

# Nottinghamshire County Council Scrutiny

## Health Select Committee Annual Review

### Terms of Reference

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

“discharge the Council's responsibilities under the Health and Social Care Act 2001

- to review and scrutinise, matters relating to the health service in the authority's area and to make reports and recommendations on such matters in accordance with the regulations.”

The Health Select Committee must be consulted by NHS bodies on proposals for ‘substantial’ changes to services. If the Committee deems the consultation to be inadequate or the proposed changes are not in the public interest the matter may be referred to the Secretary of State for further consideration.

### Major Areas of Work 2005-06

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

- Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)
- Healthcare Commission – Annual Health Checks
- PCT Restructuring
- Food in Hospitals
- Food Exercise and Diet in Schools (FEDS)
- Sherwood Forest NHS Trust foundation status application

#### **Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)**

The Health Select Committee considered responses to the 2004-05 study of Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) from:

- The Minister for State, the Rt. Hon. Jane Kennedy MP
- Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Trust
- Queens Medical Centre, University Hospital NHS Trust
- Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Ashfield and Mansfield, Gedling and Rushcliffe PCTs
- Councillor Dick Anthony, Cabinet Member for Social Services

The Select Committee established a new Study Group to:

- consider the responses of hospital Trusts to the 2004-05 report;
- work in partnership with the PPI Forum, to inspect facilities identifying both good and bad practice; and to
- consult with other hospitals around the UK and Europe regarding different ways of combating MRSA within a hospital environment

### **Sherwood Forest NHS Trust foundation status application**

The Health Select Committee considered issues arising from the Sherwood Forest Hospitals Trust's application for foundation status. The Select Committee raised issues of concern with the Trust's management and nominated a Member to be appointed to the Trust's project board. The Select Committee also considered the performance of the Trust.

### **Healthcare Commission – Annual Health Checks**

The Health Select Committee has reviewed the Healthcare Commission Annual Health Check declarations of the following NHS Trusts and provided comments on each Health Check:

- Ashfield & Mansfield PCTs
- Bassetlaw PCT
- Broxtowe & Hucknall PCT
- Gedling PCT
- Newark and Sherwood PCT
- Rushcliffe PCT
- Doncaster & Bassetlaw Hospitals Foundation Trust
- Sherwood Forest Hospitals Trust

The Select Committee approached the process in partnership with district councils, with each supplying local comments and the Select Committee providing a strategic analysis.

### **Food in Hospitals**

The Health Select Committee agreed to seek the public's views on good and bad practice for hospital food within the County. The public consultation is to focus on the care provided in relation to feeding, the quality of food and the appropriateness of the food provided. The Select Committee are seeking to identify whether there are any issues that need addressing.

### **PCT Restructuring**

In response to proposals from the Department of Health's "Commissioning A Patient-Led NHS" instructing SHAs to "reconsider the optimal configuration of PCTs" the Select Committee established a Study Group to:

- consider how the restructuring proposals address health inequalities across Nottinghamshire.
- consider how the restructuring proposals provide a local focus for primary care in Nottinghamshire
- consider how services will be delivered after the restructuring.

The Study Group provided the Select Committee with detailed comments to form a response to the consultation and the findings of the Select Committee were considered as part of the County Council's formal response to consultation.

### **Food Exercise and Diet in Schools (FEDS)**

The Health Select Committee has considered responses to its 2004-05 work around Food, Exercise and Diet in Schools, which has been highlighted by the European Economic and Social Committee. Funding was secured from GO-EM for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the project and a consultation with schools was been conducted through March and April.

## Health Select Committee Annual Review

### Review of Work 2005-06

Select Committee	Outputs	Further Action
<b>11 July</b>		
<b>Annual Report</b> The Select Committee considered the Terms of Reference for 2005/06 and the services and strategic priorities that were encompassed within them.	Members aware of the responsibilities of the Health Select Committee.	-
<b>Work Programme</b> Scrutiny at the County Council is Member led; therefore each Select Committee was invited to develop a realistic and flexible work programme for 2005/06. Members considered why an item is being included on a work programme and prioritised issues of importance.	It was agreed that a work programme for the next 12 months would be brought back to the next Committee meeting for agreement.	-
<b>FEDS - future directions</b> The Health Select Committee agreed in May 2004 to set up a study group to investigate the issues involved with diet and exercise in schools focusing on childhood obesity. The project became the Food, Exercise and Diet in Schools (FEDS) project. Members considered the future of this project	It was agreed that this project continue.	-
<b>MRSA – responses to study</b> Consideration was given to the responses received to the study into MRSA. It was agreed to await the remaining responses before deciding what further work on the issue of MRSA should be undertaken.	It was agreed that this study continue to be in the work programme pending receipt of responses.	-
<b>Teenage Pregnancies – Cabinet Portfolio Holder's Response</b> Consideration was given to the Cabinet's response to the report from the Teenage Pregnancy Study Group. The Assistant Director, Young People's Division and Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator attended. The Select Committee also considered feedback from the Department for	It was agreed to receive an update on progress with the Teenage Pregnancy strategy.	update on progress with the Teenage Pregnancy strategy.

