

COUNCIL

15 OCTOBER 2015

REPORT ON OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ACTIVITY

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

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Summary

This report provides a summary of the work of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees since the last report to Council on 12 August 2015.

1. Policy and Budget Framework

1.1 The Council's Constitution provides for the activities of Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committees to be reported to Council meetings. The following is a high level summary of business conducted. For further detail please refer to the minutes of each Committee which are published on the Council's website using the weblinks under each section.

2. Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee

2.1 13 August 2015

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=3260&Ver=4>

2.1.1 **Report title Six Month Review of Welfare Reform Task Group Review**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- (a) note the progress made against the actions from the review;
- (b) request that a briefing note on the latest position regarding Street Weeks be provided for Members of the Committee;
- (c) recommend Cabinet to consider putting in place some form of local welfare provision when the current contract expires.

2.1.2 Report title Council Plan Year End 2014/15 Performance Monitoring Report

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- (a) note the 2014/15 performance against the Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2013/15;
- (b) request a briefing note on the background to the 260 households in temporary accommodation in Quarter 4.

2.1.3 Report title Medway Adult Learning OFSTED Report

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to

- (a) note the report and the improved inspection grade, together with the necessary further improvements to make the service outstanding;
- (b) note the changes with grant funding and that options are being discussed with partners about joint working to alleviate funding difficulties.
- (c) ask that a letter be sent to staff in the Medway Adult Learning Service congratulating them on their achievement and thanking them for their hard work.

2.1.4 Report title Work Programme

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- (a) amend the work programme as follows:
 - a proposed Member item regarding Medway crematorium be dealt with by way of a briefing paper
 - an expected Government consultation paper on changes to rules for cremations be added under the date to be determined section.
 - an update on the self-exclusion pilot scheme for gamblers be reported to the December 2015 meeting.
- (b) note the work programmes of all overview and scrutiny committees.

3. Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3.1 22 September 2015

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=378&MId=3227>

3.1.1 Report title Council Plan Quarter 1 2015/2016 Performance Monitoring Report

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

3.1.2 **Report title** **Annual Report from Children’s Social Care Service**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report, the progress made and the continued implementation of the Improvement Plan.

3.1.3 **Report title** **Integrated Family Support Service**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report and congratulated the Head of Integrated Family Support Services for being awarded Medway Council’s Manager of the Year.

3.1.4 **Report title** **Member Item – Exclusions in Medway Schools**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

3.1.5 **Report title** **Interim Report on Unvalidated Key Stage 2 Performance**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report and requested officers to invite the Regional Schools Commissioner to the March meeting of the Committee, where a full detailed report on school performance would be presented.

3.1.6 **Report title** **Youth Offending Team Strategic Plan 2014-2016 Refresh**

Outcome:

The Committee recommended the Cabinet to recommend Council to approve the Youth Justice Plan Refresh 2014-2016 as set out in Appendix A to the report.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet on 29 September 2015 noted the views of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee and recommended that Council approve the Youth Justice Plan Refresh 2014-2016. This is listed as Agenda Item 11 on this agenda.

3.1.7 Report title Work programme

Outcome:

The Committee agreed:

- (a) the work programme as set out at Appendix 1 to the report;
- (b) the inclusion of a section on the Funding Formula for Mainstream Schools and Academies 2016/17 in the draft budget report scheduled for the December meeting;
- (c) that employment opportunities for 18-21 year olds (including apprenticeships) as detailed at Appendix 2 to the report, be put forward as a suggested topic for inclusion in the programme for the next round of in-depth reviews.

4. Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4.1 11 August 2015

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=3255>

4.1.1 Report title: Move of MedOCC from Quayside to MCH House

Outcome:

The Committee agreed:

- (a) that the changes did not constitute a substantial variation;
- (b) to recommend to Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee to investigate the possibility of using the vacant land at Gillingham Business Park for lorries currently using the MCH House site.

