

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
18 JANUARY 2018
WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To consider the Committee's work programme for 2017/18 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:

- a) note the work that is currently planned for the municipal year 2017/18 and make amendments to this programme as appropriate;
- b) consider scheduling an item to review how Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust and East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust responded to the significant pressures facing emergency health services in the post-Christmas period;
- c) appoint 3 or 4 councillors to sit on each of the following Quality Account Study Groups:
 - i. Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust
 - ii. Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
 - iii. East Midlands Ambulance Service Trust
 - iv. Circle Health – Nottingham Treatment Centre
- d) delegate authority to the Chair of the Health Scrutiny Committee to approve comments, based on evidence gathered by the Committee, for submission to be included in Quality Accounts documents.

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 setting and managing its own work programme to fulfil this role.
- 3.3 In setting a programme for scrutiny activity, the Committee should aim for an outcome-focused work programme that has clear priorities and a clear link to its roles and responsibilities. The work programme needs 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 commissioners and 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 The current work programme for the municipal year 2017/18 is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.6 Correspondence from Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust and East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust about the significant pressures they faced in the post-Christmas period and how they were responding to those has been circulated to Committee members. The Committee may wish to consider scheduling a debrief from Trusts for when immediate pressures have eased on the reasons and context of these pressures; how pressures were dealt with, including the effectiveness of the implementation of winter pressures planning and business continuity planning; and lessons to be learnt for the future.
- 3.7 Quality Accounts
In previous years, consideration of the Quality Accounts of Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, East Midlands Ambulance Service Trust and Circle Health (provider of Nottingham Treatment Centre) has been undertaken by the Joint City and County Health Scrutiny Committee. This Committee no longer exists, but because a significant proportion of residents of both local authorities receive services from these providers and to reduce the burden on providers, it is proposed to continue gathering information and evidence together informally. In addition to the evidence gathered throughout the year, this will be done by establishing 4 study groups (likely to each meet once in March/ April/ May depending on provider timescales). Following this, each Health Scrutiny Committee will separately decide on the content of its own comment to be submitted independently. Councillors are asked to nominate themselves to sit on one or more of the study groups to undertake this work. Healthwatch will also be invited to participate in the study group meetings. Nottingham CityCare Partnership only provides services to City residents and therefore this Committee will, as in previous years, review its Quality Account in regular Committee meetings.

4. List of attached information

- 4.1 Appendix 1 – Health Scrutiny Committee 2017/18 Work Programme

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

- 5.1 Correspondence from Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust (dated 3 January 2018) and East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust (dated 3 January 2018)

6. Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 Reports to and minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee during 2016/17 and 2017/18

Reports to and minutes of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Joint Health Scrutiny Committee during 2016/17

7. Wards affected

7.1 All

8. Contact information

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