Education and Skills on the Authority's annual report and updated action plan indicating that the County were doing very well and was ahead of targets. A decrease in under 18 conception rates of 17.3% had been achieved since 1998.		
<b>Sherwood Forest NHS Trust – Appointment of Project Board Member</b> The Health Select Committee received a request for County Council representation on the foundation trust application project board.	It was suggested that Councillor John Allin represent the County Council on the Sherwood Forest Hospitals Trust Project Board and that the matter be referred to the Administration Committee for approval.	-
<b>27 September</b>		
<b>Payment by Results</b> This report provided Members with some background information relating to payment by results including some of the research into the likely impacts. The system seeks to transform the way hospitals are funded. Currently PCTs pay providers for procedures and treatment at a locally determined rate under a block contract. Payment by results ends this practice by introducing a standardised price for healthcare across the UK which will be paid to hospitals on a case by case basis.	The Select Committee identified issues for consideration by the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee	-
<b>Healthcare Commission Annual Check</b> Members considered the impact that the introduction of the annual health checks for NHS Trusts could have on the work of the Committee and how to use the process.	The Health Select Committee chose not to comment on draft declarations but set out a process for commenting on final declaration, enlisting the assistance of the relevant district councils.	-
<b>Consultation – burns injuries</b> The Health Select Committee considered a letter from the Chief Executive of Kent and Medway SHA (appendix A), which proposed a consultation project regarding improving the health outcomes for people with the most complex burn injuries in Britain.	The Health Select Committee agreed not to be involved in the consultation process at the present time but that they should keep a watching brief.	Watching brief update required
<b>MRSA - Responses</b> Further responses had been received to the previous study into MRSA	The Health Select Committee noted that there had been some excellent responses from the Acute Trusts.	-

	<p>It was agreed that a further report be requested from the Cabinet Member on what action was actually being taken by Social Services to address the issue.</p> <p>The Health Select Committee agreed to establish a further study to consider how recommendations had been implemented</p>	
<p><b>QMC/City Hospital merger</b></p> <p>The Health Select Committee considered the proposals to merge the Nottingham City Hospital NHS Trust and Queen's Medical Centre University Hospital NHS Trust.</p>	<p>The Health Select Committee's comments were included in a response to consultation from the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.</p>	-
<p><b>PCT re-structure introduction</b></p> <p>The Health Select Committee considered the timetable for proposed changes to the structuring of Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) in Nottinghamshire.</p>	<p>The Health Select Committee had concerns over the proposals and the process that had been followed in selecting the three two options. It was agreed that a letter be sent to local MPs about this issue.</p> <p>The Health Select Committee established a Study Group.</p>	-
<b>8 November</b>		
<p><b>Sherwood Forest NHS Trust foundation status application</b></p> <p>The Chief Executive and Chairman of the Acute Trust attended the meeting to brief the Select Committee on the status of the Trust's Foundation status application.</p>	<p>The Select Committee identified areas of concern</p>	-
<p><b>PCT re-structure</b></p> <p>The Chief Executive of Ashfield and Mansfield Primary Care Trusts who had chaired the steering group established by Nottingham/Nottinghamshire PCTs to develop and evaluate proposals for re-structuring and was also the project director of Trent Strategic Health Authority's re-structuring group attended the meeting.</p>	<p>The Health Select Committee collected evidence for its Study into PCT Restructuring and highlighted areas of concern.</p>	-
<p><b>FEDS - Cabinet Members response</b></p> <p>Councillor Storey, the Cabinet Member for Education was requested to respond to the Select Committee's report</p>	<p>Councillor Storey, the Cabinet Member for Education stated that the report had gone to Cabinet and a response was to be made in due course. He pointed out that there were budgetary implications. He added that he was not able to give an indication of when a response would be available.</p>	<p>Cabinet response still outstanding</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Survey in progress</p>

