

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**8 SEPTEMBER 2011**

**WORK PROGRAMME REPORT**

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1. The Committee has agreed the attached work programme
- 1.2. The report gives members the opportunity to be updated on work programme items and review the shape of the work ahead.

**2.0 Background**

- 2.1 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.'***

**3.0 Welfare Benefits**

- 3.1 I reported to you that the Group Spokespersons would be considering the potential implications of the Department of Work and Pensions decision to withdraw the Independent Living Fund. The Independent Living Fund is now permanently closed to all new applications.
- 3.2 Discussion on this issue led to a much wider debate around the Coalition Government's welfare reform intentions. It had been some time, Members remarked, since welfare benefits generally had been considered by Scrutiny.
- 3.3 Arrangements have been made for an informal discussion on Wednesday, 5 October 2011 at 2pm in Meeting Room 2. This to last no more than 2 hours and cover:
  - 1. The Coalition Government's Welfare Benefits intentions and their impact upon the community.
  - 2. Joint work with District and Borough Council colleagues.
  - 3. Other agencies and organisations involved in Welfare Benefits advice - the Welfare Benefits Unit, its training role and how the Directorate commissions contracts and work with others.

4. Work with current service users but also what happens within the County Council if someone makes an enquiry and is signposted onto other services.
5. Welfare Benefits as an issue for elected Members both as a scrutineer and community leader.

#### **4.0 Dementia**

- 4.1 Your Group Spokespersons discussed how to move forward the Committee's commitments as part of the Dementia Declaration. County Councillor John Savage, a Group Spokesperson on the Committee, is currently active in the Harrogate and Craven Local Dementia Users Forum. Councillor Savage attends this both in the context of his being a member of the Committee and also as a carer.
- 4.2 His first hand experiences will help us assess how to make North Yorkshire a best practice example of elected Member commitment and involvement in local Dementia issues. John, your Chairman and Vice Chairman met recently to discuss this and the progress of the Dementia Network more than one year on since its launch.
- 4.3 From the information received, the initial view of those members was as follows:
  - a. The Dementia Network continues to operate as intended - a practitioners group. The commitment, especially within the various workstreams, remains strong amongst practitioners. The model of implementation of best practice through local forums (for example care pathway planning) appears right but raises questions about strategic commitment and whether it continues to be high on political leadership agendas. The committee needs to give some further thought to this.
  - b. Positive developments can be seen in community support to improve early diagnosis and the appointment of care navigators through the Alzheimers Society (dementia advisors) in each of the localities. There was some concern however regarding changed arrangements for the commissioning of day services support. This might be an interesting area for the committee to review, but as part of an analysis of the success of the carer's strategy. The key point being the extent to which all carer's needs are being addressed especially those who look after people in the latter stages of Dementia at home.
- 4.4 Finally, in recognition of the work done by the York Scrutiny Committee in relation to care in hospitals, a similar scrutiny review with a similar remit might be appropriate for the North Yorkshire area. Before any

commitment was made in this direction however a dialogue could be opened up with scrutiny of health leadership.

## **5.0 Request for Scrutiny of Support for Carers**

- 5.1 I have reported previously the suggestion from the Chair of the Carers' Resource, Ripon, Harrogate that the Committee undertake a review of the County Council's position, strategy and plans for supporting carers in communities.
- 5.2 Group Spokespersons have now agreed that an "overview" be taken on how the County Council supports carers and their families focussing especially upon personalisation and respite care to Committee on Thursday 10 November.

## **6.0 Recommendations**

- 6.1 The Committee is recommended to consider the attached work programme and determine whether any further amendments should be made at this stage.

### **BRYON HUNTER SCRUTINY TEAM LEADER**

County Hall  
Northallerton

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30 August 2011

Background Documents: None

## CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME – January 2011

### Vision for Social Care

P1. Prevention	P2. Personalisation	P3. Partnership	P4. Plurality	P5. Protection	P6. Productivity	P7. People
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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"> <li>1. To assess local interpretation of the National Dementia Strategy.</li> <li>2. To develop proposals for a good Dementia Service.</li> <li>3. Preparation of a Joint Commissioning Strategy</li> <li>4. Further work on the Dementia Declaration and elected Member involvement in local Dementia forums.</li> <li>5. Possible work in relation to Carers, Personalisation and Respite Care.</li> </ol>	Follow Up Actions <b>Final Report agreed by Executive February 2009</b>	Network involves partners from all sectors	<b>September 2011</b>

**CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME – January 2011**

Valuing Employment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To assess and contribute to our and our partners' preparedness for the implications of Valuing Employment Now.</li> <li>2. What are the numbers of people with learning disability in employment in North Yorkshire now?</li> <li>3. What worked/did not work in getting these individuals into employment in North Yorkshire?</li> <li>4. What are the success stories from elsewhere in the country and what lessons might be brought back to North Yorkshire?</li> <li>5. How do the Committee assist the Corporate County Council understand this agenda?</li> <li>6. What awareness is there among other critical partners?</li> <li>7. What should be the role of ACS?</li> </ol>	Task Group	Working with partners in all sectors to encourage a positive approach	<b>Final Report to 8 September together with Learning Disabilities Review</b>
Extra Care Development	Report to January Committee regarding objectives of review and potential Terms of Reference	To be decided	Collaborative venture involving developer and role of housing authorities	<b>8 September 2011</b>
Re-ablement	To review and report upon the shape, impact and effectiveness of reablement services that are being and/or are planned to be delivered in North Yorkshire	To be decided		<b>Update June 2011 deferred to 8 September 2011</b>
Drugs and Alcohol Team	<p>Focus around the strategic assessment on the fitness of the DAAT to deliver against its core objectives.</p> <p>Review of the structure of how the corrosive effects of substance abuse in the North Yorkshire is tackled in the county area.</p> <p>Wider analysis of the balance of activity and relationship between alcohol and drug use in our communities</p>	Task Group with Corporate and Partnerships		<b>Final report spring/summer 2011</b>

	2011/12						
<i>Scheduled Committee Meetings</i>	<b>3 February</b> 10:30 am	<b>17 March</b> 10:30 am	<b>2 June</b> 10:30 am	<b>8 September</b> 10:30 am	<b>10 November</b> 10:30 am	<b>2 February</b> 10:30 am	<b>12 April</b> 10:30 am
<i>Scheduled Agenda Briefing</i>	<b>3 February</b> 9:30 am	<b>17 March</b> 9:30 am	<b>2 June</b> 9:30 am	<b>8 September</b> 9:30 am	<b>10 November</b> 9:30 am	<b>2 February</b> 9:30 am	<b>12 April</b> 9:30 am
<i>Scheduled Mid Cycle</i>	<b>24 February</b> 10:30 am	<b>14 April</b> 10:30 am	<b>14 July</b> 2:00 pm	<b>13 October</b> 10:30 am	<b>6 January</b> 10:30 am	<b>8 March</b> 10:30 am	<b>24 May</b> 2:00 pm

## Overview Reports

Overview / Update Topics							
1. Personalisation/Self Directed Support			Update				
2. Safeguarding Adults (Board)					Annual Review		
3. Early Intervention and Prevention							
4. Dignity Champion	Report Due						
5. Library Consultation	Update		Review Results now at special meeting				
6. Care Charging				Review Results 16 November 2011			
7. JSNA, Adult Vision for Social Care, Big Society and Commissioning	Overview Report						
8. Learning Disabilities and Out of County Placements	Overview Report						