

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2 October 2014

## WORK PROGRAMME REPORT

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1. The Committee has agreed the attached work programme (Appendix 1).
- 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 Members involvement in Inspection Matters: Group Spokespersons Mid-Cycle Briefing**

- 3.1 At your last meeting you asked group spokespersons to review how elected members - not just those on this committee - are informed about, and possibly connected to, the regulation and inspection of care establishments.
- 3.2 Group spokespersons had the elected member role in promoting stronger communities in mind when they gave some thought to this question, but acknowledged the sensitivities about entering what is, after all, someone's home. Equally, the group spokespersons wanted to understand just how manageable any such arrangement would be so that they can ask themselves, objectively, how (if at all) Members can contribute positively.
- 3.3 Janine Tranmer, Contracting, Procurement & Quality Assurance Manager, came forward with options as to how Members could become involved in and add value to the quality assurance and monitoring of care homes. One approach which mirrors the Care Quality Commissions (CQC) risk profile, which forms part of the new CQC inspection methodology, is to look at options for members to be a conduit in the community to channel information to the Contracting, Procurement & Quality Assurance team.
- 3.4 Constituents regularly contact local Members about issues they are experiencing personally or in relation to family members. A clear route to feed this information into the internal inspection process regarding concerns and positive experiences would help the team form a picture of the home's performance over time.

- 3.5 In addition, the team can share performance data about the care home and domiciliary care market with Members which would inform on what is happening locally, for example regarding suspensions. Scrutiny and the relevant local Member could be notified automatically when a provider is suspended or ceases trading. Regular updates could be given to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Mid Cycle Briefings.
- 3.6 When told that between now and April the directorate is redesigning its quality assurance process and paperwork, with links to the requirements of the Care Act and provision information to the public, your group spokespersons saw an opportunity to make progress. They liked the idea that this would link into the inspection of HAS by CQC as a commissioner of adult social care, demonstrating Members are informed of quality and safeguarding activity, demonstrating openness.
- 3.7 The proposals would negate the need for members physically to inspect homes, but at the same time increase members scrutiny on the quality of home provision.
- 3.8 The Directorate has agreed to write up the proposals for further consideration later in the year.

#### **4.0 Other Items Coming to Committee**

- 4.1 Group Spokespersons agreed that a report on smoking cessation will now be considered at the January meeting. A briefing on the configuration of Adult Drug and Alcohol Services Provision that the Council is responsible for commissioning under its public health responsibility, may well now be arranged for the next mid cycle briefing with an invitation to participate being extended to all members of the committee and other interested members.

#### **5.0 Recommendations**

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

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22 September 2014

Background Documents: None

## Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Schedule 2014/15

### Scope

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

### Meeting dates

|  |                                  |                                      |                                    |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b><i>Scheduled Mid Cycle</i></b><br>Lead Members of Committee   | Thurs, 4 September<br>at 10:30am | Thurs, 4 December<br>at 10:30am      | Tues, 24 March<br>2015 at 10:30am  |
| <b><i>Scheduled Committee Meetings</i></b><br><i>Agenda briefings to be held at 9.30am prior to Committee meeting. Attended by Lead Members of Committee</i> | Thurs, 2 October<br>at 10:30am   | Thurs, 22 January<br>2015 at 10:30am | Thurs, 23 April<br>2015 at 10:30am |

| <b>MEETING</b>         | <b>SUBJECT</b>  | <b>AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE</b> | <b>ACTION/BY WHOM</b> |
|------------------------|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>22 January 2015</b> | Extra Care Housing Strategy                                       | Results of Consultation        | HAS                   |
|                        | Tobacco Cessation   | Public Health Strategy         | DPH                   |
|                        | Mental Health Strategy  |                                | HAS/DPH               |
| <b>23 April 2015</b>   | Financial Abuse review  | Final report                   | Task Group            |
|                        | Out of County Placements/Complex Needs                            | Update Report from HAS         | HAS                   |
|                        | Developing the local market - services to support personalisation |                                |                       |

Please note that this is a working document, therefore topics and timeframes might need to be amended over the course of the year.