
Meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee – 28th March, 2022

Report of the Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer)

Annual Scrutiny Report 2021/22

Purpose

1. To consider the annual scrutiny report for 2021/22.

Recommendations

2. That the Committee receive and comment on the attached annual report.
3. That the Committee identify any items that need to be rolled-forward for inclusion in the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2022/23.

Background

4. The Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules, as set out in the Council's [Constitution](#), require that an annual overview and scrutiny report is submitted to the Council.
5. The Committee's annual report for 2021/22 is attached as an Appendix. Minutes and outcomes of all Scrutiny Committee meetings can be accessed online via the [Committee Management Information System](#). Subject to any amendments, the Annual Report will be presented to the Council on 11th April, 2022.
6. The Council has recognised the importance of retaining an annual review and report process. This is to ensure that the arrangements continue to align themselves to the needs of the Council and that the scrutiny arrangements remain adaptable and flexible to changes in circumstances.

Draft Annual Scrutiny Programme 2022/23

7. Work to develop the Annual Scrutiny Programme at this stage needs to allow for flexibility given any potential changes arising from the annual meeting of the Council. All Scrutiny Committee Chairs/Vice-Chairs, Officers and others will be invited to contribute to the development of the Annual Scrutiny Programme.
8. The views of the Committee are invited on any items that need to be 'rolled forward' to the next municipal year or any items they would like to suggest for inclusion in the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2022/23.
9. A meeting of the Scrutiny Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs has been scheduled to take place on 31st March, 2022 to discuss the Annual Scrutiny Programme for the 2022/23 municipal year. A Scrutiny Development Session has also been arranged on 21st March, 2022 and an element of this meeting will focus on future scrutiny work programming.

Finance

10. The costs of operating the Council's scrutiny arrangements are being contained within existing budgetary allocations.

Law

11. Scrutiny Committees are established in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and the requirements of the Council's Constitution, which was adopted under the Local Government Act 2000, subsequent legislation and associated Regulations and Guidance.
12. Scrutiny powers relating to health are included in the Health and Social Care Acts 2001 and 2012, and associated Regulations and statutory guidance. The Police and Justice Act 2006 gives the Council powers to scrutinise the work of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 enables local authorities to scrutinise other partners. Much of this legislation is consolidated in the Localism Act 2011.

Risk Management

13. The Council's scrutiny and governance arrangements are contained in the Council's Constitution which will ensure that the Council considers any ongoing material risks as part of the Council's Risk Management Framework.

Equality Impact

14. Provision exists within the scrutiny arrangements for overview and scrutiny to be undertaken of the Council's policies on equality and diversity.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

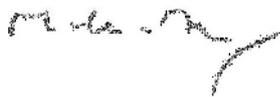
15. Overview and Scrutiny work is primarily administered within the resources available to the Democratic Services Team with support from Directorates and other Officers as required. Any proposals to develop the Council's overview and scrutiny functions have to be set in the context of the resources available and the organisational capacity to support scrutiny work.

Commercial/Procurement

16. This report has no impact on the Council's potential to commercially trade. Individual items included in the Annual Scrutiny Programme may have commercial implications, which will be reported to the relevant Scrutiny Committee.

Council Priorities

17. Scrutiny Committees assist in the delivery of key Council priorities including the Borough Vision, Council Plan and Future Council Programme.



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Appendix

Appendix 1 - Annual Report 2021/22

List of Background Documents

[The Council's Constitution](#) – Article 6 and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules

Scrutiny Reports and Minutes available on the [Committee Management Information System](#)



**Chair -
Councillor
Matt Rogers**

Annual report of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

2021/22 Muncipal Year



**Vice-Chair -
Councillor
Chris Neale**

Our role involves the scrutiny of local health and associated services, as a contribution to the Council's community leadership role and in line with our statutory duties. This includes the scrutiny of local NHS bodies and matters falling within the portfolio responsibility of appropriate Cabinet Members.

Local and National Covid-19 Developments and Local Outbreak Management Plan

Throughout the municipal year Members received verbal and written updates on the current and national position on the Covid-19 Pandemic and Local Outbreak Management Plan. The updates provided detailed information on infection rates within the Borough and regionally, and the impact of the pandemic on healthcare services, as well as outlining the steps being taken to contain the outbreaks and address inequalities impacted by Covid-19, particularly within the most vulnerable communities.

Outcomes:

- The Committee received and noted the information provided and supported the updates to the Local Outbreak Management Plan, based around the Covid-19 Contain Framework, incorporating local lessons learned and achievements.

Update on emergency and urgent care activity in Dudley and in particular the demand on emergency services

The Committee received and noted the joint report of the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, West Midlands Ambulance Service University Foundation Trust and Dudley Integrated Health and Care NHS Trust on the increased activity, demand and pressures on urgent and emergency care and the collaborative partnership working established to ensure the provision of safe emergency care.