<p><b>Health select Committee Membership</b></p> <p>The Health Select Committee considered issues around voting rights for co-opted members and the resignation of Gail Maxfield.</p>	<p>The Health Select Committee agreed to send a report to County Council recommending that co-opted members be allowed to vote on Scrutiny matters. The Select Committee thanked Gail Maxfield for her contribution to the Select Committee and considered how to strengthen relationships with the Patient Involvement Forums</p>	<p>Report to County Council</p>
<p><b>13 December</b></p>		
<p><b>Centralisation of services into South Yorkshire – report from Bassetlaw PCT and Bassetlaw DC</b></p> <p>The Select Committee received a report from Bassetlaw District Council on the centralisation of cancer services in South Yorkshire which had been delegated to the District Council to scrutinise.</p>	<p>The Select Committee indicated to NORCOM, Bassetlaw Hospitals Trust, Bassetlaw PCT and local MPs that they supported the Acute Trust in its aspiration for better services but expressed concern that there was no public consultation on the proposed changes and no evidence that the infrastructure would be there for the benefit of the people of Nottinghamshire.</p>	<p>-</p>
<p><b>Sherwood Forest Hospitals Trust Annual Health Check</b></p> <p>The Select Committee considered the performance of the Sherwood Forest Hospitals Trust and its compliance with the standards of the Healthcare Commission's Annual Health Check.</p>	<p>The Select Committee sought further clarification regarding standard C4b. The Select Committee and Patient and Public Involvement Forum recommended a satellite GUM service be provided in Newark.</p> <p>An Annual Health Check Study Group was established to consider the annual health checks of Primary Care Trusts where district/borough councils declined the invitation from the Select Committee to consider them.</p>	<p>-</p>
<p><b>LIFT programme</b></p> <p>The Select Committee considered the progress of the LIFT programme in Nottinghamshire.</p>	<p>The Select Committee highlighted concerns with delays to the Keyworth Centre.</p>	<p>It was agreed to have a report on the situation with the Keyworth Health Centre.</p>
<p><b>Study Groups update reports</b></p> <p>The Select Committee considered progress reports from the MRSA and PCT Restructuring Study Groups.</p>	<p>The terms of reference of the MRSA Study Group were agreed.</p>	<p>-</p>

<b>Work Programme (including update from Joint Health Committee)</b>		
<b>7 February</b>		
<b>Healthcare Commission Annual Health Check – responses from Districts</b>	The Select Committee agreed a draft strategic comment and draft comments for each PCT to be sent to PCTs for consultation.	-
<b>Study Groups update reports - PCT Restructuring</b>	The work of the Select Committee was considered as part of a Member seminar and by the County Council when composing a formal response to the consultation.	Ongoing Study, on hold pending consultation results.
<b>Study Groups update reports - MRSA</b> The Select Committee considered a progress report from the MRSA Study Group.	-	-
<b>Work Programme – including update on work of Joint Health and possible study into Food in Hospitals</b> The Select Committee considered changes to the work programme.	The work programme was updated to include an item on food in hospitals..	-
<b>21 March</b>		
<b>Healthcare Commission Annual Check – final comments</b> The Select Committee reviewed the draft comments for Annual Health Checks considering comments received from the consultation with PCTs/Acute Trusts.	The Select Committee agreed comments for the Annual Health Checks of PCTs and Acute Trusts.	-
<b>NICE</b> The Select Committee considered the impact of NICE Guidance on the provision of treatment in Nottinghamshire.	The Select Committee sought further information.	-
<b>Food in Hospitals</b> The Select Committee considered the suggested review of Food in Hospitals in Nottinghamshire.	The Health Select Committee agreed to seek the public's views on good and bad practice for hospital food within the County through consultation focusing on the care provided in relation to feeding, the quality of food and the appropriateness of the food provided.	Consultation in progress.

<b>MRSA Study Group</b> The Select Committee received an update on the progress of the MRSA Study Group.	The Select Committee agreed to receive the Study Group's final report at the next meeting.	-
<b>Work Programme</b> The Select Committee considered changes to the work programme.	The work programme was updated to include an item on dentistry.	-
<b>2 May</b>		
<b>Dentistry</b> The Select Committee considered the availability of NHS Dentists in Nottinghamshire and the implications of new contracts on the provision of NHS Dentistry within the County.		
<b>Nursing outstations</b> The Select Committee considered the use of non-medical premises for the provision of nursing in Nottinghamshire.		
<b>NICE</b> The Select Committee received an update on information requested at the previous meeting.		
<b>MRSA Study Group Final Report</b> The Select Committee received the final report of the MRSA Study Group for consideration.		
<b>Annual Review &amp; Work Programme</b> The Select Committee reviewed its work during 2005-06 and recommended items for inclusion in the work programme for 2006-07		

