

Scrutiny: Briefing

Subject:	Families and Wellbeing Policy and Performance Committee
Date:	June 2013
From:	Scrutiny Support Team
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1. The purpose of overview and scrutiny

Overview and scrutiny is a vital component of good governance, which has the potential to significantly improve the quality of Council decision-making, service provision and cost-effectiveness. It includes:

- Holding the Executive to account – a primary role is to provide a framework of accountability which seeks to modify executive behaviour and prevent the abuse of power.
- Holding Partners to account – scrutiny provides an opportunity to investigate the work of public, private and voluntary sector partners and their impact on the community.
- Horizon-scanning – looks ahead to future changes in local government in order to help the Council adapt to them. This will usually mean considering future actions by central government which will have repercussions for local government.
- Policy Development and Review – scrutiny contributes to the development of key policies to be included in the Council's policy framework, as well as examining how well a policy has been implemented and if outcomes have been achieved.
- Pre-decision scrutiny – examines the council's proposals, objectives, and draft programmes in order to inform their development before they are delivered. This helps the council to achieve optimum impact by avoiding mistakes and grasping opportunities.
- Post-decision scrutiny – examines the implementation of council policy and performance and enables the council to review the effects of its decision-making
- In-depth review – small groups of councillors will undertake detailed investigations into a specific topic of particular interest to them. The process is member-led and can

involve methods such as informal meetings, mystery shopping, external visits etc. This type of review can facilitate greater involvement of residents and community organisations.

- Performance management and improvement – involves reviewing achievement against Corporate Plan goals and targets. This can be a powerful force for improvement by highlighting areas of poor performance and ways to address this.

2. Service areas relevant to this committee

This Committee is responsible for the following areas of Council business:

1. Adult Social Services

- **Transformation**

- Transforming Social Care
- Integrated Commissioning
- Standards & Planning
- Professional Leadership
- Care Governance
- Independent Reviews

- **Delivery**

- Developing & Delivering Community Services
- Locality Social Care Teams
- Integrated Health Provision
- Personalised Support Services
- Integrated Disability Service

2. Children & Young People

- **Targeted Services**

- Early Intervention / Targeted Family Support
- Sure Start / Children's Centres
- Youth & Play
- School Improvement & Intervention
- Troubled Families
- Youth Offending
- School Attendance Management
- Anti-Social Behaviour

- **Specialist Services**

- Children's Social Work Services
- Fostering Service
- Adoption & Permanence Service
- Pathway Service
- Services for Children with Disabilities / SEN
- Looked after children's education service
- Children in Care Council & children's involvement

3. Universal Services

- School Traded Services

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School admissions / appeals / statutory functions ○ 14-19 and participation ○ Wirral Lifelong Learning & Family Service ○ Children’s Trust, Partnerships & Commissioning
4. Public Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health Improvement ○ Health Protection
5. Joint Safeguarding
6. Leisure

The Families and Well-being Policy & Performance Committee will discharge the statutory duty to undertake health scrutiny and will be required to:

- Review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in The Borough, including significant change to service provision and those jointly commissioned or delivered by the council
- Require the attendance of an officer of a local NHS body to answer questions and provide explanations about the planning, provision and operation of health services in The Borough
- require a local NHS body to provide information about the planning, provision and operation of health services in the Borough, subject to the exemptions outlined in the Health and Social Care Act 2001
- Participate in cross-boundary overview and scrutiny of health services with other local authorities; including the establishment of joint committees; or the delegation of functions to another local authority
- Report to the secretary of state for health:
 - Where the committee is concerned that consultation on substantial variation or development of services has been inadequate
 - Where the committee considers that the proposal is not in the interest of the local health service.
- Maintain an overview of the council’s responsibilities and role in relation to health and wellbeing

3. Dates of meetings 2013/14

- Tuesday 9th **July**
- Monday 9th **September**
- Monday 4th **November (budget)**
- Thursday 5th **December (budget)**
- Tuesday 28th **January (including budget)**
- Tuesday 8th **April**

