

Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4 December 2025

Work Programme

Report from: Wayne Hemingway, Head of Democratic Services

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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. Recommendation

- 1.1. 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. Budget and policy framework

- 2.1. 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.

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 6 November 2025 for both this meeting and the additional meeting held on 26 November 2025 and was attended by Councillor McDonald (Chairperson), Councillor Campbell (Vice-Chairperson), Councillor Finch and Councillor Wildey (Opposition Spokespersons).

4.2. The following changes to the work programme were recommended:

- The report on the Gateway 3 Contract Award: Residential and Nursing Care be removed from the December agenda and a general report regarding Residential and Nursing Care Services be added to the June meeting of the Committee.
- The following reports were deferred to the January meeting of the Committee:
 - Mental Health Act (AMPS) Assessments
 - Transitions.

4.3. Following the agenda planning meeting, Democratic Services were advised that Medway NHS Foundation Trust are expecting the publication of a Care Quality Commission report and therefore the outcome of this is recommended to be scheduled for the January meeting.

5. Cabinet Forward Plan

5.1. The latest Forward Plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions was published on 17 November 2025. 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) [Forward Plan - 16 December 2025](#).

Cabinet date	Title	Comment
13 January 2026	Director of Public Health Annual Report This report will set out the DPH's annual report	Scheduled for December
13 January 2026	Gateway 3 Contract Award: Residential and Nursing Care This report will seek Cabinet approval to award the contract for the Residential and Nursing Care Contract.	
13 January 2026	Suicide Prevention Strategy This report will seek Cabinet approval of the strategy.	Scheduled for December
10 March 2026	Adult Social Care Strategy 2026-2030 This report will seek Cabinet approval of the strategy.	Scheduled for January

6. Committee Development

- 6.1. The Committee has been keen to undertake some additional development opportunities. The first development sessions between the Committee and the ICB was held on 20 March 2025 and focused on an introduction to the NHS landscape, how it is funded, the challenges it faces along with opportunities.
- 6.2. It has been recommended to hold a further session on the recently published NHS Ten Year Plan, so Democratic Services will look to organise a date for this session. Democratic Services will also organise a marketplace event for Members in relation to assistive technology within the context of Adult Social Care.

7. Financial and legal implications

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

Lead officer contact

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Appendices

Appendix 1 – Proposed Work Programme

Background papers

None