

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 5

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

23 JUNE 2014

Work Programme for 2014/15

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To invite the Health Scrutiny Panel to consider its work programme for the 2014/15 municipal year.

BACKGROUND

3. At the start of every municipal year, scrutiny panels discuss the topics that they would like to review during the coming year.
4. Work programmes are useful as they provide some structure to a scrutiny panel's activity and allow for the effective planning and preparation of work.
5. As part of the process for establishing the work programme, support officers gather information/views from a number of sources. Below is a list of topics which are anticipated to be of particular interest to the scrutiny panel. Members are advised that the list of possible topics is not exhaustive and that additional topics can be added and considered at the scrutiny panel meeting.

Topical Issues and suggestions

- Reducing harmful drinking
- Reducing drugs misuse and dependence
- Tobacco and smoking
- Helping people to live well for longer
- Helping more people to survive cancer
- Funding of GPs
- Childhood obesity – promoting healthy eating and physical activity
- Raising awareness about skin cancer
- Alcohol related hospital admissions
- Reducing self-harm and suicide
- Antenatal and postnatal services for teenage parents
- Tackling diabetes
- Review of maternity services

- Promotion of sexual health services
 - Health needs of migrant communities
 - School nurse provision
 - Mortality rates at James Cook University Hospital
 - Financial pressures on the NHS
 - Future supply and demand of GPs
 - Review of the pharmacy at James Cook University Hospital
 - Opening hours of GP surgeries
 - Delivery of 7 day-a-week care
 - Nutrition of food in hospitals
 - Increasing levels of breastfeeding
6. In addition to the above, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board has requested that the scrutiny panels consider how they can be involved with, and influence, the Council's Change Programme.

PURPOSE OF TODAY'S MEETING

7. At today's meeting, the scrutiny panel is asked to consider and agree its work programme for the 2014/15 municipal year.
8. It is suggested that the scrutiny panel has a mixture of working styles in its programme. This can include detailed and in-depth reviews, shorter topics, or one-off investigations.
9. Once the panel has identified the areas of priority, support staff will draw those topics into a programme for approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

RECOMMENDATION

10. That the scrutiny panel priorities issues where scrutiny can make an impact and add value to local health services.
11. That the scrutiny panel identifies the topics it would like to include in its work programme for 2014/15, for consideration/approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

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