

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

3 SEPTEMBER 2009

WORK PROGRAMME

1.0 Purpose of Report

The Committee has agreed the attached work programme (Appendix 1).

The report gives members the opportunity to be updated on work programme items and review the shape of the work ahead.

2.0 Background

The scope of this Committee is defined as:

The needs of vulnerable adults and older people and people whose independence needs to be supported by intervention from the public or voluntary sector.

Green Paper: Funding for Social care in England

The launch of the green paper for Funding of Social care in England marks the launch of what the Government has called “the big care debate” – a wide ranging public consultation that runs until November on the principles behind a new service.

There is almost universal consensus that the current system on Social Care funding isn't sustainable and in urgent need of reform. Under the existing arrangements it is highly unlikely that in future the state will be able to support the cost of rising demands for long term care. The demographic picture is now well known to the Committee, by 2026 it is estimated that 1 in 5 people will aged 65 of over and the number of over 85 will have increased by two thirds – this compares with overall population growth of just 10%.

The 2009 budget revises down the government's forecast for what it expects to spend on public services and benefits from 2011/12. But, giving that the existing system is unsustainable doing nothing is not an option.

In the green paper, the government acknowledges that the current system can appear unfair to those not eligible for support, it is too complex, is overly focussed on high level needs rather prevention; creates wide regional variations in services. In some areas only those in severe need are helped.

With increases in the number of older people and adults with disabilities the position is set to deteriorate significantly over the next few years. Public expectations of care standards and the degree of choice individuals should enjoy are increasing, which brings further cost pressures. Together these factors are seen as building a case for 'radical reforms'.

At its heart is a proposal to establish a national care service, providing all people with needs above a single England-wide threshold with access to some public funding for their care in

older age. In this new national system anyone using it should be able to expect:-

- access to prevention services
- a national assessment – you can move without getting re-assessed
- a joined-up service
- appropriate information and advice
- personalised care and support
- Fair funding.

The 3 big questions the Green Paper asks are about funding the new system:

Q1. The green paper asks whether there should be a fully national system or whether we should have a part national/part local system where local authorities still have a lot of leeway in terms of what they provide. Under a fully national system, Government would decide how much funding individuals with particular levels of need should receive. There could be adjustments to take account of regional variations in cost. On the other hand in a part-national, part-local system the amount of funding available to individuals would be set locally.

Q2. The green paper asks people to choose between 3 different ways of funding care and support: the partnership, insurance or comprehensive models. The Government rules out just funding older people's support needs from general taxation. So the options proposed are:-

- A partnership model, in which everyone who needs support would be entitled to state support for maybe a third or quarter of the cost – how much you get would depend on a means-test.

- An Insurance Model under which everyone would be entitled to have a share of their care and support costs met, just as in the Partnership model but where the state would work with private insurance companies or set up its own scheme, into which individuals could pay in return for their care costs being met if they need care and support.

- A 'Comprehensive' Model in which everyone over retirement age who had the resources to do so would be required to pay into a state insurance scheme. Everyone who was able to pay would pay their contribution, and then everyone whose needs meant that they qualified for care and support from the state would get all of their basic care and support for free when they needed it.

Q3 The green paper asks if people think Attendance Allowance should be scrapped to help pay for the changes. Attendance Allowance is for people who are over 65 and need help with extra costs relating to disability.

The consultation period runs until mid-November 2009. your Chairman. He would welcome the committee being given the opportunity to influence the NYCC consultation response. Bearing in mind the Committee does not meet before the end of the consultation date, he suggests that the mid-cycle briefing on 15th October be converted to a full Committee

meeting with this as the sole item under consideration. This would provide ample time and opportunity to involve other stakeholders and organisations with whom the committee has worked with recently.

