

APPENDIX 1

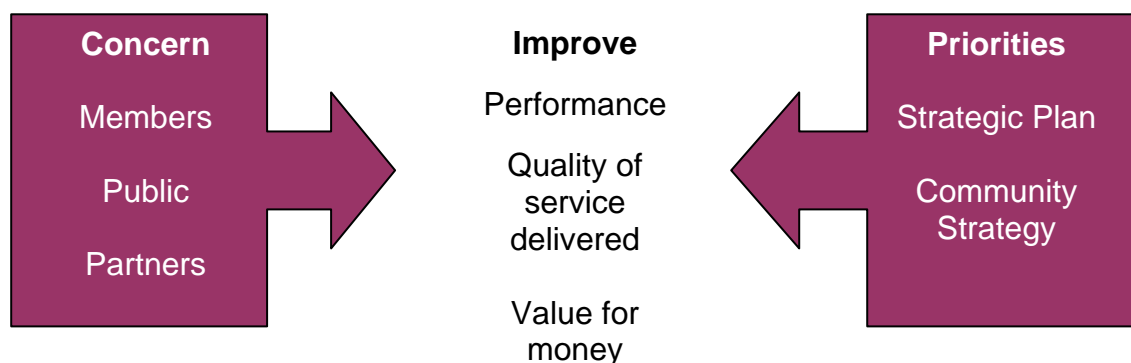
Scoping Questions –

DRUGS EDUCATION SCRUTINY REVIEW

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider the following questions when scoping a Scrutiny review:

Issues for Scrutiny should reflect:

- i. Concern of Members, the Public or Partners
- ii. Strategic Priorities for the delivery of services and
- iii. Clear Outcomes to improve performance, value for money or to change the priorities of the Council.



A. Aims

What are the aims of the scrutiny review (key questions)

The specific aims of this scrutiny review are:

“To consider and review how we can best deliver an effective drugs education programme in Nottinghamshire schools - across all key stages”

How does the review link to priorities and to community concern?

This scrutiny review links to a number of priorities for the County Council and partners, and to issues of community concern.

Some key examples are;

Nottinghamshire Children and Young People’s Plan 2006 – 2007, a plan developed in partnership by organisations who work with children, young people and families in Nottinghamshire, says the following:

“We will make sure that, as far as is possible, children and young people:

are healthy – enjoy good physical , sexual and emotional health appropriate to their age, and live a healthy lifestyle.

stay safe – are being kept safe from harm, neglect, bullying, discrimination, serious accidents and crime

enjoy and achieve – in play, sport and activities such as arts, drama, music, scouts, guides and youth groups as well as in school

make a positive contribution – to the community they live in, developing confidence and skills and being involved in decision making

are free from poverty by offering children, young people and their families the opportunity to take part in work, training or further education to achieve **economic well being.** ”

And Nottinghamshire County Council ‘s **Prevention of Substance Misuse Strategy 2006 -2008** sets out how the County Council will play its part in reducing the damaging impact that substance misuse has on people’s lives in Nottinghamshire. The County Council is one of a large number of partner agencies who share this agenda.

Key partner agencies are:

Nottinghamshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team

Nottinghamshire Police

District and Borough Councils - who host the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRP) and the Drug and Alcohol Reference Groups (DARG).

Nottinghamshire County Council

The National Drugs Strategy is delivered under 4 major themes

Young People
Communities
Treatment
Supply

The list is now supplemented by **Alcohol**

Under the theme of **Young People** the County Council will focus activity on:

“Young People

providing good substance misuse information and education within the school and college system in partnership with agencies like Connexions as part of the Healthy Schools programme.

providing good, accredited training to all our staff who work with and support young people with substance misuse problems – youth workers, social workers, foster carers, residential staff and housing providers and others

ensuring our staff have clear policies on working with young people where substance misuse is occurring , or is suspected, to protect them for danger and to give them confidence in their work

working with off licences and shops to prevent people under 18 purchasing alcohol

working with housing providers to support and increase the availability of accommodation options for vulnerable young ex - drug users

ensuring that work on substance misuse is encompassed into the evolving framework of the Integrated Children's Services Department

addressing the diverse range of young people in Nottinghamshire and endeavouring to ensure that their differing needs arising from race, religion, gender and sexuality are addressed in service provision. “

The **county wide Community Strategy, “All Together Better”** represents the priorities not just of the County Council but of the whole Nottinghamshire Community. It has the support of the wide range of public, voluntary, community and business organisations involved in the Nottinghamshire Partnership. It was adopted by the Nottinghamshire Partnership in September 2005 and covers the period 2005 to 2009.

Nottinghamshire County Council's Strategic Plan 2006-2010, also called “**All Together Better**”, sets out our part in delivering the key objectives of the Community Strategy. For each of the objectives below we will agree, publish and monitor specific and measurable targets:

- **Safer and stronger** - a safer place to live with a strong sense of community
- **Healthier** – improved health and wellbeing for people
- **Learning and earning** – help for everyone to reach their potential
- **Cleaner and greener** – protection and improvement for the environment
- **Travel and access** – help for people to travel more easily and safely and be able to access all the services they need.

