

HEALTH & WELL-BEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

8th JUNE 2011

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME AND POLICY REVIEW 2011-12

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For Members to determine the Annual Work Programme for the Scrutiny Committee during 2011-12, including the main theme for a detailed policy review.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Committee is responsible for setting its own work programme within the following scope:

General Scope: To consider issues relating to health and adult social care services

Remit: Social Care (Adults); Welfare Rights; Relationships and scrutiny of health services; Healthy life and lifestyle choices for adults and children; Public Health; Citizenship (Adults); and External inspections (Adult Services)

- 2.2 The Council's Scrutiny Committees are aligned to the relevant priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy – the Sunderland Strategy. This allows each Scrutiny Committee to focus on the priority areas and targets in the Sunderland Strategy and Local Area Agreement (LAA) and for the work of all Scrutiny Committees to consistently address those areas of performance requiring detailed examination.

- 2.3 This approach allows a clear themed focus on the outcomes for the people of Sunderland, and allows for cross-cutting examination of issues, with potential for linking areas of knowledge and expertise that would not ordinarily be brought together, so increasing the likelihood of the committees identifying novel approaches and solutions to the issues they consider.

- 2.4 The most relevant Sunderland Strategy priority for this committee is:

Healthy City: To create a city where everyone can be supported to make healthy life and lifestyle choices - a city that provides excellent health and social care services for all who need them. Everyone in Sunderland will have the opportunity to live long, healthy, happy and independent lives.

- 2.5 All Scrutiny Committees will take a role in the scrutiny of partnership and area issues and have a role in engaging with partners, external scrutiny, community and public engagement, and engaging with media and area scrutiny.

3. Policy Review

- 3.1 Policy review is the process of maintaining an overview of council policies and will usually examine whether the Council and its partners intended policy outcomes have been achieved. The process will also explore issues such as the service user's perspective.
- 3.2 Policy reviews are project planned with appropriate methodology applied to investigate the chosen topic. This may include meetings, site visits, surveys, public meetings or analysis of comparative practice in other local authorities.
- 3.3 Previous reviews carried out by this Scrutiny Committee have included Hospital Food, Dementia Care, Living with Diabetes, Employment of Adults with a Physical Disability, Community Mental Health, Corporate Parenting, Keeping Older People out of Hospital, and Home Care Services. All previous reviews are available at <http://cityweb/directorates/chief-executive/scrutiny/scrutinyhome.shtm>
- 3.4 Following the selection of a topic for review, the Committee will receive a report setting out a possible approach to the review. This will include the terms of reference, definitions, links to corporate goals, partnerships, the national and local context, and proposals for gathering evidence.
- 3.5 The shortlist of topics for 2011-12 is listed below. The Committee is recommended to select one topic from this shortlist for an in depth review. The list includes all topics suggested by Members from the discussions held at the Scrutiny Conference on 19th May 2011.

Suggested Topic	Objective of the review
Male Mortality	To investigate male mortality and its links to cancer (early awareness; chronic disease management; variation in hospital services). Relevant services include smoking; alcohol and obesity.
Hospital Discharge	The review will consider the support available for patients who are ready to be discharged from hospital and whether this is coordinated and that all elements of the support needed after discharge is available. The review could consider this national issue in a local context across the health, community care and housing services.
Telecare – use of technology in social care	How Sunderland Telecare contributes to the councils keys service delivery including:-

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choice and Control. • Independent Living • Equal Access for All. • Improving Health and Well-being.
Strengthening Transition Arrangements – young person to adult	Continuity of health care from children to adults. Assessing how services are joined up and planned for especially for children with multiple and complex needs or learning disabilities.
Best start – children and young people	Assessing the life course of children/young people, beginning with breast feeding and uptake, smoking in pregnancy.

3.6 Other items discussed for possible work programme topics included:

- (a) Supported Living for Vulnerable Adults – supporting people with complex needs at home including extra care, the move out of group living schemes to people with a learning disability or with mental health problems living in their own homes and all associated tenancy issues.
- (b) Reducing Under-18 Conception Rate - the National Support Team for Teenage Pregnancy produced a report in April 2010 and the Scrutiny Committee may wish to receive a report on progress against the recommendations.
- (c) Re-commissioning of Staying Healthy services including substance misuse; obesity and more targeting of deprived/at risk areas and the further development of services.
- (d) Houghton Quarry Landfill – possible public health issues including water supply and how agencies are responding to public concerns.
- (e) Workplace Health – how do employers promote well-being services, early detection and prevention and take on a leadership role (links to Male Mortality project).
- (f) Ageing Well – services which allow people to stay in their own homes. (links to Delayed Discharge project).
- (g) Food in private care homes – extending the work carried out during last year's food in hospitals review to include residential care.
- (h) Personalisation – Balancing risk and choice to meet the personalisation agenda, e.g. is the approach suitable and adaptable for all service users.

- (i) Improve Access to Services – specifically the under-use of services by certain groups and equity of take up (links to Male Mortality project).

4. Work Programme

- 4.1 A draft work programme for 2011-12 with items already scheduled is attached as Appendix A.
- 4.2 The work programme can be amended during the year and any Member of the Committee can add an item of business to an agenda (See Protocol 1 Overview & Scrutiny Handbook).

5. Conclusion & Recommendation

- 5.1 The Committee is asked to :
 - (a) Consider the draft Annual Work Programme for 2011-12 and indicate any additions or amendments;
 - (b) Consider the list of suggestions for policy review and determine one topic for review.
- 5.2 Subject to any amendment at this meeting, the work programme will be submitted to the Management Scrutiny Committee in its coordinating role.

6. Background Papers

None

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