

**Report of Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support**

**Report to Scrutiny Board (Adults and Health)**

**Date: 23 July 2019**

**Subject: Request for Scrutiny – Inquiry into endometriosis**

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. A Request for Scrutiny has been received from Councillor Prior, Executive Member for Learning, Skills and Employment asking the Board to consider undertaking an inquiry into endometriosis – specifically how easy it is to be diagnosed and how accessible support is across the city for women of different ages and backgrounds.
2. The letter of request from Councillor Prior is attached at Appendix 1.
3. In order to help the Scrutiny Board consider the request, it should be noted that in March 2019 Women’s Lives Leeds, in collaboration with Leeds City Council, published a report on the State of Women’s Health in Leeds. This is a very extensive report and is accessible on the website: <https://www.womenslivesleeds.org.uk/womenshealth/>.
4. A short summary of the report is presented at Appendix 2, which identifies key recommendations – including the following recommendation relating to Reproductive Health, and specifically references endometriosis:  
  
*‘Offer greater support and compassion for girls and women with reproductive health issues, such as PMS, dysmenorrhoea, chronic pelvic pain and endometriosis.’*
5. The full report on the State of Women’s Health in Leeds has also been broken down into different sections on the website. Endometriosis features in the Reproductive Health section, which is presented at Appendix 3 for further information.
6. Councillor Prior and Councillor Robinson (referenced in Councillor Prior’s letter) have been invited to attend the Scrutiny Board to present the request.

### Considering the request for scrutiny

7. The decision whether or not to further investigate matters raised by a request for scrutiny is the sole responsibility of the Scrutiny Board. As such, any decision in this regard is final and there is no right of appeal.
8. When considering the Request for Scrutiny, the Scrutiny Board may wish to consider:
  - If further information is required before considering whether further scrutiny should be undertaken;
  - If a similar or related issue is already being examined by Scrutiny or has been considered by Scrutiny recently;
  - If the matter raised is of sufficient significance and has the potential for scrutiny to produce realistic recommendations that could be implemented and lead to tangible improvements;
  - The impact on the Board's current workload;
  - The time available to undertake further scrutiny;
  - The level of resources required to carry out further scrutiny.

### **Recommendations**

8. The Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Services, Public Health, NHS) is asked to consider the Request for Scrutiny and determine what, if any, further scrutiny activity is required.

### **Background papers<sup>1</sup>**

9. None used

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<sup>1</sup> 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.