In the **Strategic Plan**, for the objective Safer and Stronger, we say that we will - “safeguard the most vulnerable children and young people”

And in the Community Strategy, for the priority Safer and stronger - making Nottinghamshire safer, building a strong sense of community and enriching lives – is the following:

“tackling drugs crime is a priority across particular Nottinghamshire communities. Supporting parents and ensuring that services working with children pick up early signs of difficulty and providing appropriate support to prevent young people getting into crime are also important. “

This scrutiny review could impact on this key objective of Safer and Stronger and also the objectives – Healthier, and Learning and earning.

What outcomes are sought?

The scrutiny review will seek to;

examine and determine whether we are delivering best practice in drugs education in our schools – now, and also looking to the future

examine the links to the school improvement agenda, including policy in this area, and the strategic direction of our partnership working in this key area of work

look at the outcomes we would expect from effective drugs education

examine how community confidence in drugs education can be retained / sustained

The review will seek to make recommendations on policy, strategy, and partnership working in this area.

Which specific areas will the review examine?

The scrutiny review will concentrate on examining the content and delivery of the current curriculum around drugs education in Nottinghamshire schools, and will include an examination of the DARE programme in Nottinghamshire schools.

“Drugs education” in the context of this scrutiny review will include – drugs, alcohol, tobacco, medicines, and solvents,

The following are some suggested key lines of enquiry general to each scrutiny review undertaken; they can be tailored for each specific scrutiny review. The Committee is invited to consider the key lines of enquiry for this review.

Some suggested key Lines of Enquiry

- Is the service achieving what it set out to achieve?
- What can we improve?
- How do we compare with others?
- Are we delivering value for money?
- How do we know we are delivering value for money?
- What are the community's priorities?
- What are the regional/national/international priorities?
- Are we doing what users / non users / local residents want?
- Are users' needs central to the service?
- What are the strategic and operational risks?
- What intelligence is available to predict future change?
- Is there effective partnership working?
- Why are we doing/providing this?
- Should we still be doing/providing this?
- Who is the most appropriate deliverer of the service?

B. Timetable

When will the review commence

It is suggested that this could be a 6 month review with the exact start date to be confirmed. It is suggested that scrutiny meetings that involve schools do not commence immediately prior to the end of the summer term.

It is suggested that there are 9 Members on this Select Committee and that the statutory co-optees in respect of education scrutiny issues are also invited to join the Select Committee.

Other co-optees may also be invited to join the Select Committee, for example from teacher trade unions, and the Young Peoples Parliament

When will the review conclude?

This will depend on the start date; for example, if the scrutiny review began in June 2007 it could conclude by the end of December 2007.

C. Information and consultees

What information do Members require to enable them to start work on the review

All relevant surveys and data already held in relation to this scrutiny topic, including Healthy Schools data.

Details of the DARE programme in schools

Details of training programmes for teachers

Are there any key witnesses/visits/documents

Key witnesses should include the Cabinet Members for Children and Young People's Services and Community Safety and Partnerships - Nottinghamshire County Council

It is also suggested that the Select Committee should ask to take evidence from –

John Morris - School Improvement Adviser (Secondary)
Children and Young People's Services, Nottinghamshire

Anne Trout – Psdi Drugs Advisor, Children and Young Peoples' Services, Nottinghamshire County Council, and officer for the Healthy Schools agenda.

Dave Gilbert – Chief Executive of DARE

Chair – of DARE project

Representatives from schools, for example Head Teachers, teachers, Governors, and students, and parents

Partner organisations – for example from the DAAT team, Connexions, and the police

Representatives from other external providers

Representatives from the PCT

How will the review involve the public?

Schools are at the heart of this agenda – therefore Members could visit local schools, or representatives from schools could be invited to talk to the Select Committee

D. Resources

Support of officers from the Children and Young Peoples Department, Communities Department, and the Scrutiny Team, Chief Executive's Department

E. Departmental View

What does the department responsible say about the review

Officers from the Children and Young Peoples Department and the Communities Department have been involved in scoping this scrutiny review

Scoping Questions

The Topic Select Committee itself will be asked to consider the following questions when scoping the scrutiny review:

A. Timetable When will the Topic Select Committee meet to consider the review – frequency, location	
B. Information and consulters Who would Members request information from Visits Does the review require any visits Where and with whom	
C. How the Community will be consulted, informed, and involved How will the review involve the public	
D. How the effectiveness of the review will be measured After the review, what will assist Members to look back and examine the lessons learned.	

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will set the following

A. Aims What are the aims of the review What outcomes are sought How does the review link to priorities How does the review link to community concern Which specific areas will the review examine
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B. Timetable

When will the review commence

When will the review conclude

C. Information and consultees

What information do Members require to enable them to start work on the review

Are there any key witnesses/visits

How could the review involve the public

D. Resources

Are there any specific resource implications for the review

Issues for Scrutiny should reflect:

- i. Concern of Members, the Public or Partners
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