



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Health and Well-being and Adult Social Care)

Date: 22 July 2011

Subject: Sources of work and areas of priority for the Scrutiny Board

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

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 amendments made to the Overview and Scrutiny function this year encourage Scrutiny to be more strategic and outward looking in its operation and focus on the City Priorities.
- 2.3 City Priority Plans have recently been established to replace the Leeds Strategic Plan. These new city-wide partnership plans identify the key outcomes and priorities to be delivered by the Council, and its partners, over the next 4 years. The City Priority Plans are aligned to the new Strategic Partnerships who will own the plans and be responsible for ensuring the delivery of the agreed priorities.
- 2.4 The City Priority Plans are structured around a small set of short term (4 years) priorities each of which is measured through a headline indicator. As such they are the "must-do" priorities or "obsessions" for each partnership and may be supported by more detailed plans as the partnership sees fit.

3.0 Main issues

- 3.1 Five of the Scrutiny Boards are now themed to mirror the Strategic Partnership Boards. In doing so, the terms of reference for these Scrutiny Boards now determine a number of areas of review to be undertaken during a municipal year on behalf of the Council.

Scrutiny Board Terms of Reference

- 3.2 For this Scrutiny Board the focus of review is;
- a) Reducing smoking in the over 18s
 - b) Service Change and Commissioning in Adult Social Care
 - c) Reducing avoidable admissions to hospital and care homes
 - d) The transformation of health and Social Care Services
- 3.3 These areas of review are focused around the City Priorities and therefore come from a strategic approach. However, all Scrutiny Boards remain autonomous in determining the scope of their reviews.
- 3.4 A copy of the terms of reference for the Board (Health and Well-being and Adult Social Care) is attached for reference purposes (Appendix 1).

Other sources of Scrutiny work

- 3.5 In addition to the areas of review outlined with the Scrutiny Board's terms of reference, other sources of work will continue to be 'requests for scrutiny' and corporate referrals. The Scrutiny Board may also undertake further pieces of scrutiny work as considered appropriate.
- 3.6 However, 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. This view was echoed within the findings of the KPMG external audit report 2009 on the Scrutiny function in Leeds.
- 3.7 The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules require Scrutiny Boards, before deciding to undertake an inquiry, to consider the current workload of the Scrutiny Board and the available resources to carry out the work.

4.0 Consultation

- 4.1 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 key stakeholders, including the most relevant Director, the Executive Board Member holding the relevant portfolio and representatives from the NHS.
- 4.2 The Director of Adult Social Services and the Executive Board Member with responsibility for Adult Health and Social Care have therefore been invited to attend the meeting to discuss the City Priorities in relation to the Board's terms of reference.
- 4.3 It should be noted that both the Director of Adult Social Services and the Executive Board Member with responsibility for Adult Health and Social Care have previous commitments and will be unable to attend the meeting. However, the Executive Board Member has provided the following points in relation to the Adult Social Care portfolio and the Board's work programme:

- **Older people's residential care** – the previous scrutiny board undertook some very useful work in relation to older people's residential care provision and the Board may wish to monitor the ongoing implementation of changes to our older people's residential care provision (*NB a separate report around this issue is presented elsewhere on the agenda for consideration*);
- **Homecare** – the Council's in-house homecare service is currently undergoing significant change and the Board may wish to monitor this.
- **Mental Health day services** – a consultation exercise is underway and the Board may wish to have some input.
- **Consultation by Adult Social Care in general** – What do we do well and how could we improve?

It should be noted that Adult Social Service's Deputy Director Strategic Commissioning will be representing the Director at the meeting. The Chief Executive from NHS Leeds and the Joint Director of Public Health have also been invited to attend the meeting to assist the Board in considering its work programme for the year.

- 4.4 An extract of the draft City Priority Plan 2011 – 2015 relevant to the Board's terms of reference is attached at Appendix 2 for information.
- 4.5 Attached as Appendix 3 and 4 respectively are the latest Executive Board minutes and the Council's current Forward Plan relating to this Board's portfolio.

5.0 Other considerations and useful information

- 5.1 In considering the draft City Priority Plan 2011 – 2015 and the Board's specific terms of reference, the following information is also attached for the Board's information:
 - Appendix 5 – Fair Society, Healthy Lives – The Marmot Review Executive Summary (February 2010);
 - Appendix 6 – Leeds Health Profile (2011);
 - Appendix 7 – Leeds Smoking Profile;
 - Appendix 8 – Overview of Leeds Health and Social Care Transformation Programme.

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 priority for the Scrutiny Board over the forthcoming municipal year.

Background papers

None used