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## Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

**Scrutiny Board: Scrutiny Board (Health)**

**Date: 30 June 2009**

**Subject: Determining the Work Programme 2009/10**

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### Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

### Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

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## 1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to help the Scrutiny Board determine its priorities and work programme for 2009/10.

## 2.0 Introduction

2.1 Through a number of the previous agenda items, the Scrutiny Board has been provided with a range of information and inputs from key stakeholders that should help identify the Board's priorities and develop its work programme for 2009/10.

### Health Scrutiny Protocol

2.2 In order to successfully deliver the Scrutiny Board's work programme, the relationship between the Board and the NHS bodies across the City will be key. To help maintain this relationship it is essential that guidance exists to help provide a common understanding on how Health Scrutiny will operate in Leeds and provide a framework for the scope and style of Scrutiny in the City. Such a protocol will help to ensure that scrutiny remains a positive and challenging process for all parties concerned.

2.3 A protocol was previously developed and agreed by the Scrutiny Board in April 2003, shortly after the health scrutiny duty became a requirement. While the fundamentals for health scrutiny remain, there have been a number of developments, both nationally and locally, since 2006 that need to be reflected in a revised protocol. In this regard, a draft revised protocol is attached at Appendix 1 for the Board's consideration and agreement.

2.4 Subject to any identified and agreed amendments, the Board is asked to consider and agree the attached draft Protocol between the Scrutiny Board (Health) and NHS bodies in Leeds (Updated June 2009).

#### Health Proposals Working Group

2.5 Current legislation places a duty local NHS bodies to make arrangements to involve and consult patients and the public in planning service provision, the development of proposals for changes, and decisions about changes to the operation of services.

2.6 The requirement to consult on service changes and/or developments, includes a duty to consult the Health Scrutiny Board where the NHS body is considering any proposals relating to substantial changes and/or development of local health services.

2.7 In recent years, to help the Scrutiny Board maintain a focus on changes and/or developments of local health services, while maintaining the Board's capacity to undertake detailed inquiries, the Scrutiny Board has established a Health Proposals Working Group to:

- Consider, at an early stage, any future proposals for service changes and/or developments of local health services, including:
  - Whether or not the relevant Trust's plans for patient and public engagement and involvement seem satisfactory<sup>1</sup>; and,
  - Whether the proposal is in the interests of the local health service.
- Maintain an overview and on-going involvement in current service change proposals and associated patient and public engagement and involvement activity, including details of any stakeholder feedback and how this is being used to shape the proposals.
- Refer any matters of significant concern to the Health Scrutiny Board for consideration.

2.8 Within these arrangements it has always been recognised that the statutory duty to consider substantial changes and/ or development of local health services remains the responsibility of the Health Scrutiny Board itself.

2.9 As such, and in line with practice from previous years, revised draft terms of reference for a Health Proposals Working Group is attached at Appendix 2 for the Board's consideration.

2.10 In considering the attached revised draft terms of reference, Members' attention is drawn to the following proposed activity of the Health Proposals Working Group:

- Review the implementation of any agreed service change and/or development, including any subsequent service user feedback.

2.11 This addition seeks to further develop the role of the Working Group, not only to oversee proposed changes and the associated levels of patient and public engagement, but also to consider the implementation of agreed changes, to help ensure the anticipated improvements are delivered.

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<sup>1</sup> This early engagement with Scrutiny will allow the Working Group to discuss and agree the proposed degree of variation, prior to the commencement of any patient and public engagement and involvement activity

- 2.12 The Board is asked to consider establishing a Health Proposals Working Group in line with the attached draft terms of reference (subject to any identified and agreed amendments) and determine the membership of the working group (if appropriate).

### Work Programme

- 2.13 Having considered the range of written information presented and discussed relevant issues with those present at the meeting, the Board is now asked to consider formulating a draft work programme.
- 2.14 In formulating its work programme the Scrutiny Board shall consider and determine;
- how the proposed inquiry meets criteria approved from time to time by the Scrutiny Advisor Group (Appendix 3)
  - whether the programme can be adequately resourced and timetabled (Appendix 4)
- 2.15 In addition, Executive Board minutes from 13 May 2009 and 17 June 2009 are attached for the information. These might usefully inform the development of the Board's work programme.

## **3.0 Recommendations**

- 3.1 Members are requested to:

- 3.1.1 Consider, amend as necessary, and agree the draft Protocol between the Scrutiny Board (Health) and NHS bodies in Leeds (Updated June 2009);
- 3.1.2 Establish a Health Proposals Working Group in line with the attached draft terms of reference (subject to any identified and agreed amendments) and, if appropriate, determine the membership of the working group;
- 3.1.3 Determine the Board's priorities and agree an outline work programme for 2009/10.

## **4.0 Background Papers**

Council's Constitution - Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules  
Protocol between the Scrutiny Board (Health) and NHS bodies in Leeds (agreed April 2003)