

Committee: Healthier Communities and Older People
Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Date: 17 March 2015

Agenda item:

Wards: All

Subject: Planning the Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel's 2016/17 work programme

Lead officer: Stella Akintan, Scrutiny Officer

Lead member: Councillor Peter McCabe, Chair of the Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

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Recommendations:

- A. That the Panel reviews its 2015/16 work programme (set out in the appendix), identifying what worked well, what worked less well and what the Panel would like to do differently next year;
 - B. That the Panel suggests items for inclusion in the 2016/17 work programme – both agenda items and potential task group review topics;
 - C. That the Panel advises on agenda items for its meeting on 28 June 2016.
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To enable the Panel to plan its work programme for the forthcoming municipal year and, in particular, to agree agenda items for the first meeting of the municipal year.

2. DETAILS

Identifying issues for the 2016/17 work programme

- 2.1 The scrutiny officers are currently gathering suggestions for issues to scrutinise, either as Panel agenda items or task group reviews. Suggestions are being sought from members of the public, councillors and partner organisations including the police, NHS and Merton Voluntary Service Council. Other issues of public concern will be identified through the Annual Residents Survey. The council's departmental management teams have been consulted in order to identify forthcoming issues on which the Panel could contribute to the policymaking process.
- 2.2 The Panel is therefore invited to suggest items for inclusion in the 2016/17 work programme – both agenda items and potential task group review topics.
- 2.3 All the suggestions received will be discussed at the Panel's topic workshop on 24 May 2016. As in previous years, participants will be asked to prioritise the suggestions using criteria so that the issues chosen relate to:

- the Council's strategic priorities;

- services that are underperforming;
- issues of public interest or concern;
- issues where scrutiny could make a difference

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1 The Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Committee can select topics for scrutiny review and for other scrutiny work as it sees fit, taking into account views and suggestions from officers, partner organisations and the public.

4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

Scrutiny topic suggestions are being sought from members of the public, councillors, council officers and partner organisations including the police, NHS and Merton Voluntary Service Council.

5. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None for the purposes of this report.

6. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are none specific to this report.

7. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 It is a fundamental aim of the scrutiny process to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engaging with local partners in scrutiny reviews. Furthermore, the outcomes of reviews are intended to benefit all sections of the local community.

8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The Police and Justice Act 2006 requires every Council to have a scrutiny committee with the power to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken by the Council and the other responsible authorities in the exercise of their crime and disorder functions. The other responsible authorities are the police, the police authority (Metropolitan Police Authority), the fire and rescue authority and the Primary Care Trust.
- 8.2 In Merton the responsible committee is the Overview and Scrutiny Commission.
- 8.3 Under the 2006 Act, the responsible committee is required to “meet to review or scrutinise decisions made, or action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions, no less than once every twelve months”. In doing so, it may require the attendance of officers from the Council, the police and co-operating authorities.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 None relating to this report.

10. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

- 10.1 2015/16 work programme

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 None

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