4.1.2 Report title: Kent and Medway Suicide Prevention Strategy 2015-2020

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) noted the report;
- (b) noted that the Director of Children and Adult Services had offered a joint briefing between this Committee and Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the topic of mental health and wellbeing;
- (c) noted that the Programme Manager, Public Health, Kent County Council would forward to the Committee details of the analytics from the Live it Well website to explain how many people use the website.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet on 29 September 2015 approved the Kent and Medway Suicide Prevention Strategy.

4.1.3 Report title: Changes to Sterling House GP Surgery, Chatham

Outcome:

The Committee agreed:

- a) that the Head of Primary Care, NHS England South would supply the Committee with further details in respect of the number of GPs employed at Boots surgery in Chatham;
- b) that an all Member briefing be arranged, as soon as possible, in order for NHS England South and NHS Medway CCG to set out the issues facing them in planning primary care services to meet the needs of Medway residents.

4.1.4 Report title: Specialised Vascular Services Reconfiguration

Outcome:

The Committee agreed that the reconfiguration of vascular services constituted a substantial variation and noted the arrangements in place for Kent Health Scrutiny Committee to be consulted which may necessitate the need for a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee to be established.

4.1.5 Report title: Hyper Acute/Acute Stroke Services Reconfiguration

Outcome:

The Committee agreed that the reconfiguration of hyper acute/acute stroke constituted a substantial variation and noted the arrangements in place for Kent Health Scrutiny Committee to be established.

4.1.6 **Report title: Supporting People at Home – Intermediate Care and Reablement Strategy**

Outcome:

The Committee recommended to Cabinet the Intermediate Care and Reablement Strategy and supported the associated work needed to produce successful outcomes in respect of the following way forward:

Develop more community based services to support people at home including the following actions:

- a) make more use of and develop better reablement services
- b) develop a responsive Integrated Community Equipment Service
- c) develop Telecare services
- d) work with the voluntary sector to maximise the contribution the voluntary sector can make to supporting more people at home and to self help and community resilience
- e) develop a Home to Assess scheme to keep people away from hospital and get them back home sooner
- f) place the care around the individual in the setting they choose which will usually be their home
- g) people tell us they want to be supported at home so we will shift the balance of care away from institutional settings towards supporting more people at home.

Outcome of Cabinet discussion

The Cabinet considered this item on 25 August 2015. The Cabinet approved the Intermediate Care and Reablement Strategy and noted the associated work needed to produce successful outcomes.

The Cabinet also agreed to delegate authority to the Director of Children and Adult Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services and the Chief Operating Officer of the Medway Clinical Commissioning Group, to make minor amendments to the Intermediate Care and Reablement Strategy following consideration by the Health and Wellbeing Board and the NHS Medway Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Board.

4.1.7. **Report title: Ensuring Quality and Value for Money in Adult Social Care**

Outcome

4.1.8. The Committee noted the report and the outline plans for the further strengthening of the quality assurance function.

4.1.9. **Report title: Integrated Sexual Health Service Reconfiguration**

Outcome:

The Committee agreed that the proposed variation to the sexual health service premises as set out in the report was not a substantial variation.

4.1.10 **Report title: Work programme**

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) added the following items to the work programme:
- CQC report regarding KMPT to be added to 1 October 2015 meeting
 - CQC report regarding Medway NHS Foundation Trust be added to 1 October 2015 meeting
 - An update on the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Board for 2015/2016
- (b) noted that an all Member briefing would be arranged regarding primary care services in Medway
- (c) agreed to submit to Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee the suggestion of 'how far Medway has gone in developing a dementia friendly community' as a potential in-depth scrutiny review topic on behalf of this Committee, as detailed at appendix 2 to the report;
- (d) agreed that the Deputy Director of Children and Adult Services submit a commentary for the CQC announced inspection of Medway NHS Foundation Trust and respond to any related communications, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Opposition Spokespersons.

