

Purpose

1. This report provides Members the opportunity to update the programme of work for the Committee and to propose items for inclusion.

Information

2. The programme of work allows Members to map out scrutiny activity over the coming year. It is reviewed at every meeting of the Standing Committee.
3. The Standing Committee will note that the format of the programme has been redesigned. The programme for the municipal year up to this meeting is shown in the previous format. The Programme for the rest of this municipal year and beyond is in the new format.
4. As the Committee is aware, the way that support is provided to scrutiny committees will change on 1 April 2011. As part of the change a small revision to the format for the Programme is being trialled. The new format has been developed by the scrutiny team and is intended to assist Members in identifying the appropriate support/contact for each item.
5. Members are invited to consider the updated programme of work and to suggest other issues that the committee may wish to consider. In including an item the standing committee should seek to ensure that there will be a meaningful outcome from consideration of an item or a benefit to the people of Nottinghamshire. The standing committee should generally avoid

agenda items that are for information or noting or where a previous review has been concluded.

6. Following a request from the Standing Committee the Chairman has sought clarification on the progress being made by the local NHS in implementing proposals for Newark Hospital.
7. As Members will be aware the Standing Committee was previously informed that the proposals would be introduced throughout the first part of 2011 and implementation has been progressing on that basis.
8. As part of the Newark Review the admissions to Newark Hospital were reviewed in detail, by the hospital consultants, GPs and senior nurses.
9. The outcome of this has been the agreement of clinical protocols for a range of conditions that can be admitted to Newark Hospital and includes when the admissions can take place to ensure clinical quality and patient safety.
10. As this appears to have become an issue for misunderstanding and public concern the Chairman has invited Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and NHS Nottinghamshire County to include an explanation of how this will be addressed through the communications work currently being undertaken around the changes at Newark Hospital as part of the discussion scheduled for the meeting on 16 May 2011.

Recommendation

11. It is recommended that the Health & Wellbeing committee consider any issues raised and agrees the updated programme of work.

Councillor Ged Clarke

Chairman of Health & Wellbeing

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Background papers: nil

