

**TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

**HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**DATE 7<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2012**

**2012/14 WORK PROGRAMME**

**REPORT OF SCRUTINY GROUP SPECIALIST**

**1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To enable the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee to consider the suggestions and agree the Committee's work programme for 2012 – 14.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the Committee agree the work programme for 2012 – 14.

**3.0 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- 3.1 SMB 4 July 2012

**4.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 4.1 The suggestions attached in Appendix 1 were considered by the Scrutiny Management Board on the 4<sup>th</sup> July and referred to the Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee to decide which issues should be included in the Committee's Work Programme. The Management Board also agreed that the work programme will be for a two year period with the opportunity to refresh this at the end of the first year. The work programme will be flexible to allow for important issues which emerge during the 2 year cycle to be scrutinised. However, if a new topic is added to the work programme, an existing item must be removed to avoid the work load becoming unmanageable and losing focus.
- 4.2 Members are asked to be rigorous and focussed in selecting topics for the work programme. It must be recognised that the scrutiny team and Council and partner organisations do not have the capacity to support

scrutiny of all the issues Members may wish to scrutinise. The Scrutiny Management Board agreed that each Scrutiny Committee will 3-5 key topics for the work programme, and other items will be removed. ( An exception to this is the Budget & Finance Scrutiny Committee which aligns its work programme to the budget process and proposals.)

## **5.0 HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

5.1 Appendix 1 shows the suggestions put forward for the 2012/14 scrutiny work programme and the items carried over from 2011/12 by lead Scrutiny Committees that have been referred by the Scrutiny Management Board for consideration by the Committee.

5.2 The table also shows:

- Where the item cuts across more than one scrutiny committee and work maybe carried out jointly
- The indicative timetable where known
- Comments made by officers for scrutiny members to consider in their selection of topics and method of scrutiny. This includes topics being reviewed or monitored by other Council committees so that work is not duplicated.
- Any recommendations made by the Scrutiny Chairmen.

5.3 In line with the decision taken by the Scrutiny Management Board Members are asked to agree 3-5 topics that will be included in the 2 year work programme. Each Scrutiny committee has been allocated 6 formal committee meetings during the municipal year. This allocation does not include informal or sub-group meetings which may be held to gather evidence as part of a review, briefing meetings or regional/external scrutiny meetings.

5.4 When agreeing the work programme Members should consider the range of organisations and services that come under the scrutiny remit of this Committee:

- Local Authority Adult Social Care Commissioning and Provision of these services
- Telford and Wrekin Primary Care Trust (Part of the West Mercia PCT Cluster)
- The Developing Clinical Commissioning Group
- National Commissioning Board
- Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust

- Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust
- West Midlands Ambulance Service
- South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

5.5 The work of this Committee will need to be co-ordinated with the other Scrutiny Committees as identified in Appendix 1 and also the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee with Shropshire which has a statutory role.

5.6 Members are also asked to taken into account the forward plan for the Health and Wellbeing Board.

## **6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

6.1 There are no specific equal opportunity impacts arising from this report. Equal Opportunity issues will be considered as part of any scrutiny work.

## **7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.1 There are no specific environmental impacts arising from this report. Environmental impacts will be considered as appropriate to the topics in the work programme.

## **8.0. LEGAL COMMENT**

8.1 The proposals contained in this report are in accordance with the Scrutiny Handbook and the Council's Constitution.

## **9.0 LINKS WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

9.1 Scrutiny members are asked to agree the work programme in the context of the Council's priorities.

## **10. OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS**

10.1 There is an opportunity to focus the work programme on fewer topics and in more depth in areas of policy development where scrutiny can have a greater impact. There is a risk that too many topics are kept in the work programme so that it loses focus and impact.

**11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 There are no specific financial implications from this report. An effective working relationship between the Scrutiny committees will ensure an more efficient use of resources.
- 11.2 Specific financial implications may arise from the recommendations of the Committee which will need to be considered as part of any future reports on the outcomes of the work programme.

**12. WARD IMPLICATIONS**

- 12.1 There are no specific ward implications arising from this report.

**13. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 13.1 None

Report prepared by Fiona Bottrill, Scrutiny Group Specialist 01952 383113