
Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Health Select Commission – 28 September 2023

Report Title

Work Programme

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Jo Brown, Assistant Chief Executive

Report Author(s)

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Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

To outline a summary work programme for Health Select Commission 2023/2024.

Recommendations

1. That the updated work programme be endorsed.
2. That the Governance Advisor be authorised to make changes to the work programme in consultation with the Chair/Vice Chair, with a revised work programme to be submitted at the next meeting for endorsement.
3. That the updated Terms of Reference of the South Yorkshire, Derbyshire, and Nottinghamshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Summary Work Programme – Health Select Commission

Appendix 2 Updated Terms of Reference – SYDN JHOSC

Background Papers

Agendas of Health Select Commission during the 2021/22 and 2022/23 Municipal Years

Minutes of Health Select Commission during 2021/22 and 2022/23 Municipal Years

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

No

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Draft Work Programme

1. Background

- 1.1 Overall performance of health partners is scrutinised through their quality reports, incorporating a range of national measures together with a number of locally agreed quality priorities. Adult Care and Public Health both have outcome frameworks of performance measures which enable progress to be gauged year on year and also benchmarked nationally and regionally.
- 1.2 Addressing health inequalities that exist in the borough, through prevention-led health and social care strategies and plans, and through looking at the wider determinants of health is an overarching principle.
- 1.3 The Health and social care services continue to undergo transformation and move towards more integrated working through joint commissioning, joint posts, locality working, greater co-location and multi-disciplinary teams. This work has been an important long-term programme that the Health Select Commission (HSC) has kept under scrutiny since 2015-16 and is still evolving. The 2022 Health and Care Act ushered in changes in the commissioning, organisation and provision of health and social care that continue to be a focus with evolving implications for how health scrutiny is conducted in the future.
- 1.5 The way in which the Commission discharges its scrutiny activity is a matter for itself, having due regard to the provisions of the Constitution and any direction from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board. HSC has chosen to scrutinise a range of issues through a combination of reviews, pre-decision scrutiny items, policy development, performance monitoring, information updates and follow up to previous scrutiny work.
- 1.6 Health Select Commission has seven scheduled meetings over the course of 2023/24, representing a maximum of 14 hours of formal public scrutiny per year – assuming approximately 2 hours per meeting. Members therefore are selective in their choice of items for the work programme. The following key principles of effective scrutiny have been considered in determining the work programme:
 - Selection – There is a need to prioritise so that high priority issues are scrutinised given the limited number of scheduled meetings and time available. Members should consider what can realistically and properly be reviewed at each meeting, taking into account the time needed to scrutinise each item and what the session is intended to achieve.
 - Value-added – Items had to have the potential to ‘add value’ to the work of the council and its partners.
 - Ambition – the Programme does not shy away from scrutinising issues that are of greatest concern, whether or not they are the primary responsibility of the council. The Local Government Act 2000 gives local authorities the power to take actions that promote economic, social and environmental wellbeing of local communities. Subsequent Acts have conferred specific powers to scrutinise health services, crime and disorder issues and to hold partner organisations to account.

- Flexibility – The Work Programme maintains a degree of flexibility as required to respond to unforeseen issues/items for consideration during the year and to accommodate any further work that falls within the remit of this Commission.
- Timing – The Programme has been designed to ensure that the scrutiny activity is timely and that, where appropriate, its findings and recommendations inform wider corporate developments or policy development cycles at a time when they can have most impact. The Work Programme also helps safeguard against duplication of work undertaken elsewhere.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 Members are required to review their work programme at each meeting during the municipal year to give focus and structure to scrutiny activity to ensure that it effectively and efficiently supports and challenges the decision-making processes of the Council, and partner organisations, for the benefit of the people of the borough.
- 2.2 Following the discussion at Health Select Commission on 29 June 2023, a revised draft work programme for 2023/24 was developed and presented at the 27 July 2023 meeting for endorsement. In keeping with the priorities of the Council and those expressed by Commission Members, this work programme reflects continued prioritisation of mental health, equal access to services and prevention.
- 2.3 Previous priorities for scrutiny 2021/22 were mental health, addressing health inequalities, and improving access to services. Prevention, a further priority which was carried into 2022/23, was agreed on 25 November 2021. HSC continues to have overview of the Council's strategic efforts to address health inequalities, and this remains an overarching principle or 'golden thread' throughout all scrutiny work.
- 2.4 **South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC)**
- 2.5 The South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, of which Rotherham has been a constituent Member since 2015, resumes following a brief hiatus during the pandemic, governance structure changes by the host authority, and the embedding of new governance structures under the Health and Care Act 2022. The updated JHOSC Terms of Reference (included at Appendix 2) reflect the changes ushered in with the Health and Care Act 2022. The Chair continues to represent the Commission on the JHOSC as agreed in 2015, with the Vice Chair as deputy. Further updates regarding the JHOSC work programme will be submitted to Health Select Commission in due course with an opportunity for members of the Commission to feed into the programmes of work and lines of inquiry.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 3.1 Members are recommended to consider priorities for the 2023/2024 municipal year as they consider the work programme and forward plan.

4. Consultation on proposal

- 4.1 The work programme is subject to consultation with the Chair and Members of the Health Select Commission. Regular discussions take place with Cabinet Member; partner

organisations including the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and National Health Service (NHS); and with officers in respect of the scope and timeliness of items set out on the work programme.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 5.1 The decision to develop and endorse a work programme is a matter reserved to the Commission and will be effective immediately after consideration of this report.
- 5.2 The Statutory Scrutiny Officer (Head of Democratic Services) is accountable for the implementation of any decision in respect of the Commission's work programme. The Governance Advisor supporting the Commission is responsible on a day-to-day basis for the Commission's work programme. Members are recommended to delegate authority to the Governance Advisor to make amendments to the programme between meetings.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct financial or procurement implications arising from this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

- 7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.
- 7.2 The authority of the Select Commission to determine its work programme is detailed within the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules and Responsibility for Functions parts of the Constitution. The proposal to review the work programme is consistent with those provisions.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

- 8.1 There are no direct human resources implications directly arising from this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- 9.1 There are no implications for children and young people or vulnerable adults directly arising from this report; however, Members have regard to potential implications for young people and vulnerable adults in compiling and carrying out the scrutiny work programme.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

- 10.1 Whilst there are no specific equalities implications directly arising from this report, equalities and diversity are key considerations when developing and reviewing scrutiny work programmes. One of the key principles of scrutiny is to provide a voice for communities, and the work programme for this Commission has been prepared following feedback from Members representing those communities.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

- 11.1 Whilst there are no implications for CO2 emissions or climate change directly arising from this report, members have regard to implications in compiling and carrying out the scrutiny work programme.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 The Commission has a co-opted Member from Rotherham Speak Up who contributes to the development and review of the work programme. Where other matters are being considered for inclusion on the work programme, relevant partners or external organisations are consulted on the proposed activity and its timeliness.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 There are no risks arising from this report.

14. Accountable Officer(s)

Emma Hill, Head of Democratic Services and Statutory Scrutiny Officer

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