

Agenda Item: 6

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HEALTHY FAMILIES PROGRAMME: 2024 AND BEYOND – CONSIDERATION OF CALL-IN OUTCOME

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the report of the Chairman of Overview Committee, in respect of the above decision, originally taken by Cabinet on 9 March 2023, following a meeting of Overview Committee on 31 March to hear a call-in of that decision.

Information

- 2. Cabinet has today already received a report from the Chairman of the Overview Committee setting out the outcome from the meeting of the Overview Committee held on 31 March relating to a call-in of Cabinet's original decision in respect of the Healthy Families Programme (HFP).
- 3. Cabinet is asked by Overview Committee to reconsider its decision in respect of the Nottinghamshire Healthy Families Programme: 2024 and beyond, in light of Overview Committee members' concerns in relation to:
 - a. formal scrutiny of the proposals by both Adults and Children's Select Committees and
 - b. further consideration of the options available.
- 4. Cabinet is now required to reconsider the matter, taking into account the concerns raised by Overview Committee before making a final decision on the way forward.
- 5. The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health attended the call-in meeting and listened carefully to the comments made and concerns raised by those present.
- 6. Having reflected on these matters the Leader has asked for further information about available options and is recommending that Cabinet takes some further time to consider next steps in connection with the HFP. It is proposed that the Cabinet embarks on a period of review and reflection with key Cabinet Members at the forefront of this work and brings a report back to a future Cabinet meeting within the next 2 months in order to formally respond to the issues raised by Overview Committee.
- 7. By taking time to consider the next steps carefully, Cabinet believes that this highlights the importance of constructive scrutiny within the Leader and Cabinet system of governance. It

will also enable appropriate review by the Executive of the steps taken to date to ensure that the direction of travel and the approach to this important commissioning activity meets the Council's objectives and will deliver improved outcomes for the people of Nottinghamshire in line with the ambitions in the Nottinghamshire Plan.

- 8. In addition, given that one of the concerns raised by the Overview Committee relate to formal scrutiny of the proposals by relevant Select Committees, it is proposed that Cabinet request the Overview Committee to establish a joint working group comprising various members of the Adult Social Care and Public Health Select Committee, the Children and Families Select Committee and the Health Scrutiny Committee to undertake further scrutiny.
- 9. Cabinet also recognises the concerns expressed at the Overview Committee regarding the application of the Council's approach to scrutiny activity. Cabinet welcomes the proposal made at the Overview Committee for further work in developing a scrutiny protocol to be progressed via the existing cross party Members Working Group relating to the Council's new governance arrangements, led by the Chairman of Governance and Ethics Committee. Cabinet also welcomes the suggestion that the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Overview Committee be included on that working group in respect of any sessions held in respect of Scrutiny matters.

Other Options Considered

10. Cabinet is required to consider the concerns raised by Overview Committee. It may decide to make no changes or could choose to take a completely different approach. Neither of those options are considered appropriate at present as Cabinet wishes to give the matter further consideration before formulating its response.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. Cabinet wishes to take more time to consider its response to ensure the best outcomes are achieved for Nottinghamshire residents and communities.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

13. There are no specific financial implications arising from this decision at this time. When a final decision is taken in response to the issues raised any financial implications will be considered at that time.

Consultation

14.As the activity described in this paper progresses, timely advice will be taken regarding the requirement to consult.

Implications in relation to the NHS Constitution

15. There are no anticipated impacts in respect of the NHS Constitution at this time.

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

16. At this stage of the formation of the proposals no specific impacts on particular groups are anticipated. However, as the proposals are developed, equality impacts will be assessed for consideration by Cabinet when reaching its decision on the next steps. Consideration of impact on care experienced people will be undertaken alongside this assessment. Cabinet will have due regard to these matters when reaching its decision.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

17. The Nottinghamshire HFP plays an important role in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of unborn babies, children, and young people. These responsibilities are clearly defined in the current service specification and will be reflected appropriately in any future arrangements. As always, any specific safeguarding concerns should be raised through the established channels for such reporting and will be acted upon accordingly.

Implications for Residents

18. There are no anticipated adverse impacts for residents in connection with this decision.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

19.At this stage there are no identifiable implications for sustainability or the environment. However, this will be a consideration in accordance with Council policy as part of the next stage of the commissioning process.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) That Cabinet notes and acknowledges the report of the Chairman of Overview Committee outlining the issues raised by Overview Committee and will consider and bring back a formal response to those issues at a meeting of Cabinet within the next two months.

2) That Overview Committee be requested to establish a joint scrutiny working group comprised of various members of the Adult Social Care and Public Health Select Committee, the Children and Families Select Committee and the Health Scrutiny Committee and to report back Overview Committee. Any recommendations from Overview Committee will then be reported back for consideration before any final decision is taken by Cabinet.

COUNCILLOR BEN BRADLEY MP LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

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Constitutional Comments (CEH – 12.4.2023)

20. The report and recommendations fall within the remit of Cabinet under its terms of reference.

Financial Comments Financial Comments (SES 12/04/2023)

21. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report,

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- Healthy Child Programme 0 to 19: health visitor and school nurse commissioning (commissioner guidance), Public Health England, 2016 (updated March 2021), available <u>Healthy child programme 0 to 19: health visitor and school nurse commissioning - GOV.UK</u> (www.gov.uk)
- Nottinghamshire's Best Start Strategy, 2015-25, available <u>Nottinghamshire Best Start</u> <u>Strategy 2021-2025 | Nottinghamshire County Council</u>.
- The Best Start for Life, a vision for the critical 1,001 days, HM Government, 2021, available <u>The Best Start for Life - The Early Years Healthy Development Review Report</u> (publishing.service.gov.uk)
- Report to Cabinet Nottinghamshire Healthy Families Programme 2024 and beyond dated 9 March 2023 (published)
- Report to Overview Committee dated 31 March 2023 (published).

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

• All