

Nottinghamshire County Council Scrutiny

Social Service Select Committee Annual Review

Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the Social Services Select Committee as defined by Article 6 – Select Committees of the County Council's Constitution, are to provide:

- An overview of the Council's effectiveness as a Local Social Services Authority.
- An overview of the provision of health services within the County Council's administrative area.

Major Areas of Work 2005-06

Major areas of work for the Social Services Select Committee in 2005-06 have included:

- Adult Care
- After Care
- Adult Social Care

Adult Care

The Social Services Select Committee considered issues relating to Adult Care, including direct payments, eligibility, charging and eligibility for carers services.

The Select Committee also considered the outcomes of the Adult Care consultation processes.

The Select Committee made 16 recommendations to the County Council Cabinet involving changes to services involving direct payments, eligibility, charging and eligibility for carers services.

The Select Committee agreed to review the further development of charging in Nottinghamshire and to give further consideration at that time to whether a higher level charge should be applied where there are care services available at all times, such as in 'extra care housing' and some forms of supported living.

Adult Social Care

The Select Committee established a Study Group to consider the implications of Government legislation on the development of Adult Social Care Services in Nottinghamshire.

The Study Group has a wide remit and issues identified include:

- the Adult Social Care Green Paper
- Government and County Council priorities and objectives
- Aspirations of service users and their carers within Nottinghamshire
- The current level of performance of adult social care in the county
- The County Council's new strategic plan
- The production of options to determine the future balance and range of services commissioned and provided by Social Services.

After Care

The Social Services Select Committee formed a Study Group on 21 December 2004 to examine issues associated with the After Care services for young people as follows:

- Placing and sustaining young people in education, training and employment
- Linkages with other County Council Departments to maximise the role they might play in enhancing the life chances of care leavers
- Partnerships with outside agencies including housing, Supporting People and the Police

The Study Group identified the need to look more closely at the following issues:

- County Council employment policy as it relates to the assistance of care leavers
- Service Level Agreements (NACRO and NCH) and how these are being met
- Young people after 19 (when they have passed the performance indicator)
- Use of "Bed and Breakfast" accommodation

The Study Group's final report will be considered in May 2006.

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Review of Work 2005-06

Select Committee	Outputs	Further Action
14 June		
Key Activities in Social Services in Social Services and Forward Plan The Select Committee received a series of presentations by Assistant Directors in the Social Services Department on the work of their respective divisions, including key issues and developments affecting their areas of responsibility.		
Proposal for the Operation of the Select Committee The Select Committee considered proposals for the future operation of the Select Committee.	The Select Committee agreed the proposals for the future operation of the Select Committee.	
Adult Care Study Group The Select Committee considered proposals to reconstitute a Study Group to consider Adult care.	The Select Committee agreed that the Adult Care Study Group be re-established.	
After Care Study Group The Select Committee considered proposals to reconstitute a Study Group to review the County Council's After Care Service.	The Select Committee agreed to re-establish the After Care Study Group	
Programme of Work The Select Committee received a report outlining some potential issues for Scrutiny.	Members noted the report, and agreed to consider possible items for scrutiny after receiving the presentation from the Temporary Director at the next meeting.	
26 July		
Cabinet Member's report (oral) The Select Committee received a report from the Cabinet portfolio holder on key issues affecting the Social Services Department	The Temporary Director of Social Services indicated that feedback from staff conference workshops and an action plan would be circulated to Members.	

Presentation – Ready for the Future? The Select Committee received a presentation from the Director of Social Services outlining some of the key issues and challenges for the Social Services Department.	The Select Committee requested that they be involved in the development of Children's and Adult Services.	
Social Services Select Committee – Proposed Programme of Work for 2005/06 The Select Committee having received a series of presentations from the Social Services Department considered potential issues for future Scrutiny.	The Select Committee noted that Members would be asked to rank the issues in priority order and agreed that a report would be brought to the next meeting to determine the work programme.	
Adult Social Care Green Paper The Select Committee was invited to comment on the draft response of the Social Services Department to the Green Paper "Independence, well-being and choice"	The Select Committee noted the Government's proposals for the future of Adult Social Care, following the publication of the Green Paper "Independence, well-being and choice". Members suggested issues for inclusion in the Social Services Department's response to the Department of Health.	
Progress Report – Residential Child Care Service The Select Committee received a progress report on the Residential Child Care Service	The Select Committee requested a progress report be brought back to the Select Committee in January 2006.	
Interim Progress Report – Clayfields House The Select Committee received a progress report on the services provided at Clayfields House.	The Select Committee requested a progress report be brought back to the Select Committee in October 2005.	
Cabinet Members Response - Day Services Modernisation (Learning Disability) The Select Committee received the Cabinet Portfolio Holder's response to the review of Day Services Modernisation.	The Select Committee noted the report and requested that a progress report be brought back to the Select Committee in 6months.	
Cabinet Members Response - Short Term Breaks Services for Disabled Children The Select Committee received the Cabinet Portfolio Holder's response to the review of short Term Breaks Services for Disabled Children.	The Select Committee noted the report.	

