as the model develops.

Another issue that has been revisited from the previous annual report was around the delivery of a number of mandatory and non-mandatory health interventions in schools across Sunderland. There had been a number of concerns raised by Members of the Committee in relation to the previous school nursing service and it was agreed to return to this issue following the re-procurement exercise and commencement of a new contract.

Despite the challenges faced by the mobilisation of a substantial contract, Members of the Committee were reassured to know that a positive working relationship has been established between the Local Authority and the new contractor. The committee acknowledges that there will be a number of issues to be addressed but

are satisfied that the service is now moving in the right direction. Again the committee will continue to monitor the service as it develops and will receive a progress update in the new municipal year.

While the Path to Excellence programme of clinical transformation is conducted through the joint scrutiny arrangements that we have with South Tyneside Council it has resulted in City Hospitals Sunderland and South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trusts working closely together in a strategic alliance. This has ultimately led to the trusts proposing a merger of organisations which has been presented to the Scrutiny Committee. Members, as always, were rigorous in their questioning on this proposal and received reassurances that this merger was based around organisational form and that both hospitals would continue to exist and continue to play key roles in the future.

Members also continue to receive regular progress updates on the care and support provider market, providing a clear picture of current and on-going issues within the care home market in Sunderland. As a result of these regular updates Members have been proactive in requesting further assurances around the market where there are issues of concern. The Committee are also gaining a much better understanding of the key issues facing the sector and the work being undertaken by Sunderland City Council to mitigate many of these issues. This is a crucial aspect for scrutiny members, to understand and seek assurances that any remedial actions put in place are carried through and result in an improved quality of service.

The Committee has also looked at issues around oral health, adult safeguarding and integrated wellness. These are issues that will continue to be included in the committee's work programme as it moves forward into the 2019/2020 municipal year. A number of these issues will form a major focus for the work programme and will provide issues for the committee to debate and consider.

The Committee, once again, has conducted a varied and detailed work programme over the past year but the challenges that lie ahead should not be underestimated. Health services continue to face a number of pressures and challenges and further change is almost inevitable. Members on the Committee are committed to actively tackling the issues facing the health landscape in Sunderland.

Finally on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the members, officers and partners who have contributed to the work of the committee over the year. It is only through this level of commitment and collaboration that the Committee is able to look at the issues in such detail, and I am confident that this will continue in the future.

Councillor Darryl Dixon
Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee