

**REPORT OF CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE****KEY ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES IN SCRUTINY**

1. This report updates Members on the work of scrutiny and on the implementation of recommendations made in scrutiny reviews, including updates on the work of the three standing committees.

**Overview**

2. On 20 March the Overview Committee will receive a briefing on the transition from the current arrangements for Scrutiny to the new committee system and also gave views on the content of the draft annual report on the Scrutiny work programme.
3. At its previous meeting on 21 February, Overview Committee received an update on the implementation of recommendations from the domestic violence review and also a briefing on localism.

**Standing Committees****Communities & the Environment**

4. On 23 January the Communities and the Environment Standing Committee received a briefing on the Bassetlaw tourism offer and the Chesterfield Canal as part of the Tourism Review. In addition, Following this Members of the Standing Committee undertook a study visit to Bassetlaw on 15 February to gather evidence as part of this review. At the Standing Committee meeting on 5 March Members received extensive briefing from Ursilla Spence, Lead Officer for Archaeology and Jason Mordan, Lead Officer for Historic Buildings on historical and archaeological features in Newark. Further to this Members will undertake an evidence gathering study visit to Newark on Monday 26 March.
5. In addition, at the Standing Committee meeting on 5 March, the response to the recommendations of the Conservation and Heritage Review was presented by Heather Stokes, Team Manager Conservation and Heritage. All of the recommendations had been accepted by the Portfolio Holder.
6. On 23 January, The Standing Committee agreed the final report of the Seasonal Canine Illness/Dog Deaths Study Group and this went before Cabinet on 14 March.

7. The Water and Gas Emissions from Disused Mines Study Group last met on 7 March when it received presentations from the Coal Authority and the Environment Agency. The final report for this study group is currently being drafted by the departmental lead officer.

## **Education**

8. An additional meeting of the Education Standing Committee took place on 1 March this meeting was solely devoted to evidence gathering for the Child Poverty and Educational Attainment Review. Members received presentations on Children's Centres and heard from two Head Teachers whose schools were located in areas of deprivation.
9. The Education Standing Committee also met on 12<sup>th</sup> March and undertook further evidence gathering for the Child Poverty and Educational Attainment Review; hearing from Laurence Jones regarding targeted youth support and youth justice and from Chris Thompson of Nottinghamshire Police regarding the contributions made by Nottinghamshire Police to Nottinghamshire's Child and Family Poverty Strategy.
10. The Recruitment and Retention of Governors Review Group met for the final time on 21 February and agreed its final report. Subsequent to this the final report was considered by the Education Standing Committee on 12 March and will be placed on the agenda of the April meeting of Cabinet.

## **Social Care and Health**

11. On 20 February the Social Care and Health Standing Committee received briefings on Fostering Aspiration (independence and personal responsibility), Public Health and the Peer Review on Safeguarding.
12. The Standing Committee anticipates a response from the Secretary of State for Health in relation to the Newark Review in mid-to-late March. Depending on the timing of the response, it may be necessary to call an additional meeting of the Social Care and Health Standing Committee.
13. The Rota Visits Review Group next meeting is on 20 March when Members will discuss the draft final report and draft rota visits forms. The final report will go to the last meeting of Social Care and Health Standing Committee on 16 April for consideration and agreement.

## **Joint Health**

14. On 14 February the Joint City and County Health Scrutiny Committee received a briefing on the transition arrangements for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAHMS) from Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust with a view to taking on this subject as a potential area for review by a study group. The Committee was reassured by the information provided by the Healthcare Trust and opted not to scrutinise the issue further at this time.
15. In addition, the Joint Health Committee received an update on Dementia Care in Hospital from Nottingham University Hospitals; while this marked the formal conclusion of the Committee's Dementia Care in Hospital Review it was requested that an update on this subject, including the national audit on dementia should come back to the Committee in one year.
16. On 13 March, the Joint Health Committee heard from the Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust on changes to the Psychological Therapies Services. The Committee concluded that the changes did not amount to a substantial variation of service but sought reassurance from the Trust regarding risk assessment and flexibility within the service model.
17. The Joint Health Committee also received briefings on the transitional arrangements for Patient Transport Services – now that the contract is passing from EMAS to Arriva/Ambuline and inspections carried out in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire by the Care Quality Commission.
18. The Joint Health Committee has also recently concluded a review of issues related to healthy eating messages and eating disorders. The final report from this study group will be presented to the April meeting of the committee.

**COUNCILLOR JOYCE BOSNJAK  
CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE**