

WIRRAL COUNCIL

FAMILIES AND WELLBEING POLICY & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

2ND DECEMBER 2014

SUBJECT:	<i>COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME</i>
REPORT OF:	<i>THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE</i>

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report updates Members on progress towards delivering the work programme for the Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee is responsible for proposing and delivering an annual work programme. This work programme should align with the corporate priorities of the Council and be informed by service priorities and performance, risk management information, public or service user feedback and referrals from Cabinet or Council.
- 2.2 The work programme is made up of a combination of scrutiny reviews, standing items and requested officer reports. This provides the committee with an opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year. The current work programme for the Committee is attached as Appendix 1.

3.0 CURRENT SCRUTINY REVIEWS - UPDATE

3.1 Future Council

Members will be aware that, during September and October, detailed scrutiny work has taken place with members of this Committee focusing particularly on four Future Council options, namely:

- Youth and Play Services
- Girtrell Court
- All-age Disability Service
- West Kirby Marine Lake

The task and finish work resulted in members producing a report which was agreed at the special budget meeting of the Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee, held on 3rd November. The final report will be submitted to Cabinet, along with similar reports from the other Policy & Performance Committees on 9th December, prior to budget decisions being finalised.

3.2 Safeguarding Children Scrutiny Review

Although evidence-gathering for this review is well underway, progress since early September has been very limited due to the focus on scrutiny work relating to the Future Council programme. Panel members observed a meeting of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and met with the Chair of the Board. In addition, two focus group sessions with front-line social workers have been held. Future sessions will include meetings with schools. Sessions with children and families who have experience of the system are also being planned.

4.0 REPORTS DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS SINCE THE LAST COMMITTEE MEETING

- 4.1 At a previous meeting, Committee agreed, in principle, that in order to reduce the number of agenda items at meetings, some reports will be distributed to Committee Members outside the committee schedule. In order to maintain public transparency, it was also agreed that all reports dealt with in this way will be highlighted in this report.
- 4.2 Since the last Committee meeting, no reports have been distributed to members in this way.

5.0 SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS

- 5.1 At a previous meeting, Committee agreed, in principle, for members to hold Spotlight sessions, which, in an informal setting, will enable a topic to be explored in greater detail than time would allow during a formal Committee meeting.
- 5.2 Future sessions are arranged as follows:
- An update of the provisions of the Children and Families Act 2014 – Led by Julia Hassall (27th November 2014)
 - Proposals for the implementation of the Care Act 2014 – Led by Graham Hodgkinson (January 2015 – date to be confirmed)
 - NHS & Social Care Integration plus Vision 2018 – Led by Graham Hodgkinson (Date to be confirmed in early 2015)

6.0 ATTAINMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

- 6.1 The next meeting of the Attainment Sub-Committee is scheduled for 10th December 2014. Among the agenda items are an update on child poverty hubs and a report on school exclusions and alternative provision in the borough.

7.0 HEALTH & CARE PERFORMANCE PANEL

- 7.1 The first meeting of the Health & Care Performance Panel was held on 20th October 2014. A report from that meeting can be found as a separate item on the agenda for this meeting. Further meetings of the Panel are planned for 19th November, when care home issues will be central to the agenda followed by a meeting on 11th December when the Panel will receive an update from Wirral University Teaching Hospital.

8.0 CLATTERBRIDGE CANCER CENTRE – PROPOSED RE-ORGANISATION OF SERVICES

- 8.1 Members will be aware of the proposal to re-configure the services provided by Clatterbridge Cancer Centre (CCC). A joint health scrutiny committee, comprising members from across Cheshire and Merseyside, has been appointed to scrutinise the proposals in detail. Wirral Council is represented on the joint committee by Councillors Moira McLaughlin and Wendy Clements. The following meetings have either already been held or are being planned:

Date	Venue	Activities
23 rd October	Liverpool	Scope and plan the review
6 th November	Clatterbridge	Site visit plus discussions with patient representatives and staff representatives
13 th November	Bootle	Themes - Financial Issues and Project Management, with witnesses including: Andrew Cannell, Chief Executive of the Clatterbridge Cancer Centre; Yvonne Bottomley, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance; Fiona Jones, Project Director; and Heather Bebbington, Associate Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development.
27 th November	St Helens	Themes – Clinical case for change and consultation analysis, with witnesses including: Dr Peter Kirkbride, Medical Director; Dr Nicky Thorp, Associate Medical Director; Professor Dan Palmer, Chair of Medical Oncology; Helen Porter (Director of Nursing and Quality) Alan White, Chairman; Jackie Robinson, Consultation Lead; Emer Scott, Associate Director of Communications.
4 th December	Liverpool	Wrap-up meeting. Members will draw their conclusions from the evidence presented at previous meetings.

The administration for the joint committee is being provided by Liverpool City Council. Copies of the meeting agendas, reports and minutes are available on the following link: <http://councillors.liverpool.gov.uk/ielListMeetings.aspx?CId=1445&Year=0>

9.0 PROGRESS IMPLEMENTING PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 The outstanding recommendations from previous scrutiny reviews for this Committee relate to the following Reviews completed in the previous municipal year. It has previously been agreed by members that these scrutiny reports will be monitored as follows:

- Outcomes for Looked After Children – An update report is included as a separate item elsewhere on this agenda.
- Implications of the Francis Report for Wirral - referred to the Health and Care Performance Panel for initial consideration. This report was discussed by Panel members at a meeting held on 20th October. A summary of that meeting is reported as a separate item elsewhere on this agenda.
- Quality Assurance and Standards in Care Homes - referred to the Health and Care Performance Panel for initial consideration. This report was discussed by Panel members at a meeting held on 19th November 2014.

10.0 THE FORWARD PLAN AND PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY

10.1 At a meeting of the Chair, Vice chair and Spokespersons, held on 6th November, it was proposed to place a greater emphasis of the Committee's future work on pre-decision scrutiny. Officers will aim to establish a mechanism which will enable members to more easily review the Forward Plan and, therefore, identify items for pre-decision scrutiny.

11.0 FRAMEWORK FOR EFFECTIVE WORKING BETWEEN THE HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD, HEALTHWATCH AND HEALTH SCRUTINY

11.1 The Robert Francis report stressed the necessity "to promote the coordination and cooperation between local Healthwatch, Health & Wellbeing Boards and local government scrutiny committees". Further work needs to take place to agree and document an appropriate working relationship for Wirral. A meeting has been arranged on 5th December 2014 between representatives of health scrutiny, Healthwatch and the Health & Wellbeing Board to propose areas for collaborative working and avoid duplication of effort.

12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 Members are requested to approve the updated Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee work programme for 2014/15 as shown in the appendix, making any necessary amendments.

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