

HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

22 AUGUST 2023

WORK PROGRAMME

Report from: Wayne Hemingway, Head of Democratic Services

Author: Michael Turner, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Summary

This report advises Members of the current work programme for discussion in the light of latest priorities, issues and circumstances, giving Members the opportunity to shape and direct the Committee's activities.

1. Budget and policy framework

1.1. Under Chapter 4 – Rules, Part 4 paragraph 21.1 (xv) General Terms of Reference, each Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the responsibility for setting its own work programme.

2. Recommendations

2.1. The Committee is asked to note the report and agree the work programme as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, subject to accepting the proposed changes, outlined in italic text on Appendix 1.

2.2. The Committee is asked to identify up to two potential Task Group topics for consideration at a meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons and Opposition Spokespersons.

2.3. The Committee is asked to agree to hold a special meeting in September to discuss the planned procurement and service development process for the community contracts held by the Integrated Care Board.

2.4. The Committee is asked to note the response to the SECamb Quality Account 2022/23 as set out at page 83 of Appendix 2.

3. Background

3.1. Appendix 1 to this report sets out the Committee's proposed work programme.

4. Agenda planning meeting

4.1. Members will be aware that Overview and Scrutiny Committees hold agenda planning meetings on a regular basis. An agenda planning meeting was held on 2 August attended by Councillor McDonald (Chairman), Councillor Shokar (Vice-Chairman) and Councillor Wildey (Opposition Spokesperson).

4.2. At the agenda planning meeting, Members recommended the following changes to the work programme:

Proposed additional items for August:

- Community Services (*NB see paragraph 4.3 below for update on this*)
- Change to Medway and Swale transient ischaemic attack (TIA) referral pathway
- Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2023/24 – Round 1

For October

- Mental Health Transformation: Section 136 pathway and health-based places of safety service improvement – Decision Making Business Case
- Attendance of Portfolio Holder for Adults Services (and then in August for subsequent years)

For December:

- Integrated Care Strategy

For January

- Update on implementation of GP Task Group recommendations

4.3. After the agenda planning meeting discussions took place between the Chairman, council officers and the ICB about the community services report and procurement process. As the ICB are expecting to have more information about the procurement process in the next few weeks, it was felt it would be better to defer consideration of this item until September and hold a special

meeting dedicated to this issue. The ICB have also offered to brief members informally in advance of the special meeting.

- 4.4. In October 2021 the Committee considered the initial headline results from the formal public consultation on the proposal to relocate Ruby Ward from Medway Maritime Hospital to a new purpose-built facility in Maidstone.
- 4.5. Members recommended that a travel and transport strategy should be produced during the planning process that addressed the travel and access needs of patients, staff, families and carers and that a report on the take up and effectiveness of this strategy be submitted to the Committee within 6 months of the new facility opening. This update is currently planned for the January 2024 meeting. However, the Integrated Care Board have advised that they are anticipating Ruby Ward opening in Spring 2024. Therefore, it is recommended that this update is brought to the August 2024 meeting.

5. Scrutiny Task Groups

- 5.1. The Council has agreed that up to three in-depth scrutiny Task Groups or themed Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings can be supported in total across all four of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees every year, with each review running successively. The length of a review would be dependent on the pace the Task Group wished to take. A process for determining the programme of Task Group themes and activity has been agreed, with the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee having a coordinating role. Topics are prioritised on a criteria selection basis reflecting best practice.
- 5.2. The Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered an update on Task Groups on 13 July 2023. The Committee was advised that the last Task Group (GP Access) had been considered and agreed by the Cabinet in June 2023. This meant that the next scheduled Task Group topics were:
 - Physical activity;
 - Town centres; and
 - Support for carers (as a themed meeting).
- 5.3. The Committee was advised that these Task Group topics were agreed during the previous electoral term (2019-2023), and that the criteria-based assessments had been considered and agreed by the Committee in July 2019.
- 5.4. In light of the passage of time since these topics were selected and assessments were completed, the Committee was asked whether it wished for scrutiny Members to identify new Task Group topics. The Committee agreed that each Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends no more

than two topics for future task groups, to be considered at a meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairpersons, Vice chairpersons and opposition spokespersons where a shortlist of 4 topics and their priority order will be recommended to the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee for a final decision.

5.5. Therefore, this Committee is asked to identify no more than two potential Task Group topics.

5.6. The Business Support O&S Committee will make a final decision based on the outcome of criteria-based assessments which will take the following into account:

- What is the suggested topic?
- What is the reason for the review?
- Is there a potential for the review to impact one or more sections of the population?
- Is this an issue of corporate concern and/or an issue for partners?
- Will it add value/lead to effective outcomes?
- Will the review duplicate other work?
- Is it timely/ do we have the resources?
- Will the review provide scope for service improvement?

5.7. At the agenda planning meeting the Director of Public Health suggested that the impact of air quality on health as a topic for a future Task Group.

6. Changes to the Overview and Scrutiny Committees' terms of reference

6.1. At the July Council meeting the following changes were made to the terms of reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees:

- Budget monitoring reports (revenue and capital) are now included in the terms of reference for all four O&S Committees, not just the Business Support O&S Committee.
- The terms of reference for the four O&S Committees have been changed to more closely align with the directorates. Some areas of responsibility, most prominently housing, have transferred from the Business Support OSC's terms of reference to the Regeneration, Culture and Environment OSC's terms of reference.
- The title of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee has also been changed to Business Support and Digital Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

7. Quality Accounts

- 7.1. Since the last meeting of the Committee, a response to the draft Southeast Coast Ambulance Service (SECamb) Quality Account 2022/23 has been submitted by the Director of People and Deputy Chief Executive on behalf of the Committee under delegated powers.
- 7.2. The final Quality Account document is attached at Appendix 2 and the response from the Council is set out at page 83 of the publication.

8. Cabinet Forward Plan

- 8.1. The latest Forward Plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions was published on 7 August. The following items listed on the forward plan relate to the terms of reference of this Committee. The Committee is asked to identify any items it may wish to consider as pre-decision scrutiny (where dates permit).

<https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=463&T=4>

Cabinet date	Title	Comment
26 September 2023	Gateway 3 Contract Award - VCS 'Better Together' Consortium This report will seek Cabinet approval to award a contract for the VCS 'Better Together' Consortium, following a procurement process.	
21 November 2023	Capital and Revenue Budget Monitoring 2023/24 - Round 2 This report will set out the latest monitoring position.	To be considered at the December mtg
21 November 2023	Council Plan Performance Monitoring and Risk Register Review Quarter 2 2023/24 This report will provide details of quarter 2 performance for 2023/24 against the priorities set out in the Council Plan and will bring the latest risk management review.	To be considered at the December mtg
21 November 2023	Draft Capital and Revenue Budgets 2024/25 his report will provide details of the initial budget proposals for 2024/25 prior to	To be considered at the December mtg

	consideration by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees.	
--	--	--

9. Financial and legal implications

9.1. There are no specific financial or legal implications arising from this report.

Lead officer contact

Michael Turner, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Telephone: 01634 3322817 Email: michael.turner@medway.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Proposed Work Programme

Appendix 2 – SEC Amb Quality Account 2022/23

Background papers

None.