

Proposals for work programme of Health Scrutiny Committee September 2007

Ongoing Responsibilities

Contributing to “Annual Health Check” – assessment process for NHS Trusts. January – April 2008.

Working with the CYC officers responsible for setting up the host organisation for the new Local Involvement Network (LINK). Once the LINK is in place to work in partnership with its members. Ongoing.

Updates on key issues for the Council and Health Trusts.

Opportunities to listen to patients’ and community organisations.

Responding to consultations and substantial variations.

Identifying and fulfilling members’ training needs regarding Health Scrutiny

Opportunities to improve Scrutiny process and methods of working together.

Possible Proposals for Scrutiny Activities

Access to Out-of-Hours services

Access to Dental services

Impact of an increasing ageing population, including those with dementia.

Care of people with long-term medical conditions

Alternatives to hospital in-patient treatment

The work of NYYPCT’s Exception Panel

Partnerships and relationships between local government and health service organisations

Protocols for working together with health trusts and other partners

Possible channels for Scrutiny Reviews

- Formal Scrutiny review with final report to Council (Executive or other appropriate body). Topics will be related to council services affecting health and well-being of York residents.
- Formal Scrutiny review with final report to Council and other external organisations/providers. These are likely to be cross-

cutting with the Council and other providers, for example NHS trusts and the third sector. Emphasis would be on sharing evidence and seeking realistic – possibly joint - solutions.

- NHS service review. Topics likely to be a health service being provided. NHS Trusts may be called to give evidence. Results will be reported back to the trust concerned and the relevant patients' organisation(s).

In addition, there will be a need for learning activities/group work/relationship building/presentations/exercises done by one or more members of the Committee not resulting in a formal report. This may involve other partners, especially when developing understanding of the rules, culture and environment affecting each others' organisations.

Methods of Conducting Scrutiny Investigations/Reviews

Asking questions of Health service organisations.

Engaging with communities and third sector organisations.

Desk research on health-related issues.

Visiting local health facilities.

Engaging with health professionals and non-executive directors of health trusts

Working with patients' organisations.

Joint activities with other local authorities.

Working with "hard to reach" groups.

Following "patient journey" in a particular care pathway.

Remit for Reviews

A remit outlining the objectives, scope, officer and partner involvement, constraints and resource needs will be agreed for each formal review. Additional non-voting members may be co-opted to the Committee for particular reviews.