

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1. Meeting:	Health Select Commission
2. Date:	25th October 2012
3. Title:	Work Programme Update
4. Directorate:	Resources

5. Summary

The paper updates the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2012/13 and seeks further input and clarification of two future work items.

6. Recommendations

That Members:

- a. Agree the focus of the two pieces of work on:**
 - Discharge arrangements**
 - Access to Healthcare services**
- b. Agree the timeframes and methods for reviewing the above two areas**
- c. Receive further updates at December's Commission meeting.**

7. Proposals and details

The Select Commission agreed its work programme for this year as follows:

- Autistic Spectrum Disorder Review
- Residential Homes Review
- Discharge Arrangements Review
- Access to Healthcare Services Review
- Draft care and support bill

Progress to Date:

A small sub group from both the Health Select Commission and the Improving Lives Select Commission has met with Kate Green and Shona McFarlane to discuss a consultation response to the draft Care and Support Bill.

A group has been established for the Autistic Spectrum Disorder review, chaired by Cllr Dalton. This has now met three times and is half way through the review. The review is due to report in December 2012/January 2013.

A group has been established for the Residential Homes review, chaired by Cllr Steele. This has met once and has visits and other meetings scheduled during November and December. It is anticipated that this review will conclude during December 2012.

Outstanding work:

This means that work on Discharge arrangements and access to healthcare services are the only two outstanding elements of the agreed work programme.

Discharge arrangements – this is about the broader issue of how patients are discharged not always to social care services but generally:

- whether people are being sent home at night
- sent home without attention paid to how they will manage (if they do not have directly evident social care needs)
- whether there is follow up for patients on discharge
- how people are discharged to social care services
- what level of delayed discharges there are due to social care issues, housing issues, NHS issues etc (the latter are all monitored and performance targets in place nationally)

Access to Healthcare Services – to include issues around waiting times to see GPs and also access to the Walk in Centre and Accident and Emergency. The CCG are undertaking a consultation about this currently and it is felt that the Commission need to feed into this.

Timescales and methods:

Members are asked to consider how they would like to undertake these remaining two pieces of work. In doing so they should consider that the Scrutiny Manager who also

undertakes support to the Management Board and Improving Places, as well as the Health Select Commission is currently supporting four reviews (2 of which are for the Health Commission). It is therefore suggested that the next piece of work should be around the Access to Healthcare, however, not a full review. It could be a spotlight piece of work, and it should be an aim to ensure that this meets the deadline for the CCG consultation. Discharge arrangements could be the subject of a report early 2013, by which time the two current reviews will have completed and a third review on this can be scoped.

8. Finance

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

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The work programme must be realistic in terms of the Commission's capacity to properly examine issues that come before it. If additional items are added, the panel may have to re-prioritise which issues it wishes to scrutinise.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The proposed work programme takes on board key policy agendas the Council is currently considering and performance information as and where necessary. The areas identified for future scrutiny should complement the priorities identified in the Corporate Plan.

It is also important to note the changes that have occurred during the last year and the reduction in staffing resources. Any work programme needs to take account of this and look realistically at what can be achieved and where it is best to focus resources and efforts.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

12. Contact

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