
Meeting: Social Care Health and Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date: 12 May 2014
Subject: Work Programme & Executive Forward Plan
Report of: Chief Executive
Summary: The report provides Members with details of the currently drafted Committee work programme and the latest Executive Forward Plan in addition to details of a recent work programming session with partners.

Contact Officer: Paula Everitt, Scrutiny Officer
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The work programme of the Social Care Health and Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee (SCHHOSC) will contribute indirectly to all 5 Council priorities. Whilst there are no direct implications arising from this report the implications of proposals will be details in full in each report submitted to the Committee

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- 1. that the Social Care Health and Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee**
 - 1.1 considers and comments on the proposals to enhance the health scrutiny functions;**
 - 1.2 considers and approves the work programme attached, subject to any further amendments it may wish to make;**
 - 1.3 considers the Executive Forward Plan; and**
 - 1.4 considers whether it wishes to add any further items to the work programme and/or establish any Task Forces to assist it in reviewing specific items.**

Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme and proposals for health scrutiny

1. The currently drafted work programme for the Committee is attached at **Appendix A.**
2. Throughout 2012 Central Bedfordshire Council was one of 14 Scrutiny Development Areas (SDAs) working with the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) and the Department of Health to develop more effective scrutiny of health and social care. Members were engaged in discussions regarding the most effective way of undertaking robust health scrutiny. In 2013 the final report of the enquiry into Mid-Staffordshire NHS Trust (the Francis Report) was also

published, which highlighted the importance of seeking the engagement of the public and professionals in setting the work programme and prioritising items accordingly.

3. In light of the outcomes of the CfPS programme and the Francis report it was recommended by the Overview and Scrutiny Coordination Panel that:-
 - 3.1 Health scrutiny has its own visible section on the agenda of the SCHHOSC that incorporates matters relating to the health of children. The Chairman of Children’s Services OSC has also been appointed as a Member of SCHHOSC to promote collaboration. This will ensure that scrutiny of health and wellbeing has a clear and visible focus within the SCHHOSC agenda. These changes to the agenda will be trialled in April 2014.
 - 3.2 Work programming will be undertaken more proactively with a range of partners including the Care Quality Commission, the Health and Wellbeing Board, Healthwatch and the Tenant Scrutiny Panel. Information will be included in the work programme report to identify opportunities for collaboration and to prevent duplication.
4. The Chairman met with partners on 20 January 2014 and the relevant items that were highlighted by others are attached at **Appendix B**. Comparing Appendix A and B Members are asked to consider whether any of these items that are not already on the work programme should be added or if a collaborative approach could be considered. It is suggested that a more detailed work programming session be held with Members prior to their meeting in May 2014 to discuss the key issues for scrutiny during 2014/15.

Overview and Scrutiny Task Forces

5. In addition to consideration of the work programme, Members may also wish to consider how each item will be reviewed i.e. by the Committee itself (over one or a number of Committee meetings) or by establishing a Member Task Force to review an item in greater depth and report back its findings.

Executive Forward Plan

6. Listed below are those items relating specifically to this Committee’s terms of reference contained in the latest version of the Executive’s Forward Plan to ensure Members are fully aware of the key issues Executive Members will be taking decisions upon in the coming months. The full Executive Forward Plan can be viewed on the Council’s website at the link at the end of this report.

| Issue | Indicative Exec Meeting date |
|---|------------------------------|
| Housing Allocations Policy for Central Bedfordshire | 27 May 2014 |

Those marked (*) are not presently on the Committee work programme.

Conclusion

7. Members are requested to consider and agree the attached work programme, subject to any further amendment/additions they may wish to make in light of Appendix B and highlight those items within it where they may wish to establish a Task Force to assist the Committee in its work. This will allow officers to plan accordingly but will not preclude further items being added during the course of the year if Members so wish and capacity exists.

Appendix A Social Care Health and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme

Appendix B Outcomes of recent work programming session

Background reports

Executive Forward Plan (can be viewed at any time on the Council's website) at the following link:-

<http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/modgov/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=577&RD=0>