4. Committee Membership

15 Members		
9 Labour	5 Conservative	1 Liberal Democrat
Cllr. Phill Brightmore Cllr. Moira McLaughlin (Vice) Cllr. Bernie Mooney Cllr. Steve Niblock Cllr. Tony Norbury Cllr. Denise Roberts Cllr. Walter Smith Cllr. Jean Stapleton Cllr. Janette Williamson	Cllr. Wendy Clements (Chair) Cllr. Paul Hayes Cllr. Mike Hornby Cllr. Simon Mountney Cllr. Cherry Povall	Cllr. Pat Williams (S)
Co-opted members (CYP): (Subject to confirmation) 2 Diocesan reps (with voting rights): Roman Catholic – Mr Alex Scott Church of England – Vacancy 2 Parent Governor reps (with voting rights): Mrs H Shoebridge (until 28 October 2015) Mrs Nicola Smith (until 8 February 2017) 1 Voluntary and Community sector rep: Mrs Jane Owens		5 Co-opted members (HWB): (Subject to confirmation) Sandra Wall - Older People's Parliament Diane Hill - Local Involvement Network (LINK) Vacancy - Service Users Brian Donaldson - Carers Shanti Saagar - BME Community

5. Outstanding items from previous scrutiny committees

Previous Committee / Date	Item	Description	New Committee
CYP 21/01/13	Intensive Family Intervention Programme (IFIP)	Committee requested a further report to provide an update on how the project is progressing after July 2013.	Families & Wellbeing
CYP January 2013	Outcomes for Looked After Children	In-depth Scrutiny Review in progress. It is expected the Final report will be available in September 2013.	Families & Wellbeing
CYP June 2012	0-19 Standards Sub-Committee	At the first meeting of the municipal year, Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee appoints the 0-19 Standards Sub-Committee.	Families & Wellbeing
CYP 18/03/13	Serious Case Ongoing Action Plan	At the final meeting of the municipal year, Committee members requested this item be included on the future Work programme.	Families & Wellbeing
CYP 18/03/13	Wirral Youth Zone	Committee members requested this item be included on the future Work programme.	Families & Wellbeing
CYP 18/03/13	Primary and Secondary school numbers	Committee members requested this item be included on the future Work programme.	Families & Wellbeing
CYP 18/03/13	Changes in Preventative Services	Committee members requested this item be included on the future Work programme.	Families & Wellbeing
H&WB 18/06/12	Maternity Services Update	Committee requested an update report detailing the outcome of the evaluation of Wirral's maternity services.	Families & Wellbeing

H&WB 22/03/11	Domestic Violence	During 2010/11, a Task & Finish Group produced a Preliminary Report, but this work remains incomplete.	Families & Wellbeing
H&WB 05/11/12	Welfare Reform	Request for further updates as specific social care policies are developed. Also the Chair and Spokespersons to meet with the Director of Adult Social Services and Rose Boylan to discuss the impact in relation to this Committee's scrutiny role.	Families & Wellbeing
H&WB 05/11/12	Tackling the Life Expectancy Gap	Request that regular update reports be submitted; and a presentation on tackling alcohol related diseases be made to the next meeting. Also, a session organised with Members to illustrate the processes followed within Public Health from the initial identification of need through needs analysis to development of a specification and the commissioning of an appropriate service to meet the identified need.	Families & Wellbeing
H&WB 14/01/13	CWP NHS Foundation Trust Learning Disability Service Redesign	Committee resolved the Chair be requested to liaise with the Spokespersons to arrange a task and finish group".	Families & Wellbeing
H&WB 12/02/13	The 'Torbay Experience'	Committee resolved that the Committee Administrator be requested to arrange a presentation in relation to the 'Torbay Experience' for a future meeting of the Committee (Developing Integrated Care).	Families & Wellbeing
H&WB 13/03/13	Personal Budgets Audit: Review of Resource Allocation System	Committee resolved the Director of DASS be requested to explore alternative models of RAS and report back on a recommended model for agreement in August 2013 ready for implementation from September 2013.	Families & Wellbeing
H&WB 11/02/13	WUTH - Ascertain in detail the suitability of governance and monitoring arrangements	Council, 11 th Feb 2013. Leaders' announcements: "The Leader of the Council is to write to the chair of the Health & Wellbeing OSC to ask for a Task & Finish group". A group consisting of 5 members has been established and a Scope document produced.	Families & Wellbeing
CYP 11/09/12	Fostering Service – Annual Report	Committee request to continue to receive an annual report about the fostering service, but in the future the 3 month report be presented to the Corporate Parenting Group.	Families & Wellbeing