#### Proposed for 2006-07

<b>20 June</b>		
<b>Note Chair/Vice Chair/Membership of Select Committee</b> <b>Work Programme</b> Choose and Book system Accessibility to GP's (inc 24 hour system) Road Safety/Traffic Issues Food In Hospitals Health Scrutiny Brochure		See Outstanding Areas of Work 2006

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### Outstanding Areas of Work 2006

Work Programme Item	Details	Recommendation
<b>Teenage Pregnancies</b>	On 11 July 2005 the Health Select Committee received the Cabinet response to the report from the Teenage Pregnancy Study Group and considered feedback from the Department for Education and Skills on the Authority's annual report and updated action plan. The Select Committee requested an update on progress against the action plan, which was intended to be provided after 12months.	Members may wish to consider progress and identify whether further Scrutiny is required.
<b>MRSA</b>	The Final Report of the Health Select Committee's 2 <sup>nd</sup> investigation of MRSA is expected to be completed early in the 2006-07 municipal year. Responses will be provided by the 3 Acute Trusts and the County Council Cabinet.	That the Study Group be supported in producing its final report, which with responses form an important area of work that should be included in a future Scrutiny work programme.
<b>Food in Hospitals</b>	The Health Select Committee launched a study and public consultation exercise into the quality of hospital food in March 2006, focusing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- care in delivery and support in consumption of food</li> <li>- quality of food inc temperature and choice</li> <li>- diet, appropriateness of food</li> </ul>	This is an important area of work that has been started by the Health Select Committee and should be considered for inclusion in a future Scrutiny work programme.
<b>Food Exercise and Diet in Schools (FEDS)</b>	The Health Select Committee launched a study and school consultation exercise into the programmes and initiatives used in schools to provide healthy food and encourage physical activity. The Study seeks to provide a comparison to 2004-05, identify progress and issues of difficulty facing schools. The Health Select Committee is expecting a response from the County Council Cabinet on the recommendations contained within the 2004-05 Study.	This is an important area of work that has been identified by the Health Select Committee and should be considered for inclusion in a future Scrutiny work programme.
<b>PCT Restructuring</b>	The Health Select Committee Study into PCT Restructuring provided recommendations to the Select Committee in February 2006. The outstanding area of work was to identify priorities for addressing inequalities; these are now covered by the LAA.	The Study Group be disestablished, but consideration be given to Scrutiny of the performance of the new PCT in a future Scrutiny work programme.
<b>Health Scrutiny Brochure</b>	The Health Scrutiny Brochure has been on hold pending the appointment of members from the PPIF, the outcome of a report to County Council on voting rights of co-opted members and potential changes to the scrutiny system.	The brochure is officer led work and does not need to be included in a future work programme but should be produced in consultation with the appropriate chair/vice-chair.

<b>NHS Dentistry</b>	The Health Select Committee identified the availability of NHS Dentists in Nottinghamshire as an area for investigation and for inclusion on the Select Committee's Work Programme. The issue will be initially considered at the meeting on 2 May 2006.	This is an important area of work that has been identified by the Health Select Committee and should be considered for inclusion in a future Scrutiny work programme. (Subject to separate report to be considered on 2 May 2006.)
<b>Rushcliffe (PCT) Mutual</b>	The Health Select Committee has been invited to consider proposals from Rushcliffe PCT to develop a Mutual Company. The issue will be initially considered at the meeting on 2 May 2006.	Subject to separate report to be considered on 2 May 2006.
<b>Nursing Outstations</b>	The Health Select Committee identified this topic as a potential issue for Scrutiny. The issue will be initially considered at the meeting on 2 May 2006.	Subject to separate report to be considered on 2 May 2006.
<b>LIFT</b>	The Health Select Committee identified concerns regarding progress with the Keyworth Health Centre developments. These issues will be considered at the meeting on 2 May 2006.	Subject to separate report to be considered on 2 May 2006.
<b>Funding for Health Services in Nottinghamshire</b>  <b>Choose and Book system</b>  <b>Accessibility to GP's</b>  <b>Road Safety Issues</b>	The Health Select Committee identified these items as issues for Scrutiny. These items had not been undertaken during 2005-06	These are areas of work that have been identified by the Health Select Committee and should be considered for inclusion in a future Scrutiny work programme.