

# MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

## HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

### Setting the Scrutiny Panel's Work Programme 2020/2021

21 JULY 2020

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To invite the Health Scrutiny Panel to consider its work programme for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

#### BACKGROUND

2. At the start of each Municipal Year, Scrutiny Panels discuss the topics that they would like to review during the coming year.
3. 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.
4. As part of the process for establishing the work programme, support officers gather information/views and suggestions 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

Topic/Suggestion	Details
<b>Inclusive growth – alignment of town regeneration and health goals</b>	<p>The 'Health Equity in England: The Marmot Review 10 Years On', highlighted a worrying retrograde trend for life expectancy and signalled the widening of local health inequalities in Middlesbrough. The intrinsic link between deprivation and health cannot continue to be ignored, and despite a clear emphasis on austerity within the report, there is a growing realisation that local plans to improve health and regeneration need to be more tightly aligned, in order to see positive and sustainable change to health outcomes, prosperity and social stability. This topic would consider how well local economic plans, policies and decision-making processes, support inclusive growth and population health improvement. This topic will be further supported by the spotlight COVID-19 has placed on the role of deprivation on determining health outcomes.</p>

	(Suggestion from Public Health South Tees)
<b>The first 1001 days</b>	<p>There is clear and compelling evidence that the first 1001 days of life (i.e. pregnancy to 2 years) are critical in setting the future trajectory of children in terms of their physical, cognitive, social, emotional and behavioural development. This period is highly sensitive to the heightened vulnerability of pregnant women and infants during this time - making it crucial that support systems, including local services and pathways, plus community/social infrastructure, are effectively joined-up, to equitably manage the complexity of material, social and individual disadvantage, in ensuring all our children thrive. This topic would consider the local value placed on this critical life stage and whether system-level leadership and strategy is sufficiently focused on this period, to secure real and impactful improvements for our children and families.</p> <p>(Suggestion from Public Health South Tees)</p>
<b>Diabetes support for BAME communities</b>	<p>Research has highlighted long term conditions such as diabetes to be prominent in BAME population due to dietary and lifestyle factors. Our engagement work highlighted that the management of this long term condition was an issue for some members of this community. There are a lot of initiatives locally to help support people with both prevention and management of diabetes however, we have found no evidence of any specific work with a focus on the BAME community.</p> <p>Our engagement work has shown that alternative methods must be used to engage and work with the BAME community which address cultural differences and language barriers.</p> <p>To effectively reduce diabetes within the BAME community it is important that any initiatives being carried out in our area take this into consideration and adopt methods specifically targeting this demographic. This is particularly important as the only programme that was supporting the BAME community has now been withdrawn.</p> <p>What is happening locally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Life New You (Diabetes Type 2 Prevention Programme for BAME communities) – no longer being continued</li> <li>• Healthier You: National Diabetes Prevention Programme - This programme was launched in January 2019 and is a partnership between NHS England, Public Health England and Diabetes UK, working with private providers and local authorities. The service is being delivered in Northern England by Ingeus UK. Healthwatch has been in touch with Ingeus and South Tees CCG to enquire how it is including the BAME community in this work but no response has been received.</li> <li>• You've Got This - Diabetes Pilot programme to be implemented across South Tees - A new programme but with</li> </ul>

	<p>no focus on BAME communities.</p> <p>Examining this topic would help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce health inequalities</li> <li>• Better informed Diabetes Services that consider the needs of the BAME community.</li> <li>• Improve health and social care services for BAME communities.</li> </ul> <p>(Suggestion from Healthwatch South Tees)</p>
<p><b>Arthritis support for young people</b></p>	<p>This condition is often thought about in relation to older people however, we became increasingly aware during our engagement with local communities, that this condition is affecting more young people.</p> <p>It was quite often highlighted that young people were left out of the general conversation and considerations around arthritis support which meant that services weren't often relevant for them and what they needed.</p> <p>Many of the younger people we talked to also felt that their age was a barrier to surgery, and that although the arthritis was affecting their current quality of life, they would only be able to access surgery when they were older.</p> <p>Examples of this were reflected in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support groups often being held during working hours</li> <li>• House adaptations being dramatic and invasive for young families</li> <li>• A lack of emotional support for how life altering the disease can be</li> </ul> <p>Examining this topic would help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce health inequalities.</li> <li>• Improved and more tailored support that is relevant for young people diagnosed with this condition.</li> <li>• Impact on young people's health and wellbeing.</li> <li>• Encourage options for surgery for young people to enable better quality of life during younger years.</li> </ul> <p>(Suggestion from Healthwatch South Tees)</p>
<p><b>PFI scheme at James Cook Hospital</b></p>	<p>One of the key issues which spans the totality of the Trust's activity and service to the local community is the PFI scheme on the James Cook Hospital.</p> <p>The current cost of the historic scheme to the trust and its patients is approximately £1 million per week. The trust has calculated that the</p>