4.2. **1 October 2015**

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=3256>

4.2.1. **Report title: CQC Report – Medway NHS Foundation Trust:**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report and requested the attendance of the Chief Executive of Medway NHS Foundation Trust at the next meeting of the Committee to consider the full CQC report.

4.2.2. **Report title: Acute Mental Health Inpatient Bed Review Update and Update on CQC Inspection**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

4.2.3. **Report title: Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the responses from the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services and thanked him for his attendance.

4.2.4. **Report title: Annual Care Home Report**

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

4.2.5. Report title: Council Plan Q1 2015/16 Performance Monitoring Report

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) noted the quarter one 2015/2016 performance against the Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2015/2016
- (b) requested a briefing note from the Deputy Director, Children and Adults Services in relation to the information provided to the Carers Partnership Board as set out in the minutes.

4.2.6. Report title: Work programme

Outcome:

The Committee:

- (a) Agreed the action requested at the pre-agenda meeting as follows:
 - A report be added to the business for 17 December 2015 meeting on the full Care Quality Commission inspection report of Medway NHS Foundation Trust
 - The dementia commissioning intentions report be submitted to 17 December 2015 meeting
 - A briefing note would be circulated on the Death from Drug Addiction Group
- (b) Agreed, subsequent to the visit to Medway NHS Foundation Trust, that the following information would be supplied:
 - A joint report from Medway NHS Foundation Trust and Children and Adults Services setting out examples of the complete pathway of care from admission to discharge, explaining, from both perspectives, problem areas where patients were being held in the system causing a delay in their discharge. It was suggested that it could be helpful for the Committee to meet the Integrated Discharge Team in this regard.
 - A report from Medway NHS Foundation Trust setting out the approach to the provision of free television access and television access generally across the wards particularly with regards to over 75s who were not required to pay for television licences in the community. (This was highlighted as an issue particularly where patients were bed bound and had no access to wifi either, it was considered there could be a lack of mental stimulation while they remained in hospital).
- (c) Noted that there would be a report on the Personality Disorder Service to a future meeting of the Committee; (with details of timings to be notified to the Deputy Director, Children and Adults Services and Democratic Services Officer within the next two weeks);
- (d) Noted the response from the meeting of Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee which was that the landowner of the vacant land at Gillingham Business Park was unwilling for the land to be used for parking lorries which were causing problems for patients accessing Medway Community

Healthcare's premises there;

- (e) Noted the agreed approach for scrutinising Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust would be:
- “to scrutinise the service in the round and the analysis of all the community services in order to test whether the community interventions have been successful”.

5. Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee

5.1 6 August 2015

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&MId=3248&Ver=4>

5.1.1 Report title: Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services

Outcome:

The Committee thanked the Portfolio Holder for attending the meeting and answering questions and agreed that:

- a) an invitation be extended to Arriva to attend a meeting of the Committee to discuss the recent changes to bus services in Medway and the lack of consultation with both the Council and local residents;
- b) the Head of Highways and Parking report direct to the Member concerned on the outcome of investigations into the ownership of the retaining wall in Pier Road.
- c) an item be published in a future edition of Medway Matters drawing attention to the need for users of mobility scooters to act responsibly when driving on pavements and/or roads.
- d) it be noted that the Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services has agreed to work cross party to press for the Government to change the designation of the Medway Tunnel.

5.1.2 Report title: Council Plan Year End 2014/15 Performance Monitoring Report

Outcome:

The Committee agreed:

- a) the 2014/15 performance against the key measures of success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan be noted;
- b) a report be submitted to a future meeting on the road maintenance budget for the next 6 years along with information on the National Highways and Transport Survey
- c) the Medway Open Studios Event be included in the Council's Events and Festivals programme.
- d) a briefing note be provided setting out the work of the Community Wardens in respect of dealing with dog related problems, including the number of recorded dog attacks in Medway, resources available for this work and enforcement issues.

