

15 December 2020

Agenda Item: 8

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

EAST MIDLANDS COUNCILS EVENT – SCRUTINY RESET AND RECOVERY WORKSHOP

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek approval for the attendance of four Members (2 Conservative, 1 Labour and 1 Ashfield Independent) at a future Scrutiny Reset and Recovery workshop event.

Information and Advice

2. East Midlands Councils have recently been holding virtual events via MS Teams in relation to 'Reset and Recovery' following the COVID-19 pandemic. A further date is expected to take place in the New Year.
3. These events focus on the following:
 - reviewing the impact on scrutiny functions across the region, including how scrutiny members and officers have responded
 - highlighting best practice in working remotely and through virtual platforms
 - identifying learning from scrutiny reviews of council responses to COVID-19
 - considering the role that scrutiny can play in the recovery planning period
 - outside of COVID-19, identifying emerging and re-emergent priority topics for scrutiny to examine, for example, scrutiny of climate change and scrutiny of re-organisation

In particular, the workshops focus on how the recovery stage is developing and how scrutiny needs to play a part in debates over growing financial and budgetary pressures and fundamental re-prioritisation processes.

Financial Implications

4. The estimated cost of attendance for 4 Members is £65 per attendee (EMC member rate); total of £260. This cost will be met from within the allocated Democratic Services budget. Nominations will be sought from each group and confirmed when the date of the next workshop is announced.

Other Options Considered

5. Not attending this event was not considered due to the importance of ensuring that Health Scrutiny Members have effective knowledge and skills in relation to scrutinising the response to the pandemic.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

6. Under the terms of the Council's constitution, the Health Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutinising the provision of health services within Nottinghamshire, it is best practice to ensure that those charged with this duty have effective knowledge and skills.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. 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.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1. That attendance by four Members (2 Conservative, 1 Labour and 1 Ashfield Independent) at a future Scrutiny Reset and Recovery workshop event be approved.

Councillor Keith Girling
Chairman – Health Scrutiny Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact:
Keith Ford – Team Manager, Democratic Services

Constitutional Comments (EP 04/12/20)

2. The Health Scrutiny Committee is the appropriate body to consider this report.

Financial Comments (RWK 03/12/2020)

3. The costs of attending the workshop event, in the sum of £65 per delegate, will be met from the budget for Members Training for which a sum of £5,000 is included in the 2020/21 revenue budget.

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.

- None