



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

Public Agenda Item: **Yes**

Wards Affected: **All**

To: **Health Scrutiny Board** On: **4 October 2012**

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 2012/13 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 Health Scrutiny Work Programme for 2012/13 set out in Appendix 1 to this report be approved.**

3. Key points and reasons for recommendations

3.1 The Constitution requires that, early in the Municipal Year, the Overview and Scrutiny Board will co-ordinate the production of a Work Programme for the function as a whole. At its meeting on 20 June 2012 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 although the decision was deferred at this meeting.

3.2 In May 2012, a questionnaire was sent to all members of the Council asking them to identify three issues within their wards which they felt should be subject to scrutiny together with three Bay-wide issues. The Mayor, Directors and Executive Heads were also asked for their views on the Bay-wide issues

which should be considered and the Council's health partners were asked to identify issues which may need to be subject to scrutiny. Whilst it was acknowledged that there will not be space within the Work Programme to consider every issue it was hoped that some themes would emerge on the issues which the two scrutiny Boards could investigate to the benefit of the community as a whole.

- 3.3 The document attached as Appendix 1 has been prepared taking account of the suggestions received from the consultation exercise and subsequent informal discussions with the Health Scrutiny Lead, the Director of Adults Services and Torbay and Southern Devon Health and Care NHS Trust.

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 for the Health Scrutiny Board has been developed around two, inter-linked themes – namely, reducing demand on acute services and services for the elderly. Rather than undertaking in-depth reviews, it is suggested that the Health Scrutiny Board will employ similar methods to the Overview and Scrutiny Board such as site visits, consideration of case studies, attendance at health partner events whilst keeping in mind its key lines of enquiry for the year. Time will also need to be allowed for the consideration of any possible substantial variations in services or referrals from the Torbay LINK. Further, the Health Scrutiny Work Programme will be shared with health scrutiny colleagues in neighbouring authorities to avoid duplication and possibly undertake shared work.

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 There are none at the time of writing.

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 1.

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 draft 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 health partner organisations.

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 The relevant Executive Heads will be involved in the work of overview and scrutiny especially at the scoping, options appraisal, and risk assessment stages as well as providing information to members as part of each review.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Health Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2012/2013

Documents available in members' rooms

None

Background Papers:

None

Health Scrutiny Work Programme 2012/2013

1. Background

- 1.1 All members of the Council, senior officers and representatives from the NHS organisations that work with the Health Scrutiny Board were asked for their views on the topics or issues which should be the subject to review over the course of the year.
- 1.2 The topics put forward are set out in the Appendix to this report.
- 1.3 This report makes suggestions for the Work Programme for the Health Scrutiny Board for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

2. Methods of Working

- 2.1 There are a range of options open to the members of the Health Scrutiny Board to carry out their work:

- Health Scrutiny Board
- Health Scrutiny Liaison Group
- Site Visits
- Attendance at NHS Trust/provider/partnership meetings and events
- Adults Policy Development Group
- Councillor Policy Briefings

- 2.2 Not all members of the Health Scrutiny Board need to attend every meeting and/or event. However, members will need to provide feedback to other members of the Board so that the information they receive can help inform the work of the Board overall.

3. Themes for the Year

- 3.1 Members will recall that the theme that ran throughout the Quality Accounts that the Board received at the final meeting of the last Municipal Year was reducing pressure on acute services.
- 3.2 In looking at the topics which were put forward for consideration during the Work Programme consultation, many fitted into the category of "care for the elderly".
- 3.3 It is suggested that these two, interlinked issues provide the overarching theme for the work of the Health Scrutiny Board for 2012/2013. Rather than undertaking specific, stand-alone reviews, topics will be considered throughout the year (in the forums listed in 2.1) and the findings and views of the Board will be amalgamated into a report towards the end of the year.

4. Scope, Key Lines of Enquiry and Timetable

- 4.1 A draft scope (including key lines of enquiry) which will form the basis of the work of the Health Scrutiny Board is attached for discussion. A draft timetable for the year is also attached.

Services for the elderly

Reducing demand on acute services

SCOPE AND KEY LINES OF ENQUIRY

To gain an understanding of the demographics of Torbay and who is responsible for commissioning and delivering services.

