
Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee 21st September 2011

Report of the Assistant Director Governance & ICT

Proposed Scrutiny Review – End of Life Care (‘Do Not Resuscitate’ (DNR) Forms – Their Use and Effectiveness’)

Summary

1. This report presents the Committee with a Topic Assessment Form (one page strategy) which, to date, briefly outlines the proposed scrutiny review on End of Life Care (‘Do Not Resuscitate’ (DNR) Forms – Their Use and Effectiveness’) – **Annex A refers**. The Committee is asked to complete the Annex in full to enable this review to proceed. They are also asked to choose how they would like to undertake the proposed review.

Background

2. At a meeting of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee in June 2011 Councillors were asked to identify some potential topics for review during this municipal year; the following broad topic areas were identified:
 - Neurological Services (Primary, Secondary & Social Care) (Hospital, PCT, CYC)
 - Safety & effectiveness of older people’s services & personalisation agenda
 - Health impact of the recession on deprived areas in York
 - ‘Social Capital’ – The influence & importance of local self interest groups
 - The importance of physical activity
3. In addition to this, at their meeting in early July, a further potential topic was identified after discussions with York Teaching Hospital

NHS Foundation Trust and NHS North Yorkshire & York, around the broad theme of 'End of Life Care'.

4. These topics were presented at a recent scrutiny work planning event held on 25th July 2011, together with a whole range of other topics from other Overview & Scrutiny Committees. Members attending the event also had an opportunity to suggest additional topics as well as considering those that had already been put forward.
5. As a result of this event the broad topic area around 'End of Life Care' was agreed for the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee for this municipal year. In addition to this it was also agreed that the Committee monitor the procurement of HealthWatch.
6. In order to narrow down the scope of the 'End of Life Care' topic a workshop was held on 31st August with Members of the Committee and key partners attending. This was a lively debate which resulted in the focus of the proposed topic being agreed as 'Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) Forms – Their Use and Effectiveness'.

Consultation

7. Consultation has taken place during all the meetings, events and workshops set out above. Both Members and key partners have had the opportunity to contribute to some or all of the various debates leading up to identifying this topic for review.

Options

8. Members have the option to:
 - i. Complete the Topic Assessment Form at Annex A to this report in order to scope and timetable this review.
 - ii. Consider whether the review should be undertaken by the whole Committee or by a small Task Group

Analysis

9. Members are asked to complete the Topic Assessment Form in its entirety. In considering the 'Ambitions for the Review' section of Annex A Members are advised that the ambitions set will, in effect, become the aim and specific key objectives for the review.

10. Members have the option of undertaking the review as a whole Committee or as a small Task Group reporting back to the main Committee. A small Task Group can often afford greater flexibility and are able to work in a speedier and more focussed way.
11. In relation to the HealthWatch Monitoring topic, arrangements have been put in place for regular reports to be submitted to the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee, the first of these being presented at today's meeting.

Corporate Strategy 2009/2012

12. This report relates to the 'Healthy City' theme of the Corporate Strategy 2009/2012.

Implications

13. There are no known financial, human resources, legal or other implications associated with the recommendations in this report. However, implications may arise as the review progresses and these will be addressed at that stage.

Risk Management

14. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no known risks associated with the recommendations within this report.

Recommendations

15. Members are asked to:
 - i. Complete the Topic Assessment Form at Annex A to this report in order to scope and timetable this review.
 - ii. Consider whether the review should be undertaken by the whole Committee or by a small Task Group.

Reason: In order to progress this topic to review.

Contact Details

Author:

Tracy Wallis
Scrutiny Officer
Scrutiny Services
Tel: 01904 551714

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Andrew Docherty
Assistant Director Governance & ICT
Tel: 01904 551004

**Report
Approved**



Date 08.09.2011

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annexes

Annex A Topic Assessment Form