

Health Select Commission (HSC) Chair's Briefing for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) meeting on 8 September 2026

Items covered since the last meeting:

At the HSC meeting on 18 June 2026 the following items were considered:

1. Health Hub Development Phase 2

The Health Select Commission undertook detailed scrutiny of the proposed Phase 2 Health Hub development, testing whether the scheme would deliver genuine health benefits rather than simply relocate existing services or support town centre regeneration. Members challenged officers on how the hub would reduce health inequalities, improve preventative health outcomes, increase access for disadvantaged communities, support women's health, maintain accessibility for residents in outlying areas, and demonstrate measurable improvements in population health.

The Commission also scrutinised governance arrangements, stakeholder and public engagement, success measures, delivery risks, funding, service integration and the balance between health and regeneration objectives. Through its questioning, the Commission secured commitments around ongoing engagement with health and voluntary sector partners, the development of clear outcome measures and monitoring arrangements, and future evaluation of the scheme's impact.

The value added through scrutiny was reflected in the Commission's formal requests for a wider range of health partners to help shape the final service offer, for Members to be sighted on final proposals as they develop, and for post-implementation evaluations at one, three and five years to assess whether the hub is achieving its intended outcomes in relation to health inequalities, healthy life expectancy and wider population health improvements.

The following recommendations were agreed during the meeting:

That the Health Select Commission:

1. Noted the contents of the presentation received.
2. Requested that the relevant Council Services and health partners including the ICB, TRFT, RDaSH, YAS and any relevant voluntary and community sector organisations engage in discussions to consider and develop firm proposals for services to operate from the Health Hub with the greatest potential of positive impact for Rotherham residents and service providers.
3. Requested that the Health Select Commission be advised of the anticipated timeline for final proposals and be sighted on them once agreed.
4. Requested that a further update be provided to the Health Select Commission at one, three and five year intervals post implementation to allow the Commission to scrutinise

service delivery and assess whether the targeted impact of the Health Hub in terms of health inequalities, healthy life expectancy and general population health was being delivered.

2. Primary Care Network Development

The Health Select Commission scrutinised the development and effectiveness of Rotherham's Primary Care Networks (PCNs), examining how the six networks have evolved since their introduction in 2019, the benefits delivered through workforce expansion, enhanced access services, proactive care programmes and coordinated support for care homes, and their contribution to improving healthcare delivery across the borough.

Members challenged witnesses on key issues including equity of access, the impact of overlapping PCN boundaries, the extent to which additional roles had increased capacity and improved outcomes, how health inequalities are identified and addressed, and whether existing arrangements were delivering measurable benefits for residents. Particular attention was given to the role of PCNs within the emerging neighbourhood health model, with scrutiny focusing on how future arrangements could strengthen integration, reduce inefficiencies and organise services more effectively around communities rather than historic organisational structures.

Through its questioning, the Commission secured assurances regarding the continued development of neighbourhood-based care, highlighted the need for clearer performance and outcomes data, and added value by requesting quantified performance information for each PCN and ongoing updates on how PCN development supports the National Neighbourhood Health Implementation Programme, thereby strengthening future accountability and oversight of primary care transformation in Rotherham.

The following recommendations were agreed during the meeting:

That the Health Select Commission:

1. Noted the contents of the presentation received.
2. Be furnished with data which quantifies the performance of each respective PCN serving the Rotherham borough.
3. Receive updates, via an appropriate method and at appropriate intervals to be determined, in relation to how the Primary Care Network in Rotherham continues to develop to support the National Neighbourhood Health Implementation Programme.

3. Rotherham Women's Health Network Co-optee Proposal

The Health Select Commission considered a proposal to strengthen the voice of women's health within its scrutiny arrangements by reviewing a recommendation to appoint a non-voting co-optee from the Rotherham Women's Health Network (RWHN) to the Commission.

Members were provided with details of the proposal and the governance process required to secure approval through the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, enabling them to assess how the arrangement could enhance future scrutiny activity. The discussion recognised the value of drawing on lived experience, specialist insight and community perspectives to inform the Commission's work, particularly in light of its recent focus on women's health inequalities, menopause, contraception and wider women's health issues.

By supporting the proposal, the Commission added value through strengthening stakeholder engagement, improving the diversity of evidence available to inform decision making, and creating a mechanism for sustained input from the RWHN to help ensure future scrutiny of health services remains informed by the experiences and priorities of women across Rotherham.

The following recommendations were agreed during the meeting:

That the Health Select Commission:

1. Seek approval from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) to appoint a non-voting Co-optee seat from the Rotherham Women's Health Network (RWHN) to the Commission's membership.
2. Seek approval from OSMB that the RWHN non-voting co-optee seat on the Health Select Commission shall remain in place until such time as it is deemed no longer necessary or appropriate by the Commission.

Work programme 2025-26 updates:

- **Health Select Commission Work Programme**

The Health Select Commission has approved its work programme for the 2026/27 municipal year. There are currently no vacant slots remaining.

- **Reviews**

The Health Select Commission is due to meet to scope, score and prioritise the potential review topics under consideration on 26 August 2026, following which the prioritised topics will be progressed.

- **Site Visits**

Health Select Commission members participated in a site visit to the Castle View day Centre on 28 July 2026. Members were able to experience first hand the enhanced provision available to Rotherham residents through the centre and explored options for how to present the proposed update agreed through the recommendations agreed when Castle View featured on the Commission's June 2026 meeting agenda. This was a valuable experience which added to the reassurances given during that meeting, and tangibly demonstrated that the impact reflected during the previous discussions was evident in the day to day operations of the centre.

Items to be discussed at the next meeting:

At the HSC meeting on 24 September 2026 the following items are due to be considered:

- Physical Activity for Health (Sport England Main Bid and progress update)
- Immunisation Programme Commissioning Changes