



Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care)

Date: 15 July 2014

Subject: Sources of work for the Scrutiny Board

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. Scrutiny Boards are responsible for ensuring that items of scrutiny work come from a strategic approach as well as a need to challenge service performance and respond to issues of high public interest.
2. This report provides information and guidance on potential sources of work and areas of priority within the Board's terms of reference. In consultation with the relevant Director and Executive Board Members, the Scrutiny Board is requested to consider and confirm the areas of Scrutiny for the forthcoming municipal year.

Recommendation

3. Members are requested to use the attached information and the discussion with those present at the meeting to confirm the areas of Scrutiny for the forthcoming municipal year.

1.0 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To assist the Scrutiny Board in effectively managing its workload for the forthcoming municipal year, this report provides information and guidance on potential sources of work and areas of priority within the Board's terms of reference.

2.0 Background information

- 2.1 Scrutiny Boards are responsible for ensuring that items of scrutiny work come from a strategic approach as well as a need to challenge service performance and respond to issues of high public interest.
- 2.2 The alignment of the Scrutiny Boards to the City Priorities continues to promote a more strategic and outward looking scrutiny function that focuses on the "Best City for..." priorities, as set out within the City Priority Plan 2011 to 2015. This city-wide partnership plan summarises the key outcomes and priorities to be delivered by the Council and its partners.

3.0 Main issues

Best Council Plan

- 3.1 A refresh of the Best Council Plan was agreed at Executive Board in March 2014, to reflect the progress made over the past year and the significant changes to the context in which the council is working, and to fully align it with the approved 2014/15 budget. The resulting 'Best Council Plan – Plan on a Page' is attached as Appendix 1.

Leeds' Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2013- 2015)

- 3.2 As set out within its terms of reference, this Scrutiny Board is authorised to review or scrutinise the performance of the Health and Wellbeing Board. In doing so, the Scrutiny Board may review performance and progress against the outcome and priority areas detailed in the Leeds' Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) (2013-2015) – attached at Appendix 2.
- 3.3 In determining items of scrutiny work this year, the Scrutiny Board is encouraged to explore how it can add value to the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board in delivering the priorities identified in the JHWS (2013-2015). In addition, in line with the Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules, the Scrutiny Board will also act as a 'critical friend' to the Health and Wellbeing Board through an annual assessment of how well the Board is working in practice.
- 3.4 It is also likely that a revised/ refreshed Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy will be developed beyond 2015 (i.e. the lifecycle for the current strategy).

Other sources of Scrutiny work

- 3.5 The Scrutiny Boards' terms of reference are also determined by reference to Directors' delegations. As such, Scrutiny Boards have always challenged service directorates across the full range of council activities and the Scrutiny Board may

therefore undertake pieces of scrutiny work in line with its terms of reference, as considered appropriate.

- 3.6 The Scrutiny Board may also wish to consider and define the performance management information that it receives in order to discharge part of its performance monitoring role, which itself can often lead to the identification of areas for more detailed scrutiny. The Scrutiny Board considered limited performance information during the previous municipal year (i.e. 2013/14).
- 3.7 Other common sources of work include pre-decision scrutiny, requests for scrutiny and other corporate referrals. Members' may also wish to routinely consider outcomes (through the minutes of meetings) from the Executive Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 3.8 Scrutiny Boards have always sought to work in partnership with one another – if and/or where appropriate; in particular in cross-cutting areas which span more than one Scrutiny Board's terms of reference. In setting the work programme for the coming year, the Board is encouraged to consider areas of work which may benefit from a partnership approach.
- 3.9 As outlined elsewhere on the agenda, the Scrutiny Board also has a specific role in discharging the Council's Health Scrutiny role/ function. This should be taken into account when determining the work programme and the adopted methodology. Nonetheless, draft terms of reference relating to the re-establishment of the Health Service Developments Working Group are presented elsewhere on the agenda for consideration.
- 3.10 It should also be noted that given the current footprint of NHS commissioners and service providers, they may be time where a joint approach with other local authorities may be appropriate and/or required. Further work to establish an agreed approach in relation to joint scrutiny is likely to be needed.

Areas of Scrutiny work brought forward from the previous year

- 3.11 The Scrutiny Board was engaged in a number of work areas during the previous municipal year (2013/14). A summary of the recommendations that the Scrutiny Board may wish follow-up during the current municipal year is attached at Appendix 3. The Scrutiny Board is specifically requested to consider any areas it wishes to pursue.
- 3.12 The review of Homecare was a specific request for scrutiny received in the previous municipal year. Draft terms of reference relating to this area are presented elsewhere on the agenda for consideration.
- 3.13 In the previous year it was also proposed for the Scrutiny Board to consider the performance around Reducing Smoking and the general approach to tobacco control – considering the outcome of the peer review completed in March/ April 2014. However, the completion of the finalised peer review report did not coincide with the final scheduled Scrutiny Board for 2013/14. Provisional plans are in place for this to be considered in September 2014, however the Scrutiny Board is specifically requested to consider if it wishes to continue with this scrutiny activity.

4.0 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 It is recognised that in order to enable Scrutiny to focus on strategic areas of priority, each Scrutiny Board needs to establish an early dialogue with the relevant Executive Board Members and Directors.

4.1.2 The Executive Members for Adult Social Care and Health and Wellbeing along with the Director of Adult Social Services and the Director of Public Health have been invited to attend the meeting to discuss priority areas of work with the Scrutiny Board.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration.

4.2.1 The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules state that, where appropriate, all terms of reference for work undertaken by Scrutiny Boards will include 'to review how and to what effect consideration has been given to the impact of a service or policy on all equality areas, as set out in the Council's Equality and Diversity Scheme'.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The terms of reference of the Scrutiny Boards promote a strategic and outward looking Scrutiny function that focuses on the City Priorities. This particular Scrutiny Board is authorised to review or scrutinise the performance of the Health and Wellbeing Board. In doing so, the Scrutiny Board will review outcomes, targets and priorities within the Business Plan and "Best City...for business" priorities, as set out within the City Priority Plan and the Leeds' Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2013-2015).

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 Over the last few years of Scrutiny Board work, experience has shown that the process is more effective and adds greater value if the Board seeks to minimise the number of substantial inquiries running at one time and focus its resources on one key issue at a time.

4.4.2 Before deciding to undertake an inquiry, the Scrutiny Board is advised to consider the current workload of the Scrutiny Board and the available resources to carry out the work.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 This report has no specific legal implications.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 There are no risk management implications relevant to this report.

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 Scrutiny Boards are responsible for ensuring that items of scrutiny work come from a strategic approach as well as a need to challenge service performance and respond to issues of high public interest. This report provides information and guidance on potential sources of work and areas of priority within the Board's terms of reference. In consultation with the relevant Director and Executive Board Members, the Scrutiny Board is requested to consider and confirm the areas of Scrutiny for the forthcoming municipal year.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 Members are requested to use the attached information and the discussion with those present at the meeting to confirm the areas of Scrutiny for the forthcoming municipal year.

7.0 Background papers¹

7.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.