

Subject: Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) Work Programme 2009-2010

Date of Meeting: 30 September 2009

Report of: The Director of Strategy and Governance

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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report sets out a number for subjects for potential inclusion in the 2009-2010 HOSC work programme. Some of these subjects represent ongoing HOSC work; others are referrals from Councillors or from local NHS trusts.
- 1.2 Members are requested to choose subjects from this list (and any additional subjects they may wish to consider) to populate the 2009-2010 committee work programme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members agree a 2009-2010 work programme with reference to the work programme suggestions reprinted in **Appendix 1** to this report

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Work programmes allow Overview & Scrutiny (O&S) committees to plan effectively, permit officers and partner organisations to prepare timely reports and ensure that the appropriate people are able to attend meetings, and enable the Overview & Scrutiny Commission to better oversee the work of scrutiny (by eliminating pointless duplication etc.)
- 3.2 In developing the 2009-2010 work programme, HOSC has asked for input from:

- (a) HOSC members
- (b) All Brighton & Hove City Council Councillors (including members of the Council's Executive)
- (c) Senior council officers (e.g. the Director of Public Health and the Director of Adult Social Care and Housing)
- (d) Local NHS trusts
- (e) The Brighton & Hove Local Involvement Network (LINK)
- (f) The Brighton & Hove Older People's Council (OPC)
- (g) Key city organisations (i.e. members of the Local Strategic Partnership)
- (h) City voluntary sector organisations (via the Community and Voluntary Sector Forum)

3.3 **Appendix 1** to this report lists the ideas for work programme items which have been received. In each instance, there is a brief description of the topic put forward, a suggestion as to the best way to present it, and information on the person or body who referred the idea. In some instances (e.g. where HOSC has previously requested an update on an issue in 6 months or a year's time, or when senior officers from an organisation are only available on a limited number of dates), a provisional date for the item has been suggested. Members are not being asked to determine dates for items which currently have no date attached, as this will require detailed negotiation with our health partners.

3.4 Members are asked to choose an annual work programme from the items suggested (and any other items they may wish to include).

3.5 The HOSC is obliged by statute to consider formal referrals from the Brighton & Hove LINK. The Council's constitution also requires HOSC to consider Notices of Motion referred from Full Council, Councillor Questions and Public Questions. The HOSC is not *obliged* to consider any other referrals or requests for work (e.g. referrals from NHS trusts, the OPC etc.), although there may be compelling reasons for it to do so.

3.6 HOSC members are not required to accept all or any of the recommended topics listed in **Appendix 1** to this report. However, if they do not wish to pursue a topic, members may wish to explain why they have come to this decision, so that this information can be relayed to the referrer.

3.7 The HOSC work programme is only intended as a guide to the committee's plans for the coming year. There are bound to be issues arising throughout the year which the committee wishes to address, and in-year referrals from NHS trusts, the LINK, ward Councillors etc.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Informal consultation has been undertaken with the individuals/bodies listed in 3.2 above.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 None directly. The HOSC work programme will be delivered within existing officer resource allocations.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 *"There are no legal implications arising from this report."*
Lawyer Consulted: Elizabeth Culbert; Date: 27/08/09

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 Members should consider equalities issues when agreeing a HOSC work programme (e.g. do the topics chosen reflect concerns of residents from all city communities, and particularly those of communities which may experience health inequalities – i.e. BME communities, LGBT communities, deprived communities, older people)?

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 None directly, but some work programme ideas (e.g. plans to make major changes to NHS estates, or to move services to/from community settings) may have sustainability implications.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None directly, but some work programme ideas (e.g. plans to make changes to substance misuse services) may have crime and disorder implications.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None identified.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 An effective scrutiny function is likely to be one which contributes to broader attempts to improve city services. To this end, members may wish to ensure that the 2009-2010 HOSC work programme is aligned with corporate priorities, Local Strategic Partnership priorities and, particularly, with the NHS Brighton & Hove priorities for service improvement (as detailed in the current NHS Brighton & Hove Annual Operating Plan).

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. List of suggested topics for the 2009-2010 HOSC work programme

Documents in Members' Rooms:

None

Background Documents:

1. The NHS Brighton & Hove Annual Operating Plan 2009-2010