

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1. Meeting:	Health Select Commission
2. Date:	26th January, 2012
3. Title:	Work Programme Update
4. Directorate:	Chief Executive's All wards

5. Summary

The report updates Members on the progress of the work programme for the Health Select Commission for the 2011/12 municipal year and asks for views on its work.

6. Recommendations

That members

- a. Discuss the work programme as attached and give consideration to priority areas for future scrutiny**
- b. Give its comments on the discussion points outlined under Proposals and Details**

7. Proposals and Details

As outlined in the Council's Constitution, the remit of the Health Select Commission is to:

- Be the Council's designated scrutiny body for any issue relating to health and the public health agenda
- Look at the partnership and commissioning arrangements in relation to health and wellbeing and their governance arrangements
- Ensure health improvements and the promotion of wellbeing for adults and children of Rotherham
- To scrutinise and help develop measures to address health inequalities
- To scrutinise food law and environmental health
- To consider issues referred to it by the Local Involvement Network (LINK) or successor body (HealthWatch once in place)

Each select commission has planned its work programme in line with its remit and Corporate Priorities; Health's work programme is attached as Appendix A. Its main focus is the scrutiny of the health reform agenda and tackling health inequalities in Rotherham.

The Select Commission is asked for its comments on the programme.

In addition, mindful that the new overview and scrutiny structures have been recently introduced; as part of its initial evaluation the Management Board is seeking feedback on the following discussion points:

- Do you think that the select commissions are focussing on the 'right' issues in the 'right' way? If not, what needs to change
- Reviews: your views on the approach and process
- Views on work programme – do we have the 'right' balance? Is it achievable? If not, what needs to change?
- What can we do differently or better within current resources?

8. Finance

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, recommendations arising from the Select Commission may have financial implications should they be implemented.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The work programme is flexible and issues may be referred to the Select Commission which are not known about at this stage. The work programme therefore, must be realistic in terms of its capacity to properly examine issues that come before it. If additional items are added, the Select Commission may have to re-prioritise which issues it wishes to scrutinise.

Members should note that the Coalition Government Localism and Health Reform agenda may have further implications for the commission's work programme.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Having a strong overview and scrutiny function which is focused on holding the providers and commissioners of health services to account for poor performance or poor practice will enhance the health of Rotherham people and work towards tackling health inequalities. The work programme is currently aligned to the key priorities outlined in the Corporate Plan.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

This report has been brought at the request of Cllr Glyn Whelbourn.

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