Adult Care Study Group The Select Committee received a progress report from the Adult Care Study Group	The Select Committee requested an additional meeting on 9 September 2005 to discuss this matter in detail.	
Programme of Work The Select Committee considered the programme of work	The Select Committee noted the report.	
9 September		
Adult Care Study Group The Select Committee considered the final report and recommendations of the Study Group which examined issues relating to Adult Care, including direct payments, eligibility, charging and eligibility for carers services. The Select Committee also considered the outcomes of the Adult Care consultation processes.	The Select Committee made 16 recommendations to the County Council Cabinet involving changes to services involving direct payments, eligibility, charging and eligibility for carers services. The Select Committee agreed to review the further development of charging in Nottinghamshire and to give further consideration at that time to whether a higher level charge should be applied where there are care services available at all times, such as in 'extra care housing' and some forms of supported living.	
11 October		
Forward Plan The Select Committee considered items on the Forward Plan that were within its terms of reference.	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Cabinet Member's report (July - October) The Select Committee received a report from the Cabinet portfolio holder on activities from July 2005-October 2005	The Select Committee requested a report on the development of Children's Centres.	
ICT Modernisation Programme (Electronic Social Care Records) The Select Committee received a report on the progress of the modernisation programme.	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Summary of Residential Child Care Strategy since 1998 The Select Committee received a report which summarised the progress on the residential childcare strategy.	The Select Committee noted the report.	

Reimbursements and Delayed Transfers of Care: February 2005 – July 2005 The Select Committee received a report on the Social Services Department's performance in relation to Delayed Transfers of Care	The Select Committee agreed to note the improvements made in performance, particularly since April 2005 and delete the item from the programme of work.	
Recruitment and Retention in the Social Services Department The Select Committee received a report on the Recruitment and Retention in the Social Services Department	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Final Report on Services to Children in Need (Best Value Review Improvement Plan 2003) The Select Committee received Final Report on Services to Children in Need (Best Value Review Improvement Plan 2003)	The Select Committee agreed to delete the item from the work programme.	
Programme of Work The Select Committee considered the proposed programme of work.	The Select Committee agreed the programme of work and established a Study Group to consider the implications of the Adult Social Care Green Paper.	
Jill Pedley The Select Committee was informed that this was the last meeting of the Select Committee that Jill Pedley, Assistant Director of Social Services would be attending before her retirement. Members thanked her for her work for the Department and wished her well in her retirement.		
21 November		
Social Services Staff Conferences 2005 The Select Committee received a report on the Social Services Staff Conferences 2005	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Adult Care Study Group – (a) Response from Cabinet to the Final Report The Select Committee received the Cabinet Member for Social Services response to the Select Committee's report on Adult Care.	The Select Committee requested that the policies referred to in the implementation plan be brought to the Select Committee for consideration.	A further report be provided.

(b) Report of the Director of Social Services on the Implementation Plan The Select Committee received a report on the progress of the implementation plan arising out of Cabinet's decision on Adult Care.		
Supporting People Programme in Nottinghamshire The Select Committee received a report on the development of the supporting people programme in Nottinghamshire	The Select Committee requested that a report be provided on the consultation document.	
Progress Report: Clayfields House The Select Committee received a progress report on the services provided at Clayfields House which included an update on the national situation around children's secure units managed by local authorities	The Select Committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the Select Committee in 6 months.	A report be provided in May/June 2006
Forward Plan The Select Committee considered items on the Forward Plan that were within its terms of reference.	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Programme of Work The Select Committee considered the programme of work	The Select Committee added reports on the flu pandemic and supported employment to the programme of work.	
10 January		
Cabinet Member's Report (October 2005 - January 2006) The Select Committee received a report from the Cabinet portfolio holder on activities from October 2005 – January 2006.	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Presentation: Key Issues and Achievements January 2006 The Select Committee received a presentation from the temporary Director of Social Services on key issues and challenges for the Social Services Department.	The Select Committee raised issues of concern with the Temporary Director.	
Day Services Modernisation Study Group - Progress Report The Select Committee received a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Day Services Modernisation Study Group	The Select Committee noted the report.	

Promotion of Independence of Older People Best Value Review Improvement Plan - Third Progress Report The Select Committee received a progress report on the Promotion of Independence of Older People from the project implementation manager.	The Select Committee agreed to receive a final report upon the project's completion in May 2006	Final report - May 2006
Creating Sustainable Communities: Supporting Independence - Consultation on Supporting People The Select Committee received a report on progress in Nottinghamshire in Creating Sustainable Communities: Supporting Independence	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Pathfinder Children's Trust - Update Report The Select Committee received a report from the Development Manager, Nottinghamshire Pathfinder Trust on the progress of the Pathfinder Childrens Trust.	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Equality and Diversity in the Social Services Department - Annual Review 2005 The Select Committee received the Social Services Department's Annual Review of Equality and Diversity.	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Preparation for an Influenza Pandemic The Select Committee received a report on preparations being made by the Social Services Department in case of an Influenza Pandemic.	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Aftercare Study Group - Request for Extension The Select Committee considered an update on progress being made by the After Care Study Group in reviewing the County Council's After Care Service.	The Select Committee endorsed the approach being taken by the After Care Study Group and agreed that the Study Group provides its final report to meeting of the Social Services Select Committee on 16 May 2006.	Final Report of the Study Group – May 2006
Forward Plan The Select Committee considered items on the Forward Plan that were within its terms of reference.	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Programme of Work The Select Committee considered the programme of work	The Select Committee noted the report.	