3.0 Older Peoples' Strategy

For the last two years the Committee has appointed a Task Group, Chaired by County Councillor Melva Steckles, which includes representatives from the voluntary sector and older peoples' representatives groups across the county. This Group assesses the progress of the County Council in meeting the commitments entered into by the County Council as part of its Older Peoples' Strategy. The aims of this Strategy are to improve not just the services we provide to older people but how we can ensure that older people have the opportunity to shape, influence and engage in the planning of services

The Task Group has extended and broadened the range of its representation to develop that independent assessment by including representatives from the Older Peoples' Partnership Board from the North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership.

Directorates have compiled further substantial evidence this year of their activity. At a recent meeting the Task Group agreed to make this more manageable by splitting into a number of groups which will look at each directorate in turn.

The expectation was that this initial assessment process would be completed towards the end of September however this will now be delayed, an update on progress will however be made to your next meeting.

I am pleased to report that following the request at your last Committee meeting that some more Committee Members have volunteered to serve on each of the Directorate Task Groups. Bridget Hardy, voluntary sector members will assist on the Chief Executive's Directorate Task Group, Peter Blackburn substitute voluntary sector member has agreed to be part of the Adult and Community Services Assessment Group, as has your Vice-Chairman County Councillor Peter Popple.

4.0 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- a) Consider the attached work programme and determine whether any further amendments should be made at this stage.
- b) Consider the proposal regarding in depth review work in respect of Employment of People with Learning Disabilities
- c) The Committee decide upon the Chairman's suggestion that the mid-cycle briefing on 15th October be converted to a full committee to consider the Green Paper.

HUGH WILLIAMSON
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6 July 2009
Background Documents: None

**CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME – June 2009**

Social Care Outcomes

S1. Health and emotional well-being	S2. Quality of Life	S3. Making a positive contribution	S4. Exercise choice and control	S5. Freedom from discrimination and harassment	S6. Economic well-being	S7. Personal dignity
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In-depth Scrutiny Projects

SUBJECT	AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE	ACTION/BY WHOM	PARTNERSHIP ISSUES	TIMESCALES
Access to Dementia Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To assess local interpretation of the National Dementia Strategy To develop proposals for a good Dementia Service Preparation of a Joint Commissioning Strategy. 	Follow Up Actions Seamus Breen to submit report to Committee July 09 Final Report agreed by Executive February 2009		Commissioning Strategy September 09
Older Peoples' Strategy Engagement	Assessment of how North Yorkshire County Council engaged with older people	Task Group Report		December 2009 /January 2010
Early Intervention and Prevention (POPPS)	wider prevention and early intervention agenda	To be considered at Mid-Cycle Briefing		Scope September 2009
Valuing Employment				Initial discussion Mid cycle Briefing 3 August

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WORK PROGRAMME – June 2009**

Overview Reports

SUBJECT	AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE		ACTION/BY WHOM	PARTNERSHIP ISSUES	TIMESCALES	
S1. Health and emotional well-being	S2. Quality of Life	S3. Making a positive contribution	S4. Exercise choice and control	S5. Freedom from discrimination and harassment	S6. Economic well-being	S7. Personal dignity
2009						
<i>Scheduled Committee Meetings</i>	29 January <i>10.30am</i>	16 April <i>10.30am</i>	9 July <i>10.30am</i>	3 September <i>10.30am</i>	19 November <i>10.30am</i>	
<i>Scheduled Agenda Briefing</i>	26 January <i>2.00pm</i>	14 April <i>10.30am</i>	3 July <i>10.30am</i>	1 September <i>10.30am</i>	17 November <i>2.00pm</i>	
<i>Scheduled Mid Cycle</i>	26 March <i>2.00pm</i>	14 May <i>10.30am</i>	28 July <i>2.00pm</i>	15 October <i>10.30am</i>	17 December <i>10.30am</i>	
Overview / Update Topics						
1. Assistive Technology/Telecare			Review Progress			
2. Individual Budgets/Self Directed Support		Update				
3. Provision on Meals			Follow Up			
4. NSF Report						
5. Improvement Review - PDSI		Action Plan Monitoring				
6. Integrated Community Equipment		Informal Members' Group Report				

7. Safeguards/No Secrets	Status Report: Presentation				
8. CSCI Annual Inspection	Report				