

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
22 OCTOBER 2015
WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To consider the Committee's work programme for 2015/16 based on areas of work identified by the Committee at previous meetings and any further suggestions raised at this meeting.

2. Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note the work that is currently planned for municipal year 2015/16 and make amendments to this programme if considered appropriate.
- 2.2 Committee members may wish to consider the composition of the proposed Study Group considering End of Life Services, which has been scheduled to take place during the autumn period.

3. Background information

- 3.1 The Health Scrutiny Committee is responsible for carrying out the overview and scrutiny role and responsibilities for health and social care matters and for exercising the Council's statutory role in scrutinising health services for the City.
- 3.2 The Committee is responsible for determining its own work programme to fulfil its terms of reference. The work programme is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.3 The work programme is intended to be flexible so that issues which arise as the year progresses can be considered appropriately. This is likely to include consultations from health service providers about substantial variations and developments in health services that the Committee has statutory responsibilities in relation to.
- 3.4 Where there are a number of potential items that could be scrutinised in a given year, consideration of what represents the highest priority or area of risk will assist with work programme planning. Changes and/or additions to the work programme will need to take account of the resources available to the Committee.
- 3.5 Councillors are reminded of their statutory responsibilities as follows:

While a 'substantial variation or development' of health services are not defined in Regulations, a key feature is that there is a major change to services experienced by patients and future patients. Proposals may range from changes that affect a small group of people within a small geographical area to major reconfigurations of specialist services involving significant numbers of patients across a wide area.

This Committee has statutory responsibilities in relation to substantial variations and developments in health services set out in legislation and associated regulations and guidance. These are to consider the following matters in relation to any substantial variations or developments that impact upon those in receipt of services:

- (a) Whether, as a statutory body, the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been properly consulted within the consultation process;
- (b) Whether, in developing the proposals for service changes, the health body concerned has taken into account the public interest through appropriate patient and public involvement and consultation;
- (c) Whether a proposal for changes is in the interests of the local health service.

Councillors should bear these matters in mind when considering proposals.

- 3.6 Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils have established a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee which is responsible for scrutinising decisions made by NHS organisations, together with reviewing other health issues that impact on services accessed by both City and County residents.

4. List of attached information

- 4.1 The following information can be found in the appendix to this report:

Appendix 1 – Health Scrutiny Committee 2015/16 Work Programme

5. Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

None

6. Published documents referred to in compiling this report

None

7. **Wards affected**

All

8. **Contact information**

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