

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL

Agenda Item No.

DATE: 15TH SEPTEMBER, 2004

WORKING GROUPS -	MEMBERSHIP
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Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Councillor Paul - Health and Social Care

Summary of report:

This report updates the Panel on the membership of the Working Groups established on 21st July, 2004.

Background papers: None.

Reason for scrutiny:

Members are requested to note progress made in establishing the process for the overview and scrutiny of issues identified for inclusion in the Panel's Work Programme.

Signed:

Executive Director: David Martin

Date: 7th September, 2004

Resource and legal considerations:

- Possible resource implications in relation to holding meetings of the Working Groups at venues other than the Council House. This will be accommodated within the existing budget provision.
- Legislation requires the Health Scrutiny Panel to be 'politically balanced' because of the nature of its Terms of Reference.

Citizen impact:

 Successful overview and scrutiny will contribute to improving the Council's performance and service delivery to service users and other stakeholders.

Environmental impact:

 Successful scrutiny can assist in shaping policy changed to make environmental improvements.

Performance management:

 Scrutiny is an important and integral part of the Council's performance management framework and can challenge, review and advise on service delivery, Council activity and policy, and improve results.

Equality Implications:

 All citizens with a relevant interest in a matter will have the ability to contribute to the deliberations of a Scrutiny and Performance Panel.

Consultation:

 Consultation with Panel Members regarding their specific areas of interest in the issues identified by the Panel for inclusion in its Work Programme.

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1.0 ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUPS

- 1.1 The Panel, at its meeting on 21st July, 2004, agreed to the establishment of Working Groups to carry out the scrutiny of the issues highlighted by the Panel for inclusion in its Work Programme.
- 1.2 The issues and the corresponding Working Groups were established by the Panel as follows:-

Health Scrutiny
Housing CPA Action Plan
Modernising Services

1.3 In accordance with the Panel's decision, all Members of the Panel were canvassed as to their specific areas of interest in the issues identified in 1.2 above. On the basis of the replies, Members were allocated, as far as was practicable, to the Working Group(s) in which they were most interested.

2.0 MEMBERSHIP OF WORKING GROUPS

2.1 Membership of the Groups, with the exception of the Health Scrutiny Panel, is as follows:-

Modernising Services (with a focus on older people's services)

Councillor D. Pitt

Councillor R. Walker

Councillor J. Barton

Councillor M. Munir

Councillor V. Woodruff

Councillor C. Ault

Housing CPA Action Plan (with an initial focus on physical disability issues (DFGs))

Councillor R. Walker

Councillor M. Munir

Councillor C. Ault

Councillor T. Oliver

2.2 The respective General Managers are arranging awareness/training sessions for the Members concerned to try to identify any gaps in knowledge that might need to be addressed prior to implementation of the scrutiny process, following which, Members may wish to agree a Work Programme, a schedule of dates of meetings, and timescale for consideration of the issues identified in the Work Programme.

3.0 **HEALTH SCRUTINY**

- 3.1 The Panel, recognising the size and importance of this exercise, established a Health Scrutiny Panel and authorised it to undertake scrutiny of the Health Service on its behalf. In view of this, the Health Scrutiny Panel was established with a political balance of 4 Elected Members (2 Conservatives, 1 Labour and 1 Liberal Democrat), together with representatives from various organisations within the Walsall Borough connected with the Health Service.
- 3.2 On the basis of Paragraph 3.1 above, the Elected Members allocated to the Health Scrutiny Panel are as follows:-

Councillor D. Pitt
Councillor V. Woodruff
Councillor I. Robertson
Councillor Mrs. B. McCracken

3.3 Members may wish to agree a schedule of dates for the meetings of the Health Scrutiny Panel. The following dates are suggested for Member's consideration:-

Monday, 27th September, 2004 Tuesday, 9th November, 2004 Monday, 20th December, 2004 Monday, 31st January, 2005 Tuesday, 15th March, 2005 Wednesday, 27th April, 2005

4.0 **SUMMARY**

4.1 The Panel is requested to note the contents of the report and to consider the schedule of dates for the Health Scrutiny Panel.