


Agenda Item 8

		THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE	
Boston Borough Council	East Lindsey District Council	City of Lincoln Council	Lincolnshire County Council
North Kesteven District Council	South Holland District Council	South Kesteven District Council	West Lindsey District Council

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, the Director Responsible for Democratic Services

Report to	Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire
Date:	11 June 2015
Subject:	Work Programme

Summary:
This item invites the Committee to consider and comment on its work programme.

Actions Required:
To consider and comment on the content of the work programme.

1. The Committee's Work Programme

The work programme for the Committee's meetings over the next few months is attached at Appendix A to this report, which includes a list of items to be programmed.

Set out below are the definitions used to describe the types of scrutiny, relating to the proposed items in the work programme:

Budget Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising the previous year's budget, the current year's budget or proposals for the future year's budget.

Pre-Decision Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising a proposal, prior to a decision on the proposal by the Executive, the Executive Councillor or a senior officer.

Performance Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising periodic performance, issue specific performance or external inspection reports.

Policy Development - The Committee is involved in the development of policy, usually at an early stage, where a range of options are being considered.

Consultation - The Committee is responding to (or making arrangements to respond to) a consultation, either formally or informally. This includes pre-consultation engagement.

Status Report - The Committee is considering a topic for the first time where a specific issue has been raised or members wish to gain a greater understanding.

Update Report - The Committee is scrutinising an item following earlier consideration.

Scrutiny Review Activity - This includes discussion on possible scrutiny review items; finalising the scoping for the review; monitoring or interim reports; approval of the final report; and the response to the report.

In considering items for inclusion in the Committee's work programme, Members of the Committee are advised that it is not the Committee's role to investigate individual complaints or each matter of local concern.

Guidance from the Secretary of State for Health on Health Scrutiny Function

For the benefit of new members of the Committee, it is prudent to highlight the Secretary of State's guidance [*Guidance to Support Local Authorities and their Partners to Deliver Effective Health Scrutiny – Department of Health, June 2014*] for the Health Scrutiny function, which is available on the following web page:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advice-to-local-authorities-on-scrutinising-health-services>

The "key messages" from the guidance for Health Scrutiny Committees are reproduced below: -

- *The primary aim of Health Scrutiny is to strengthen the voice of local people, ensuring that their needs and experiences are considered as an integral part of the commissioning and delivery of health services and that those services are effective and safe. The new legislation extends the scope of Health Scrutiny and increases the flexibility of local authorities in deciding how to exercise their scrutiny function.*
- *Health Scrutiny also has a strategic role in taking an overview of how well integration of health, public health and social care is working – relevant to this might be how well Health and Wellbeing Boards are carrying out their duty to promote integration - and in making recommendations about how it could be improved.*

- *At the same time, Health Scrutiny has a legitimate role in proactively seeking information about the performance of local health services and institutions; in challenging the information provided to it by commissioners and providers of services for the health service (“relevant NHS bodies and relevant health service providers”) and in testing this information by drawing on different sources of intelligence.*
- *Health Scrutiny is part of the accountability of the whole system and needs the involvement of all parts of the system. Engagement of relevant NHS bodies and relevant health service providers with Health Scrutiny is a continuous process. It should start early with a common understanding of local health needs and the shape of services across the whole health and care system.*
- *Effective Health Scrutiny requires clarity at a local level about respective roles between the Health Scrutiny function, the NHS, the Local Authority, Health and Wellbeing Boards and local Healthwatch.*
- *In the light of the Francis Report, local authorities will need to satisfy themselves that they keep open effective channels by which the public can communicate concerns about the quality of NHS and public health services to Health Scrutiny bodies. Although Health Scrutiny functions are not there to deal with individual complaints, they can use information to get an impression of services overall and to question commissioners and providers about patterns and trends.*
- *Furthermore in the light of the Francis Report, Health Scrutiny will need to consider ways of independently verifying information provided by relevant NHS bodies and relevant health service providers – for example, by seeking the views of local Healthwatch*
- *Health Scrutiny should be outcome focused, looking at cross-cutting issues, including general health improvement, wellbeing and how well health inequalities are being addressed, as well as specific treatment services.*
- *Where there are concerns about proposals for substantial developments or variation in health services (or reconfiguration as it is also known) local authorities and the local NHS should work together to attempt to resolve these locally if at all possible. If external support is needed, informal help is freely available from the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP) and/or the Centre for Public Scrutiny. If the decision is ultimately taken to formally refer the local NHS’s reconfiguration proposals to the Secretary of State for Health, then this referral must be accompanied by an explanation of all steps taken locally to try to reach agreement in relation to those proposals.*
- *In considering substantial reconfiguration proposals Health Scrutiny needs to recognise the resource envelope within which the NHS operates and should therefore take into account the effect of the proposals on sustainability of services, as well as on their quality and safety.*

- *Local Authorities should ensure that regardless of any arrangements adopted for carrying out Health Scrutiny functions, the functions are discharged in a transparent manner that will boost the confidence of local people in Health Scrutiny. Health Scrutiny should be held in an open forum and local people should be allowed to attend and use any communication methods such as filming and tweeting to report the proceedings. This will be in line with the new transparency measure in the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and will allow local people, particularly those who are not present at scrutiny hearing-meetings, to have the opportunity to see or hear the proceedings.*

2. Conclusion

The Committee is invited to consider and comment on the content of the work programme.

3. Consultation

There is no consultation required as part of this item.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Simon Evans, who can be contacted on 01522 553607 or simon.evans@lincolnshire.gov.uk

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE

Chairman: Councillor Mrs Christine Talbot

Vice Chairman: Councillor Chris Brewis

11 June 2015		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust	Andy Hill, Divisional Manager, Lincolnshire Division, East Midlands Ambulance Service	Update
Neighbourhood Teams in Lincolnshire	Nigel Gooding, Head of Portfolio and Programme Management Office, Lincolnshire Health and Care Programme Office	Status Report
Appointment of Looked After Children and Care Leaver Representative	Simon Evans, Health Scrutiny Officer	Status Report

22 July 2015		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust – Clinical Strategy	Jane Lewington, Chief Executive	Update Report
Complaints Handling at United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust	Jane Lewington, Chief Executive	Update Report
Operation Black Swan	David Powell, Head of Emergency Planning Cheryl Thomson, Emergency Planning Manager	Update Report
Burton Road GP Surgery	Jim Heys, Locality Director (North) NHS England Central Midlands	Update Report
Review of Suicides and Deliberate Self-Harm with Intent to Die within Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	John Brewin, Chief Executive and Michelle Persaud, Director of Nursing and Quality, Lincolnshire Partnership NHs Foundation Trust	Update Report

16 September 2015		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Health and Wellbeing Strategy Overview	To be confirmed.	Status Report
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	Andrew McLean, Children's Service Manager – Commissioning, Lincolnshire County Council	Status Report
Co-Commissioning In Lincolnshire West Clinical Commissioning Group Area	To be confirmed	Status Report
Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Clinical Strategy	To be confirmed	Status Report

21 October 2015		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust – General Update	To be confirmed	Update Report

Items to be Programmed

- St Barnabas Hospice
- Boston West Hospital / Fitzwilliam Hospital
- Butterfly Hospice
- Reducing Obesity for Adults and Children
- Dementia and Neurological Services
- Consultation Plan for the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Lincolnshire Health and Care Programme – Pre-Consultation Items
- Pharmacy Services in Hospitals

For more information about the work of the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire please contact Simon Evans, Scrutiny Officer, on 01522 553607 or by e-mail at simon.evans@lincolnshire.gov.uk