20 February		
Residential Child Care Services – Progress report The Select Committee received a report on developments in residential child care services, following a review completed in 2004.	The Select Committee agreed to remove residential child care services from the Committee’s programme of work, as all the recommendations of the Study Group have now been implemented, with the flexibility to consider any outstanding serious issues if necessary.	
Review of Supported Employment Activities 2005/06 The Select Committee considered the various activities undertaken by the Supported Employment Team. The Select Committee adjourned to view displays about the service and talk to employees and service users.	The Select Committee suggested that the Supported Employment Steering Group consider the issue of marketing, and that the Select Committee write to the Corporate Procurement Unit to remind them of the Supported Employment Service’s activities.	
Forward Plan The Select Committee considered items on the Forward Plan that were within its terms of reference.	The Select Committee agreed that the Chair and Vice-Chair consider the work programme for the final two meetings of the municipal year with a view to inviting the Temporary Director and Cabinet Member to discuss plans for future of the service.	
Programme of Work The Select Committee considered the programme of work		
4 April		
The Meeting the Challenges Services Conference 14 December 2005 The Chair of the Select Committee reported on the Meeting the Challenges Services Conference	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Learning Disability Day Service Modernisation The Select Committee received an update on the modernisation of the Learning Disability Day Service	The Select Committee identified the need to consider in detail the Learning Disability Day Services Modernisation Proposals.	That consideration of the modernisation of the Learning Disability Day Service be recommended for inclusion in a future Scrutiny work programme

The Level of Demand for Carers' Services The Select Committee received a report on the Level of Demand for Carers' Services	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Development of Children's Centres The Select Committee received a report from officers from the Social Services Department and the Education Department on the development of Children's Centres in Nottinghamshire.	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Forward Plan The Select Committee considered items on the Forward Plan that were within its terms of reference.	The Select Committee noted the report.	
Programme of Work The Select Committee considered the programme of work	The Select Committee noted the report.	
16 May		
After Care Service – Study Group Final Report The Select Committee received the final report of the After Care Study Group/		
Cabinet Member's Report (January 2006 – May 2006). The Select Committee received a report from the Cabinet portfolio holder on activities from January 2006 – May 2006.		
Key Issues and Achievements: Presentation by David Pearson, Director of Social Services The Select Committee received a presentation from the temporary Director of Social Services on key issues and challenges for the Social Services Department.		
Forward Plan The Select Committee considered items on the Forward Plan that were within its terms of reference.		
Annual Review 2005-06 and Work Programme The Select Committee reviewed its work during 2005-06 and recommended items for inclusion in the work programme for 2006-07		

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Outstanding Areas of Work 2006

Work Programme Item	Details	Recommendation
After Care	The Final Report of the Social Services Select Committee's investigation of After Care will be presented to the Select Committee meeting on 16 May 2006. Responses will be provided by the County Council Cabinet.	That the Cabinet response should be included in a future Scrutiny work programme.
Adult Social Care	This major area of work is a long term project for Scrutiny following the development and implementation of changes contained within the Health and Social Care White Paper.	This is an important area of work that has been started by the Social Services Select Committee. Continued scrutiny should be supported and it is recommended that the Study Group should be considered for inclusion in a future Scrutiny work programme.
Learning Disability Day Service Modernisation	The Select Committee identified the need to consider in detail the Learning Disability Day Services Modernisation Proposals.	This is an important area of work that has been identified by the Social Services Select Committee and should be considered a priority for inclusion in a future Scrutiny work programme.
Promotion of Independence of Older People Best Value Review Improvement Plan	The Select Committee agreed to receive a final report upon the project's completion in May 2006	That this information be provided to Members but not be recommended by the Select Committee for inclusion in a future Scrutiny work programme.
Clayfields House	The Select Committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the Select Committee 6 months after the meeting in November 2005.	That this information be provided to Members but not be recommended by the Select Committee for inclusion in a future Scrutiny work programme.
Issues for Information	The following topics have been identified as issues that Members may require further information during 2006-07: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Residential Care for Older People ▪ Customer Relations Service Annual Report ▪ Rota Visit Reports ▪ Short Term Breaks Provision for Disabled Children ▪ Adult Care Study Group – implementation of recommendations 	That the Social Services Department be requested to provide information to Members on these topics during 2006-07 and on any other issue identified by the Select Committee.