

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

24 April 2025

Work Programme and 2025-26 Priorities

Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To note the Committee's completed work programme for the 2024/25 municipal year, and to identify the potential scrutiny priorities for the upcoming 2025/26 municipal year based on the issues identified by Committee members previously and any further suggestions arising from this meeting. Potential issues raised by Committee members are regularly scoped for scheduling in consultation with the Chair, the relevant senior officers and partners, and the Executive Members with the appropriate remit.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked:

- 1) to note its completed work programme for the 2024/25 municipal year; and
- 2) to consider the priority topics or issues for inclusion on the developing work programme for the 2025/26 municipal year.

3 Background information

- 3.1 The Committee sets and manages its own work programme for its Scrutiny activity. Business on the work programme must have a clear link to the Committee's roles and responsibilities, and it should be ensured that each item has set objectives and desired outcomes to achieve added value. Once business has been identified, the scheduling of items should be timely, sufficiently flexible so that issues that arise as the year progresses can be considered appropriately and reflect the resources available to support the Committee's work. It is recommended that there are a maximum of two substantive items scheduled for each Committee meeting, so that enough time can be given to consider them thoroughly.
- 3.2 The Committee's formal Terms of Reference are set out under Article 9 of the Council's Constitution, with it being established to:
- hold local decision-makers (including the Council's Executive for matters relating to Adult Social Care and Public Health, and the commissioners and providers of local NHS health services) to account for their decisions, actions, performance and management of risk;
 - review the existing policies and strategies of the Council and other local decision-makers where they impact on Adult Social Care and/or the health of Nottingham citizens;

- contribute to the development of new policies and strategies of the Council and other local decision-makers where they impact on Adult Social Care and/or the health of Nottingham citizens;
- explore any matters relating to Adult Social Care and/or health affecting Nottingham and/or its citizens;
- make reports and recommendations to the relevant local agencies with respect to the delivery of their functions (including the Council and its Executive, and the commissioners and providers of local NHS health services);
- exercise the Council's statutory role in scrutinising health services for Nottingham in accordance with the NHS Act 2006 (as amended) and associated regulations and guidance;
- be part of the accountability of the whole health system and engage with commissioners and providers of NHS health services and other relevant partners (such as the Care Quality Commission and Healthwatch); and
- review decisions made, but not yet implemented, by the Council's Executive, in accordance with the Call-In Procedure.

3.3 In addition to the powers held by all of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny bodies, the Committee also holds further powers and rights as part of its remit concerning health:

- to review any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of NHS health services in the area;
- to require members of the Council's Executive and representatives of commissioners and providers of NHS and Public Health-funded services to provide information to the Committee, attend its meetings and answer questions posed;
- to invite other persons to attend meetings of the Committee to provide information and/or answer questions;
- to make recommendations and provide reports to relevant decision-makers, including the Council's Executive and commissioners of NHS and Public Health-funded services, on matters within their remits (the Council's Executive and commissioners of NHS and Public Health-funded services have a duty to respond in writing to such recommendations);
- to be consulted by commissioners of NHS and Public Health-funded services when there are proposals for substantial developments or variations to services, and to make comment on those proposals; and
- to request that the Secretary of State uses their powers to 'call in' proposals for health service reconfiguration if there are significant concerns about them that cannot be resolved locally, and to be consulted formally (alongside the local Healthwatch group) by the Secretary of State on how the powers of 'call in' might be implemented in relation to a given proposal if the Secretary of State is minded to use those powers.

4 Our Council Plan 2025-29 and the Council Improvement Plan

4.1 The vision set out in 'Our Council Plan' (OCP) is that Nottingham deserves a Council that delivers good local services for a city where people want to live, work and study. Areas of focus are to revitalise the economy, celebrate

Nottingham's cultural heritage and improve infrastructure and connectivity, with priorities to develop joined-up partnership working to pool efforts and expertise, and engage more deeply with residents to deliver common goals. The OCP has three Core Missions covering eleven Priorities for their successful delivery.

- 4.2 In addition, the Council Improvement Plan (CIP) establishes how the Council will respond to the significant governance and financial challenges that have led to the statutory intervention by Government Commissioners. The CIP represents the overarching framework that holds the Council's improvement activity together and is intended to address the challenges the Council faces while working towards achieving longer-term change to become an organisation that has a clear purpose and direction, is financially sustainable and is well run. Delivering the CIP is intended to provide assurance to citizens, councillors, officers, partners and the Commissioners that the Council is improving the way it operates to deliver, enable and influence better outcomes for Nottingham in the most effective, efficient and economical way. The CIP sets out three overall aims, with eleven Priority Programmes of Action.
- 4.3 As a result, when planning its work programme, the Committee should consider how an item relates to achieving both the Priority Programmes of Action within the CIP and the wider Priorities of the OCP. In scrutinising topics at a meeting, the Committee should seek to investigate what Priority Programmes of Action the issue affects and how improvement is being delivered against these, as well as the progress made to date against the associated performance metrics and that there is a full understanding and effective management of risk.

5 List of attached information

- 5.1 Work Programme 2024/25

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

- 6.1 None

7 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 7.1 [The Council's Constitution](#) (Article 9 and Article 11)
- 7.2 [Our Council Plan 2025-29](#)
- 7.3 [The Council Improvement Plan](#)

8 Wards affected

- 8.1 All

9 Contact information

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