

12 February 2025

Agenda Item: 6

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WORK PROGRAMME

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider an outline schedule of scrutiny work for the municipal year 2024/25.

Information

2. The Health Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutinising substantial variations and developments of service made by NHS organisations, and reviewing other issues impacting on services provided by trusts which are accessed by County residents.
3. Within the Council's Overview and Scrutiny function, Select Committees cover areas including Children and Young People and Adult Social Care and Public Health. While the statutory health scrutiny function sits outside the Overview and Scrutiny structure, it is appropriate to keep this Committee's work programme under review in conjunction with those of the Select Committees. This is to ensure that we work in partnership with the wider scrutiny function, that work is not duplicated, and that we don't dedicate Committee time unduly to receiving updates on topics.
4. The work programme for the 2024/25 year reflects fewer meetings than usual due to the pause in the meeting cycle which precedes the all-out elections in May 2025. Clear selection criteria will therefore guide the prioritisation of potential items being considered for inclusion in the work programme. As noted as part of the considerations of the work programme at the 8 October 2024 meeting, addition of further items will be considered in line with the following Health Scrutiny priorities:
 - Of the highest priority for Health Scrutiny are those items relating to substantial variations to services. The Council's partner organisations have a statutory requirement to bring proposed changes to scrutiny, for example, the Financial Sustainability item presented by the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB.
 - The next priority for Health Scrutiny includes items directly relating to the ongoing progress of key partner organisations in respect of significant improvement journeys and service transformations. These items will be scheduled at a mutually appropriate time.

- The final priority for Health Scrutiny is emerging items that may come up as the year goes on, for example through changes in regulations or best practice. An element of flexibility was therefore built into the work programme so that consideration could be given to emerging items to which scrutiny can add value strategically.
5. Work programming that is responsive to the above priorities requires updates to the work programme to be made between formal meetings. Therefore, a delegation of authority to the Democratic Services Officer who is the current Health Scrutiny lead is requested, enabling updates to be made as appropriate, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and representatives of the relevant partner organisations. Any changes made are to be reported to the next formal meeting as part of the updated work programme.
 6. Members wishing to contribute potential items for consideration in line with these priorities are encouraged to communicate these to the Chairman or Vice Chairman or make representations in the meeting. The latest work programme as available at the time of agenda publication is attached at Appendix 1 for consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That the work programme be agreed.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Health Scrutiny lead officer to update the work programme as appropriate, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and representatives of the relevant partner organisations, with any changes reported to the next meeting.

Councillor Roger Jackson
Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact:
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Background Papers

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All