



Title: **Health Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2011/2012**

Public Agenda **Yes**

Item:

Wards **All**

Affected:

To: **Health Scrutiny Board**

On: **7 July 2011**

Key Decision: **No**

Change to Budget: **No**

Change to Policy Framework: **No**

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1. What we are trying to achieve and the impact on our customers

- 1.1 To ensure that the Health Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2011/12 is robust and realistic but also flexible enough to enable emerging issues of concern to be addressed. This will help ensure that overview and scrutiny is both improving and safeguarding health services for the people of Torbay. A successful scrutiny function would also have a positive impact on our customers as the community would be involved in the work being undertaken and the outcomes of that work would be focused on the community's needs.

2. Recommendation(s) for decision

- 2.1 **That the draft Health Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2011/12 be considered, amended as necessary, and approved.**

3. Key points and reasons for recommendations

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution requires that, early in each municipal year, the Overview and Scrutiny Board co-ordinate the production of a Work Programme for the function as a whole. At its meeting on 29 June 2011 the Overview and Scrutiny Board was advised that a Health Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme would be agreed at the next meeting of the Health Scrutiny Board.
- 3.2 One of the principles of good scrutiny is that it is carried out by 'independent minded governors' who lead and own the scrutiny process. Accordingly, throughout the year members will be encouraged to identify agenda items for the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Board and the Health Scrutiny Board. Sources could include the Forward Plan, ward matters, Community Partnerships, SPAR.net, and the media. Torbay LINK (Local Involvement

Network) also has the power to refer matters to the Health Scrutiny Board although no referrals have been received to date.

- 3.3 The Health Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme attached at Appendix One has been prepared taking account of the reduced officer capacity in the Overview and Scrutiny Support Team.
- 3.4 A number of issues have been carried over from last year's work programme.
- 3.5 The draft work programme for the Health Scrutiny Board has been developed having regard to forthcoming possible substantial variations or developments to health services at a regional and local level that officers are aware of.
- 3.6 During 2009/10 and 2010/11 Health Scrutiny Board members undertook visits to local NHS bodies, including seeing how services are delivered and meeting frontline members of staff. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme proposes similar future visits and members are asked to comment on this suggestion.
- 3.7 The Health Scrutiny Board has adopted the principle that as far as possible issues not requiring any action by the Board but that would be of interest to members will be dealt with by written briefing or at a training/briefing session. Members are asked to comment.

For more detailed information on this proposal please refer to the supporting information attached.

Mark Bennett
Executive Head (Business Services)

Supporting information

A1. Introduction and history

- A1.1 The Work Programme set out in Appendix 1 has been put together following consultation with the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator, Scrutiny Lead Members, the Mayor, all other Members of the Council, senior Council officers, and relevant partners.
- A1.2 Personalisation of Adult Social Care was initially in 2009/10 investigated through a separate review panel but is now being monitored through formal Health Scrutiny Board meetings.
- A1.3 The Health Scrutiny Board has traditionally scheduled eight Board meetings each year; however, the number is halved for the 2011/12 municipal year.

A2. Risk assessment of preferred option

A2.1 Outline of significant key risks

- A2.1.1 A critical success factor will be members' commitment to the work programme. Members need to be sure that these issues are matters which can help improve and safeguard health services for the people of Torbay. Members need to be willing to commit time and energy into identifying key questions, meeting and discussing issues with other members, officers and consultees, reading and challenging the information presented to them, and drawing conclusions, considering options appraisals and risk assessments, and formulating recommendations.
- A2.1.2 Health Scrutiny Board members need to receive information and support from local NHS bodies; however, local NHS bodies are under a statutory duty to provide overview and scrutiny with any information about the planning, provision and operation of health services as it may reasonably require to undertake effective scrutiny.
- A2.1.3 The changing national political arena may lead to initiatives and changed priorities during the year and the work programme may need to be amended as a result. Members are reminded that the work programme must have sufficient capacity to respond to requests from the NHS to consider service change proposals.
- A2.1.4 If members are not committed to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme and to making overview and scrutiny a worthwhile mechanism to improve the lives of the community of Torbay (and if they do not receive adequate support from officers or information from local NHS bodies), then there is a risk that positive outcomes cannot be shown to have been achieved by Overview and Scrutiny.

A2.2 Remaining risks

- A2.2.1 Further reductions in the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Support Team.

A3. Other Options

A3.1 Members may wish to add to, or delete, or change any of the items within the work programme set out in Appendix One.

A4. Summary of resource implications

A4.1 The proposed Work Programme can be delivered within the resources available provided that members are willing to give their time and energy.

A5. What impact will there be on equalities, environmental sustainability and crime and disorder?

A5.1 Each review will take account of these issues.

A6. Consultation and Customer Focus

A6.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme has been prepared taking account of the views expressed by the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator, Scrutiny Lead Members, the Mayor and all other Members of the Council, senior Council officers, and members of the public.

A6.2 Each review will aim to involve the community through consultation and possible co-option.

A7. Are there any implications for other Business Units?

A7.1 None

Appendices

Appendix One Health Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2011/2012

Documents available in members' rooms

None

Background Papers:

None

APPENDIX 1: HEALTH SCRUTINY BOARD WORK PROGRAMME 2011/12

Meeting Date (Town Hall, Torquay)	Thursday 7 July '11 (2.30 pm)	Thursday 22 Sept '11 (2.30 pm)	Thursday 15 Dec '11 (2.30 pm)	Thursday 22 March '12 (2.30 pm)
Agenda Items	<p>Health Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2011/12</p> <p>Personalisation of Care Update</p> <p>Commissioning Short Breaks for Children and Young People with Physical and Learning Disabilities</p> <p>Occombe House</p>	<p>Personalised Community Based Services – proposals [Domiciliary Care] tbc</p> <p>Brixham Hospital Site Development – Proposals</p>	<p>Torbay Care Trust: Consultation on Foundation Trust application tbc</p>	<p>Quality Account commentaries tbc</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">In addition, it is expected that there will be agenda items considering changes proposed for Specialised Services and appropriate visits undertaken by Health Scrutiny Board members to local NHS bodies</p>				