5.1.3 Report title: Snow Warden project Year 2 Review

Outcome:

The Committee agreed that:

- a) the Snow Warden Project should be expanded in 2015/16 across the whole of Medway utilising the 250 units of equipment and materials for that purpose, to be funded from the existing Highways budget.
- b) a supply of promotional leaflets about the Snow Warden Project be supplied to Councillors for distribution in their Wards in the Autumn.

5.1.4 Report title: Alley Gating Scheme in Fowey Close

Outcome:

The Committee recommended officers to continue the assessment of the scheme, taking into account the results of consultation with residents and land owners.

5.1.5 Report title: Petitions

Outcome:

The Committee noted the petition responses and appropriate officer actions set out in paragraph 3 of the report.

5.1.6 Report title: Work Programme

Outcome:

The Committee agreed that:

- a) the Air Quality Action Plan be added to the Committee's Work Programme for 10 December 2015
- b) the Annual Action Plan reviewing the progress of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy be reported to the Committee on 29 September 2015.
- c) it be noted that Councillor Saroy has expressed an interest in serving on the Housing: Demand, Affordability and Supply Task Group as a representative from this Committee.

6. Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee

6.1 29 September 2015

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&MId=3249>

6.1.1 Report title: Petitions

Outcome:

The Committee:

- a) noted the petition responses and appropriate officer actions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report;
- b) in response to the petitions referred to in paragraph 5 of the report relating to the changes to the Arriva bus services in Walderslade, noted that:
 - i) Arriva have acknowledged that its consultation processes require review so as to ensure that all parties and residents are aware of any future proposals to change bus services;
 - ii) Arriva has offered to undertake a presentation to the Committee on the operation of the bus services in Medway
 - iii) in response to the offer from Arriva to meet the petitioners from Walderslade, Councillor Brake as Ward Councillor has offered to facilitate such meeting.
- c) agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee on the outcome of iii) above.

6.1.2 Report title: Changes to Arriva Bus Services

Outcome:

The Committee noted that this item had been considered jointly with the Petitions report set out above.

6.1.3 Report title Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Economic Growth and Regulation

Outcome:

The Committee thanked the Portfolio Holder for attending the meeting and answering Member's questions on areas of her portfolio and noted that:

- a) the Portfolio Holder will respond to the Member direct on the issue of the level of rents to be levied at Watermill Wharf
- b) Members will be advised of the date of the briefing on Section 106 Agreements as soon as possible.

6.1.4 Report title: Council Plan Quarter 1 2015/16 Performance Monitoring Report

Outcome:

The Committee noted the Quarter 1 2015/16 performance against Key Measures of Success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2015/16 and agreed:

- a) details of the 5 routes used to measure performance indicator NI 167 be circulated to Members of the Committee.
- b) the Assistant Director, Front Line Services ensure that the suggestion that Arriva may wish to consider increasing the frequency on bus services to parts of Walderslade on one day a week is factored into the discussions between Arriva and the petitioners referred to at Minute 370 above.

6.1.5 Report title: Annual Action Plan on the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Outcome:

The Committee noted progress on the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and the 2015-16 Annual Action Plan.

6.1.6 Report title Lorry parking on Gillingham Business Park

Outcome:

The report was noted and Officers were requested to continue to monitor the situation via the parking and community wardens, as outlined in the report.

6.1.7 Report title: Work programme

Outcome:

Outcome:

The Committee

- a) noted that a report on the Road Maintenance Budget for the next 6 years along with the information on the National Highways and Transport Survey would be submitted to the Committee on 29 March 2016;
- b) agreed that the report on 'Placing Objects on the Highway' be added to the Committee's work programme for 29 January 2016; and
- c) noted that the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be putting forward Employment Opportunities for 18 – 21 year olds including apprenticeships as its Task Group for 2015/16 and that this would be a cross cutting task group between the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Background papers

None

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Appendices

None