

HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND INCLUSION SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL **Agenda Item No.**

DATE: 20 JUNE 2006

8a.

ESTABLISHMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUPS

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Social care, health and housing - Councillor Paul

Summary of report:

The report details the proposed sub-committees and establishment of working groups, as appropriate to deal with the specific areas of work within the scope of Health, Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny Performance Panel for the municipal year 2006/07.

Background papers: None

Reason for scrutiny:

Members may wish to establish sub-committees and working groups of the panel to investigate particular issues or to take responsibility for particular areas within the scope of the panel.

Signed:

Executive Director: Carole Evans

Date:

Resource and legal considerations:

In accordance with the constitution the panel may establish sub-committees and working groups to consider specific issues in detail.

Citizen impact:

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

Environmental impact:

Successful scrutiny can assist in shaping policy 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:

Based on previous discussions of the panel.

Vision 2008:

The work to be undertaken by the sub-committee and working groups will aim to achieve the council's vision.

Contact Officer:

Nikki Ehlen
Scrutiny Officer
01922 652080
ehlenn@walsall.gov.uk

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide members with background information to enable them to make a decision as to whether the sub-committee and working groups previously established should be re-established. The panel may also wish to establish additional working groups.

2. Background

- 2.1 At the first meeting of the 2005/06 municipal year held on Thursday 21 June 2005, the Health and Social Care Scrutiny and Performance Panel established its sub-committee 'Health Scrutiny Panel' in accordance with the provisions of Section 21 of the LGA 2000 which provides for scrutiny panels to delegate some of its functions to its sub-committees.

2.2 Establishment of Health Scrutiny Panel

The Health Scrutiny Panel was established with full delegated powers to scrutinise the Boroughs Health Service. The terms of reference was agreed as follows: -

- To scrutinise matters relating to the health of the authorities population and contribute to the development of policy to improve health and reduce health inequalities.
- To undertake all the statutory functions of the scrutiny and performance panel in accordance with Section 7 and Regulations under that Section, of the Health and Social Care Act, 2001, relating to reviewing and scrutinising health service matters.
- To review and scrutinise the impact of the authorities own services and of key partnerships on the health of its population.
- To encourage the council as a whole, its executive and other scrutiny and performance panels to take into account the implications of their policies and activities on health and health inequalities.
- To make reports and recommendations to the NHS, patients' representatives, the council, the executive and other scrutiny and performance panels and other relevant bodies and individuals.
- To evaluate and review the effectiveness of its recommendations.
- In all of the above, to seek and to take account of the views of the local population.

- 2.3 The membership was agreed as set out below: -

Core Membership

- 4 Elected Members (2 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 Liberal)
- Director of Public Health (permanent adviser)
- Executive Director, Social Care and Supported Housing
- A representative from Patient Forum
- A representative from PALS (NHS)
- A representative from PALS (PCT)

- A representative of Independent Complaints and Advocacy Service

Ad Hoc Membership

- A representative of the Local Medical Committee
- A representative of the Walsall Hospital NHS Trust
- Director of Health and Social Care (PCT)
- Together with other co-options on the basis of the requirements of the Work Programme.

2.4 The Health and Social Care Scrutiny and Performance Panel also agreed on establishing the Health Scrutiny Panel that when determining issues for scrutiny there be a balance between reactive and pro-active models of health scrutiny. In the light of this the panel recommended that the annual work programme of the Health Scrutiny Panel be of no more than five items, two being reactive and three being pro-active.

2.5 The Health Scrutiny Panel has commenced indepth scrutiny on two areas of work and has programmed other areas of scrutiny into its work plan for the future: -

- a) Review of accessibility to Mental Health Services (commenced September 2003).
- b) Obesity (commenced April 2005).
- c) Reducing infant mortality)
- d) Increasing life expectancy)
- e) Increasing breastfeeding) programmed for future scrutiny
- f) Increasing access to breast)
and cervical screening)

2.6 The scrutiny on obesity has been conducted via a joint work group with Children's Services & Lifelong Learning Scrutiny and Performance Panel. This has been concluded and referred back to the Children's Services & Lifelong Learning Scrutiny and Performance Panel. The panel decided to consider obesity in adults in the workplace as the next task of obesity working group, which means that a joint work group is no longer required.