Mental Health in the Community and Call-in of the Cabinet Decision – Mental Health in the Community

A report on the future vision of the community outreach services pertaining to mental health social care interventions was considered by the Committee. The report was considered by the Cabinet and the decision was subsequently called-in at the request of five Members of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

Outcomes:

- The Cabinet were recommended to formally review the structure for adult mental health services in Dudley Council and the feedback from the consultation process at its December meeting.
- The Committee further recommended that no changes to mental health services in Dudley were made until further discussion by the Cabinet in the December meeting and the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee thereafter.

(The report to Cabinet was subsequently deferred from the meeting in December 2021. The Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, the Shadow Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care and the Leader of the Council, were all consulted and were of the view that further time to analyse the consultation responses was required before consideration by the Cabinet.)

- The Director of Adult Social Care was also requested to arrange Mental Health First Aid training for all Elected Members.

Corporate Quarterly Performance Reporting

The Committee received the Corporate Quarterly Performance reports during the year. The Director of Adult Social Care and the Director of Public Health and Wellbeing attended meetings to provide a summary and respond to questions asked by the Committee.

Outcomes:

- The Acting Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards circulated a breakdown of the hygiene ratings to Members of the Scrutiny Committee.
- That a report in respect of food standards and initiatives be submitted to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

Health and Wellbeing Board Update

The Committee was provided with an update on the Health and Wellbeing Board and the programme and timetable for the Health and Wellbeing Strategy review and refresh, together with the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) refresh. The key focus for the Health and Wellbeing Board was outlined, namely inequalities, and the steps and measures being taken to understand the extent and address the issue across the Borough were discussed.

Outcomes:

- That the update on the Health and Wellbeing Board and the direction of travel, be noted.
- That the timescales for the review and refresh of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, be noted.
- That the re-establishment of the Executive Board of the Health and Wellbeing Board, be noted.
- That the establishment of the Living Safely with Covid-19 Inequalities Steering Group, be noted.

Children and Young People and Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee – Joint Working Group

During consideration of the Dudley Children’s Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2020/21, the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee formulated a recommendation for a Scrutiny Task and Finish Group to be established, to consider in more depth the issues raised concerning the demographic and health inequalities referred to in the report. Similar concerns and issues were raised during consideration of the Annual Adult Safeguarding Report and Deprivation of Liberty Standards (LPS). Members of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee were therefore invited to attend the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group and received a presentation on children and young people inequalities, outlining the proportion of all children living in income deprived families, as well as mapping data detailing deprivation, child poverty, family income, education, training and health inequalities within the Borough.

Outcomes:

- That the information contained in the Children and Young People Inequalities presentation, and as reported at the meeting, be noted.
- That subject to the reappointment of the Joint Working Group, the Consultant in Public Health, Head of Service for Healthy Communities, Places and Workforce be requested to present the highlights of the 0 to 19 Needs Assessment to a future meeting.
- That the Director of Public Health and Wellbeing be requested to submit two separate reports on obesity and child poverty to a future meeting of the Joint Working Group to include the actions proposed to deal with Borough wide child poverty; data in relation to the National Childhood Measurement Programme; details of the work conducted with partners and peers in order to reduce child poverty and obesity; data in terms of numbers of those suffering child poverty and obesity and definitions of those in poverty and apprenticeships; evidence of work conducted in other Authorities that had a positive impact on reducing child poverty and identifying partners to be interviewed by the Joint Working Group.

Other items considered by the Scrutiny Committee in the 2021/22 Municipal Year

- Planned Engagement with Registered Patients and Wider Partners for High Oak Surgery
- NHS Quality Accounts
- Safer Dudley – Strategy to prevent violence in Dudley
- Annual Adult Safeguarding Report and Deprivation of Liberty Standards (LPS)
- Black Country and West Birmingham Community Diagnostic Hubs
- Update on Breast Screening Services for Dudley, Wolverhampton and South West Staffordshire.
- Medium Term Financial Strategy

Future items for consideration by the Scrutiny Committee

Items to be considered at Scrutiny Committee on 28th March 2022:-

- High Oak Surgery
- Health and Wellbeing - Inequalities for 2022/23
- Director of Public Health Annual Report on Inclusion - Information Only

Items to be considered at the Scrutiny Committee on 20th April 2022:-

- NHS Quality Accounts
- Dental Checks in Dudley
- Quarter 3 Corporate Quarterly Performance Report

Items to be rolled forward and included in the work programme for 2022/23:-

- Dudley Integrated Care Provider – Development, Regulatory Approval and Contract Transfer
- Impact on Telecare Digital Strategy
- Report in respect of food standards and initiatives (as requested at the meeting on 9th September, 2021)
- Healthcare Access and Integration in Dudley/Access to Primary Care (June/July 2022)
- Mental Health in the Community