	<p>PFI scheme is adding approximately £17.5 million each year to the Trust's expenditure when compared to a hospital provided by public capital/borrowing.</p> <p>The reason for suggesting this as a potential item for scrutiny is the all-encompassing impact the PFI scheme has on the trust's ability to fund services and capital investments.</p> <p>(Suggestion from South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust).</p>
<b>Prison Release</b>	<p>What health support is provided to those released from prison, i.e. what is in place mental health wise /drug addiction/GP acceptance</p> <p>(Suggestion from a Councillor).</p>
<b>Women's health and infant feeding</b>	<p>Women's health and the impact on infant feeding due to the lack of breastfeeding support in Middlesbrough and the lack of tongue tie referrals and how this also impacts on infant feeding.</p> <p>(Suggestion from a Councillor).</p>

### Updates

<b>Vulnerable and Fragile Health Services</b>	To receive an update in relation to the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Panel's previous review of Vulnerable and Fragile Health Services (2019).
<b>Breast Radiology Diagnostic Services</b>	To receive an update in relation to the outstanding NHS consultation in respect of Breast Radiology Diagnostic Services in South Tees (2019).

5. It should be noted that the topics outlined above are suggestions and the content of the Scrutiny Panel's work programme is a decision for the Panel. When considering its work programme, the Panel is advised to select topics that are of interest to it, as well as topics that the Panel feels by considering, it could add value to the Local Authority's work.
6. In addition to undertaking the agreed work programme, Scrutiny Panels have also previously responded on an ad-hoc basis to emerging issues - such as considering relevant new legislation, guidance or Government consultation documents. This approach occasionally results in further topics being identified for investigation or review throughout the year.
7. On occasion ad-hoc scrutiny panels may also be established throughout the year to undertake additional investigations, for example to examine areas of work which overlap more than one Scrutiny Panel.
8. The Scrutiny Panel is also advised that, under the terms of the Local Government Act 2000, local authorities have a responsibility of community leadership and a power to secure the effective promotion of community well-being. Therefore, in

addition to the Scrutiny Panel's generally recognised powers (of holding the Executive to account, reviewing service provision, developing policy, considering budget plans and performance and financial monitoring), Panels also have the power to consider **any** matters which are not the responsibility of the Council but which affect the local authority **or** the inhabitants of its area. For example, nationally, local authorities have undertaken scrutiny work on issues such as post office closures, rural bus services, policing matters and flood defence schemes.

### **Scrutiny work plan prioritisation aid**

9. Members may wish to use the aid attached at **Appendix 1** to prioritise issues where scrutiny can make an impact, add value or contribute to policy development.

### **PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

10. The Scrutiny Panel is asked to consider and agree its work programme for the 2020/21 Municipal Year. The Director of Public Health (South Tees) and the Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Delivery at Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) will be in attendance to assist the Panel by highlighting priority areas/issues and challenges.
11. When considering its work programme, the Scrutiny Panel is asked to ensure that topics agreed for inclusion:-
  - Affect a group of people living within the Middlesbrough area.
  - Relate to a service, event or issue in which the Council has a significant stake or over which the Council has an influence.
  - Are not issues which the Overview and Scrutiny Board or the Scrutiny Panels have considered during the last 12 months.
  - Do not relate to an individual service complaint; and
  - Do not relate to matters dealt with by another Council Committee, unless the issue deals with procedure.
12. 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.
13. Once the Scrutiny 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**

14. That the Scrutiny Panel identifies the areas of focus/topics it would like to include in its work programme for 2020/21, for consideration/approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 15.** Throughout the report, reference is made to documents published by the Department of Health, Public Health England (PHE), the NHS and Middlesbrough Council.

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APPENDIX 1

