



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Health)

Date: 22 February 2011

Subject: Updated Work Programme 2010/11

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present and update members on the current activity across a number of work areas and present an outline work programme. The Board is asked to consider, amend and agree its work programme, as appropriate.

2.0 Background

2.1 At its meetings on 25 June 2010 and 27 July 2010, the Board received a number of inputs to help members consider the Board's priorities during the current municipal year. This included specific inputs from:

- Executive Board Member for Adult Health and Social Care
- Deputy Director (Adult Social Services)
- NHS Leeds – Chair and Chief Executive
- Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (LTHT) – Chair and Chief Executive
- Leeds Partnerships Foundation Trust (LPFT) – Chair and Chief Executive
- Leeds Director of Public Health

2.2 At those meetings a number of potential work areas were identified by members of the Board and were subsequently confirmed in an outline work programme. However, members will be aware that the work programme should be regarded as a 'live' document, which may evolve and change over time to reflect any in-year change in priorities and/or emerging issues.

2.3 As such, and as in previous years, the work programme, including any emerging issues, will continue to be routinely presented to the Scrutiny Board for consideration, amendment and/or agreement: The work programme was most recently presented and agreed at the Scrutiny Board meeting held on 25 January 2010, and an updated version is now presented at Appendix 1 for consideration.

3.0 Update on specific work areas and associated activity

3.1 This section of the report seeks to provide a more detailed update on specific activities and elements of the Board's work programme.

NHS proposed reforms

3.2 The Board has considered the proposed NHS reforms – both in general terms and specifically around public health – on a number of occasions. This has included proposals to establish GP consortia, Health and Wellbeing Boards and the transfer of Public Health responsibilities to local councils. In this regard, a Members seminar was held on 4 February 2011, to help local Councillors understand the plans and local implications in more detail.

3.3 While representatives from NHS Leeds have not been invited to attend the meeting to provide a further update, details of the NHS Leeds Chief Executive's report (as presented to the NHS Leeds Board at its meeting on 2 February 2011) are attached to this report for information.

Children's Cardiac Surgery Services – national review

3.4 As outlined previously, the review outcomes/ recommendations are expected to be published in February 2011 and subject to consultation until June 2011. The most recent information provided suggests that a national joint committee (established to consider and agree the review proposals) is scheduled to meet on 16 February 2011 to consider the findings and proposed recommendations of the review team. It is likely that public consultation on the agreed proposals/ recommendations will commence following that meeting.

3.5 As previously reported, the proposals / recommendations issued for consultation will be considered by a regional Joint Health Scrutiny Committee. This will be made up of representatives from other Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees across the Yorkshire and the Humber region. Precise membership of the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee is still being finalised and is likely to be subject to the nature of the review proposals/ recommendations.

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA)

3.6 At its meeting in October 2010, NHS Leeds presented its draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for Leeds, which is intended to inform decision-making in relation to pharmaceutical services for a three year period.

3.7 The outcome from that discussion can be summarised as follows:

- The Scrutiny Board (Health) welcomed the draft document and felt that it provided very useful information in terms of locations and opening times of current pharmaceutical practices;
- Members of the Scrutiny Board felt that the draft documents was easy to understand and the language used made the document very accessible;

- It was suggested that, once finalised, the document should be publicised and made available to local councillors, members of the public, local voluntary groups and organisations;
- The Scrutiny Board (Health) was satisfied that the arrangements for producing and consulting on Leeds' draft PNA were sufficient;
- It was agreed that an update report, together with a copy of the final document be circulated to the Board.

These points were subsequently provided to NHS Leeds and, along with other consultation feedback received, reported to the NHS Leeds Board at its meeting on 2 February 2011.

- 3.8 In lieu of a specific follow-up report, a briefing note, produced by NHS Leeds, is attached at Appendix 3. Specifically, this highlights amendments to the PNA following feedback from the consultation process.

Health Service Developments Working Group

- 3.9 The next meeting of the Health Service Developments Working Group is scheduled for 15 February 2011. A verbal update from that meeting will be provided at the Board meeting.

Provision of playing fields in Leeds and the public health implications

- 3.10 Since the previous Board meeting in January 2011, a member of the Board (Cllr. Illingworth) has submitted a request for the Board to undertake an inquiry around the public health implications associated with the provision of playing fields in Leeds: With specific reference made to the current excavations on the former Grammar School pitches, on the Otley Old Road.
- 3.11 Members of the Board may wish to consider this request in more detail and the possible inclusion of such an inquiry within the work programme.

4.0 Work programme (2009/10)

- 4.1 Members will be aware that the Scrutiny Board's work programme should be regarded as a 'live' document, which may evolve and change to reflect any in-year change in priorities and/or emerging issues. Nonetheless, when considering additions and/or other amendments to the work programme, members of the Board as advised to consider the relative priority of any additional areas and reflect on the capacity for undertaking any additional work.
- 4.2 In the context of the information presented in this report and discussed at the meeting, the Scrutiny Board is asked to consider the current work programme (Appendix 1) and agree / amend as appropriate.

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are asked to consider the details presented in this report (and supporting appendices) and to agree / amend the current work programme, as appropriate.

6.0 Background Documents

- Scrutiny Board (Health) – Work programme (June 2010)
- Scrutiny Board (Health) – Work programme (December 2010)