6. Key Plans and Strategies

Plan / Strategy	Current Status
Families & Wellbeing Improvement Plan	Improvement Plan drafted and signed off by portfolio holders under delegated authority.
Health & Wellbeing Strategy	Wirral's first Health & Wellbeing Strategy was approved by the Health & Wellbeing Board in March 2013. http://info.wirral.nhs.uk/health & wellbeing boardv2.html
Public Health Annual Report	The latest version of the Annual Report is 2011/12 http://info.wirral.nhs.uk/intelligencehub/publichealthannua

	lreportsandinequalities.html
Children & Young People's Plan	The latest version is for 2012/13. http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/childrens-services/childrens-trust/children-and-young-peoples-plan
Child Poverty Strategy	Liverpool City Region Strategy on Poverty and Life Chances will provide the over-arching framework to Wirral's Child Poverty activity. http://democracy.wirral.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Clid=121&MId=4358&Ver=4
Corporate Plan	2013-16 Corporate Plan agreed – 18th February 2013, to be refreshed in December 2013 following Policy Council

7. Key national policy drivers

Queen's Speech - Legislation 2013/14
<p>Care Bill [Royal Assent expected May 2014]</p> <p>Introduces a cap on the cost of social care and give carers the legal right to support from their local council. Key changes relate to the way Councils deliver Public Health and the NHS structure as well as the LA role. It will provide protection to people whose care provider goes out of business and give everyone a legal entitlement to a personal care budget that they can receive as a direct payment to spend as they wish. In light of the issues at Stafford Hospital, the bill will introduce an Ofsted-style rating system for hospitals and care homes and give new powers of intervention to the chief inspector of hospitals. It will create two new public bodies, Health Education England and the Health Research Authority. These will provide additional training and support for health professionals.</p> <p>Implications: DASS have identified four key implications for the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is the cap to be resourced? The cap is likely to drive additional demand from people who would have been 'self-funders'. Wirral Council will need to forecast cost of implementation and build into financial projections as well as monitoring additional cost. • Increasing focus on integration and a fully joined up health and social care system is required. • Need to respond to new eligibility framework when published, no scope to review eligibility criteria in the short term. • Safeguarding review of thresholds and need to focus on personalisation and prevention in addition to simply keeping people safe.
<p>Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Bill [Royal Assent expected May 2014]</p> <p>This bill will include measures to tackle anti-social behaviour, forced marriage, dangerous dogs and illegal firearms. The crime bill includes the new "community trigger", where police, councils and agencies would be forced to act if five households made a complaint about anti-social behaviour. The offence of being in charge of an out-of-control dog will be extended to cover private property, including people's houses. Forced marriage will become a criminal offence, as will a breach of a forced-marriage protection order. The police will be able to prosecute uncontested minor offences of shoplifting, and the witness-protection scheme will be extended to other vulnerable individuals. Magistrates will no</p>

longer have the power to reduce the victim surcharge by giving additional days in prison as a substitute. The police will also be reformed, with a new Police Remuneration Review Body replacing the Police Negotiating Board. This bill applies mainly to England and Wales, with some provisions extending to the rest of the UK.

Implications: The local authority will be affected by measures brought in to tackle anti-social behaviour as a community safety partner in the. It is also likely that anti-social behaviour issues will be raised in the new Constituency Committees. The Council will have to work with others to ensure that mechanisms are in place to record and provide a unified response to these issues, with implications for the ASB team in Children & Young People's Department.

In advance of the forthcoming Spending Review, the LGA prepared a submission to HM Treasury seeking to influence government spending and public sector reform. The table below summarises the main proposals in this submission relevant to this committee. The Government's Spending Review is due to be announced on 26 June and an update will be provided at the first meeting of this committee.

Finance	
Provide Local Government funding in respect of Public Health	Beyond 2014/15, there is no indication of the financial allocations for public health or the pace of any funding changes.
Meet additional costs from Welfare reform through additional burdens funding	Implications: Figures for Wirral provided by LCR indicate that Wirral will lose approx £20 million as a result of changes to the Local Housing Allowance, the under occupation rule ('bedroom tax'), transfer of Disability Living Allowance and to Personal Independence Allowance and the introduction of the benefit cap.
Public Sector Reform	
Accelerate Community Budgets programme	Implications: Wirral has expressed an interest in involvement in the newly established Community Budgets network.
At least maintain NHS investment in social care and explore case for adding to it	Adult social care budgets will need to increase significantly if local authorities are going to meet the expected demand for services, maintain quality and invest in prevention. Implications: LCR and Wirral have argued that the integration of social care needs more rapid and sustained transfer of resources from the NHS to local authorities with a duty to lead the delivery of integrated community services – this would provide us with a very effective model for meeting the increased challenge of an ageing population, and contribute to reducing

	pressure on acute Hospital services.
Explore use of Dedicated Schools Grant to support early intervention	Current restrictions on the use of the Dedicated Schools Grant ring-fence expenditure to those with High Needs. This makes it harder to maintain focus on prevention work.