- What does the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment tell us about the demographics of Torbay?
 - How skewed is the population towards older people?
 - What are their health and social care needs?
 - How are these needs being met?
 - What will be the needs of the next generation of older people?
- What are the emerging priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Board?
 - How does the Health and Wellbeing Strategy fit with the Community Plan?
 - What consultation will be undertaken?
 - How are all partners ensuring that the priorities for Torbay are articulated coherently within their own plans?
- Where does the responsibility lie for commissioning and providing services for the elderly?

To review the range of work that is underway within Torbay (including within the Third Sector) to reduce the demand on acute services.

- What preventative work is being undertaken to reduce demand on acute services?
 - How are partners working together to reduce demand?
 - What's the evidence of this work having an effect on demand?
 - What work is being undertaken within the Third Sector to reduce demand?
 - What further support is needed in the Third Sector?
 - What's the impact of public sector spending cuts?

To consider a number of case studies in relation to services for the elderly.

- Residential care homes
 - What is the make up of the residential care homes sector in Torbay? How does this compare with other similar authorities?
 - How is care within these homes commissioned?

- What is the relationship between the care homes sector, the Council and Torbay and Southern Devon Health and Care NHS Trust?
- What levels of care should the elderly expect within these homes? How is this monitored? Where does the responsibility lie?
- What methods are used to bring homes up to standard? What is the timescale for this improvement? What happens if they don't improve?
- What is the measurable impact of reducing public sector funding?
- Community Hospitals
 - What role do the community hospitals in Torbay play? How are elderly people rehabilitated after an acute hospital stay?
 - What services are provided?
 - How do they help prevent pressure on acute services? What value can be placed on the role of community hospitals in Torbay? How is this recognised by partners?
 - What is the role of the League of Friends?
 - How sustainable are the community hospitals?
 - What measures are being taken to reduce wastage within the community hospitals (e.g. unused medicines/dressings, missed appointments)?
- Falls Prevention
 - Why is falls prevention an important issue?
 - How are agencies working together to reduce the number of falls?
 - How well are we doing at reducing falls? What impact is this having?
- Dementia Services
 - What is dementia? What are its impacts – on patients? on carers? on the wider community?
 - What services are provided in Torbay for people with dementia?
 - How do we compare – regionally? nationally?
 - How are services linked together? How effectively is this working? The Dementia Challenge
 - How do we create dementia friendly communities?
 - How could health and care for people with dementia and their carers be improved?

	Health Scrutiny Board	Liaison Group	Site Visits/Meetings	Health and Wellbeing Board
July	<u>19 July 2012</u> Cost Improvement Plan Learning Disabilities Service Update Community Hospitals Community Hospitals – League of Friends	-	<u>5 July 2012</u> Chairman to meet CE of St Kilda's	<u>5 July 2012</u>
August	-	-		
September	-	<u>4 September 2012</u> Agenda Planning (October) Longer Term View for Adult Social Care	<u>26 September 2012</u> Right Care Open Day (SWAST)	<u>20 September 2012</u>
October	<u>4 October 2012</u> Dementia Services Acquisition Process – TSDHCT Adult Social Care Local Account	-	<u>16 October 2012</u> Visit to SWAST Headquarters	
November	<u>tbc</u> Care Home Provision	-		<u>22 November 2012</u>
December	-	<u>20 December 2012</u> Agenda Planning (February)		
January	-	-		<u>17 January 2013</u>
February	<u>21 February 2012</u> Falls Prevention Care Homes - Contract management/quality training	-		
March				<u>21 March 2013</u>
April		<u>4 April 2012</u> Agenda Planning (May)		
May	<u>8 May 2012</u> Quality Accounts x 4 Health Scrutiny Board's Report			

Topics suggested through consultation process

Drugs

Foundation Trust status

Deprivation

Future services for the elderly – what should they expect/what do they deserve

Care home provision/fees

Priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Board

How to reduce demand for high cost adult social care

Transition of children to adults services

Impact of cost reduction plans

Alcohol and supermarket licensing

Impact of welfare reform > On individuals > On services

Changes to adoption standards

Cost and efficiency of children's and adults services

How to reduce demand for high cost children's services