2.7 In order to complete the scrutiny of these areas of work your panel might wish to consider the re-establishment of its sub-committee 'Health Scrutiny Panel' and appoint the chairman at this meeting. A proposed schedule of dates for future meetings is attached for comments (see appendix 1).

2.8 Establishment of Working Groups

The panel also at the meeting on 21 June 2005 established two working groups i.e.: -

- a) Modernising Services - with an initial focus on older people's services. Appendix 2 sets out a proposed work programme for 2006/07 and the previous membership 2005/06.

- b) CPA Housing Improvement – with an initial focus on the CPA improvement plan. The remit of the work group was fulfilled and it was disbanded on 26 January 2006.

The modernising services work group has commenced scrutiny on the establishment of an independent living centre in Walsall. This working group needs to be re-established in order for the work commenced to be completed.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The Health, Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny and Performance Panel will need to consider its work programme for the current municipal year and decide whether to re-establish its previous sub-committee and work groups.
- 3.2 It will also need to consider whether additional work groups need to be established in line with the work programme.
- 3.3 In re-establishing any work groups the panel will need to give consideration to whether their current memberships should be continued.
- 3.4 The panel may also need to decide whether the work groups current work programmes should be expanded.

4. Recommendations

- a) That the Health Scrutiny Panel be re-established and terms of reference previously agreed as referred to in Sections 2.2. and 2.3 of this report.
- b) That consideration be given to appointing the Chair of the Panel at this meeting.
- c) That the Modernising Services is re-established with the terms of reference previously agreed and to enable continuity and completion of the work in hand with the membership established for 2006/7 municipal year.
- d) That the panel considers whether the work group's work programme should be expanded to include any additional topics identified at this meeting.
- e) That work groups be advised to aim to complete all projects prior to the final meeting of this panel in the municipal year and a report on their findings/current position be submitted to that final meeting.
- f) That the panel considers the establishment of additional working groups if appropriate.

**Proposed dates for future meetings
of the Health Scrutiny Panel in 2006/07.**

Thursday 29 June 2006

Thursday 3 August 2006

Thursday 21 September 2006

Thursday 12 October 2006

Thursday 9 November 2006

Thursday 18 January 2007

Thursday 1 March 2007

**Membership
of the Health Scrutiny Panel in 2005/06**

Councillor Val Woodruff (Chair)

Councillor Walker (Vice-Chair)

Councillor D. Pitt

Councillor Robertson

Dr Sam Ramiah – Director of Public Health

Mr Jim Weston – Patient Forum

Mrs D. Russell – PALS (NHS)

Ms Louise Mabley – PALS (PCT)

Advocacy Service representative

Mr David Martin – Executive Director Social Care & Supported Housing

Modernising Services Work Group
Draft Work Programme for 2006/07

Scrutiny Committee	Topic	Background
Health and Social Care	Modernising day services for people with learning disabilities in Walsall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Modernising Services Working Group 2005/06 recommend to the Health and Social Care Scrutiny and Performance Panel that the working group be reconstituted, in the 2006/7 municipal year, in order to view the final plan for the Modernisation of Day Services for People with Learning Disabilities in Walsall.
	Independent Living Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Modernising Services Work Group 2005/06 visited Sandwell's Independent Living Centre, received updates and contributed to discussions about the establishment of an independent living centre in Walsall. It was hoped that the centre would be open by May 2006. The panel may wish to continue to monitor the progress of the Independent Living Centre.

Membership
of the Modernising Services Work Group
in 2005/06

Councillor Ault

Councillor Munir

Councillor Oliver

Councillor Walker

Councillor Woodruff

Andrew Cross, Head of Older People Services.

John Greensill, Joint Head of Learning Disability Services.

Kathy McAteer, Assistant Director (Adult Services)

Trish Skitt, Assistant Director PCT.