8. The role of the Chair

<p>The role of a Policy and Performance Committee Chair is to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide leadership and direction to the Committee and act as Champion for the functions falling within its remit. 2. Chair formal and informal meetings connected with the work of the Committee and ensure that such meetings are conducted fairly, efficiently and follow the Council's Constitution and the law. 3. Identify and help meet the development and training needs of the Committee collectively and its individual members.
<p>Responsibilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Actively promote the work of the Committee and generally act as a 'Champion' for its activities. 2. Ensure that Committee members lead on developing an effective and prioritised work programme. Ensure the work programme includes service scrutiny/performance management. 3. Encourage the Committee to challenge and scrutinise Cabinet decisions. 4. Encourage the committee to horizon scan and seek opportunities to undertake pre-decision scrutiny in advance of Cabinet decisions. 5. Encourage the Committee to scrutinise the performance of non-Council bodies, for example partnership delivery plans, and the effectiveness of partnership working, to ensure this is adding value. 6. Endeavour to engage all members of the Committee within the scrutiny process. 7. Co-ordinate work with other Policy and Performance Committees and their Chairs and share learning. 8. Ensure that adequate resources i.e. financial and officer support are identified and sought from the Council. 9. Develop a constructive relationship with the Cabinet, especially the relevant portfolio holders, and with the Chief Executive, Strategic Directors and Heads of Service in the areas that the Committee scrutinises. 10. Chair formal and informal meetings connected with the work of the Committee in a fair and open manner following the terms of reference of the Committee, the Council's Constitution and the law. 11. Ensure that meetings are conducted in a suitable manner that encourages contributions from all members, co-opted representatives and witnesses. 12. Help achieve more community and partner involvement in the scrutiny process by using alternative venues, co-option and innovative meeting styles. 13. Ensure that scrutiny reviews are more efficient through the application of effective project management.

14. Ensure that 'in depth' scrutiny takes place by using expert witnesses and working with officers to help improve members' knowledge base.
15. Maintain awareness of national and local issues related to the Committee and its work.
16. Keep under review, advise on and agree the training and development requirements of the Committee and its individual members.
17. To be responsible for continuous personal development. Take advantage of learning opportunities to build understanding and knowledge, and to develop relevant skills.
18. To promote and participate in Member training, and attend relevant training events each calendar year.

Skills Required:

In order to fulfil the above responsibilities a Policy and Performance Committee Chair will need to ensure that they develop and maintain the following core skills:

- Actively encourages involvement of others and works collaboratively to analyse information and promote understanding.
- Is open to new ideas and ways of doing things.
- Works closely with others to develop, promote and achieve objectives.
- Leadership and excellent chairing skills

In addition to the above core skills, meeting Chairs may also require the following supporting skills:

- Good communication, including media, presentation and interpersonal skills
- Conflict resolution
- Team working
- Project and time management
- The ability to influence and work constructively with Members, officers, the public and outside organisations.

Behaviours:

To act in accordance with the values and principles required of those operating in public life:

- Openness and transparency
- Honesty and integrity
- Tolerance and respect
- Equality and fairness
- Appreciation of cultural difference

9. Officer support arrangements

The Chair of the Families and Wellbeing Policy and Performance Committee will be supported by the Strategic Director (Families and Wellbeing). A dedicated support officer will be allocated to the Committee from the Scrutiny Support Team. The key responsibilities of the Scrutiny Support Team include:

- Working with the Chairs of the Policy & Performance Committees and working groups in agenda preparation and work programme coordination, dealing with matters arising from meetings.
- Providing support for the scoping and planning of reviews, including notes of working group meetings, coordination of witnesses, etc.
- Project managing reviews.
- Ensuring Chairs and Members are kept informed of any relevant scrutiny guidance, and that Chairs have the information needed to feel confident in chairing, or being involved in, their relevant committee.
- Undertaking research for policy reviews and general communication purposes.
- Working with Members to draft reports for Policy & Performance Committee reviews.
- Providing assistance to Members with monitoring the progress of recommendations.
- Liaising with officers across the Council about the work of the Policy & Performance Committees.
- Keeping up to date with best practice.
- Providing facilitation of appropriate events for Members and officers involved in scrutiny work.

Additional capacity will be provided by staff from the Directorates as required.

10. Key Contacts

Scrutiny Support

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Committee Services

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