

# REPORT FOR DECISION

Agenda Item	
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<b>DECISION OF:</b>	Council
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>16 May 2018</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2017/2018</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>Councillor R Caserta</b> <b>Chair – Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Leigh Webb – Democratic Services Manager</b>
<b>TYPE OF DECISION:</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b>
<b>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:</b>	This paper is within the public domain
<b>SUMMARY:</b>	This report provides a summary of progress and key outcomes made over the past year by the Council's Scrutiny Committees. It also highlights work undertaken by the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees for Pennine Care and Pennine Acute.
<b>OPTIONS &amp; RECOMMENDED OPTION</b>	<p><b>Option 1 (Recommended)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Note the contents of the report and progress made by the Council's Scrutiny Committees over the past year.</li> </ol> <p><b>Option 2 (Not recommended)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reject the above recommendation</li> </ol>
<b>IMPLICATIONS:</b>	
<b>Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:</b>	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? Yes

<b>Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:</b>	The scrutiny function of the Council takes place within existing budgetary provision.
<b>Statement by Executive Director of Resources:</b>	There are no wider resource implications arising from this report.
<b>Equality/Diversity implications:</b>	Yes Equality Analysis was undertaken as part of the review of the Council's Scrutiny function and structures in 2012
<b>Considered by Monitoring Officer:</b>	
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All
<b>Scrutiny Interest:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Committee Health Scrutiny Committee

## TRACKING/PROCESS

**DIRECTOR: STEVE KENYON**

Chief Executive/ Strategic Leadership Team	Executive Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
Scrutiny Committee	Committee	Council	
		16.05.18	

## 1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This Annual Report summarises the activities of the Council's Scrutiny Committees and reports on some of the highlights and achievements of the last year.
- 1.2 Throughout the year the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has tackled a wide and varied work programme cutting across all Council Departments. The Committee have engaged with Cabinet Members prior to decisions being taken and also held them to account on service areas and policy.
- 1.3 The primary focus for the Health Scrutiny Committee this year has been the transformation of the health and social care landscape and urgent care redesign.

1.4 The Council has continued to take the lead role in administering the two Joint Health Scrutiny Committees established in January 2004, which review the work of the Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust and the Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust. Excellent working relationships have continued with Members and Officers in both the NHS and in the partner Local Authorities of Manchester, Stockport, Oldham, Rochdale and Tameside.

## **2.0 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IN BURY**

2.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committees are an important part of the way we make decisions. Although they have no Executive powers, the scrutiny process does allow Members to explore issues in depth and help to influence decisions through recommendations to the Cabinet or Full Council.

2.2 In Bury, the role of scrutiny bodies can be broken down into these two main functions:-

### **2.3 Holding the Cabinet to Account**

This involves scrutinising decisions before they are implemented by way of 'Call-in' to the relevant Scrutiny Committee for debate. The effect of a 'Call-in' is to suspend the decision until the Scrutiny Committee has had the opportunity to consider the implications of the decision and, where appropriate, to offer comments back to the Cabinet.

### **2.4 Policy Development**

2.5 This involves Scrutiny Committees undertaking reviews of functions within their individual remits leading to recommendations to the Cabinet, and to assist in the development of future policies and strategies.

In Bury the following Committees are constituted to carry out Overview and Scrutiny in Bury:

### **2.6 Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

Set up to scrutinise Cabinet decisions and Council performance, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee operates within the following terms of reference:

- To review and scrutinise the decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions.
- To review and scrutinise the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and all particular service areas.
- To set up, appoint and monitor Overview Project Groups (set up to carry out reviews of policies, services or the impact of decisions).
- To make recommendations to the Cabinet and/or appropriate Committee and/or Council arising from the outcome of the Scrutiny process.
- To review or scrutinise decisions made or other action taken in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of

- their crime and disorder functions.
- Oversight of the provision, planning and management of the assets and audit arrangements.
- Oversight of the Council's corporate plans and strategies and the monitoring of the corporate plan and departmental plans.
- To scrutinise outside bodies and partners relevant to the Council.
- To receive all reports from external inspectors.

## **2.7 Health Scrutiny Committee**

A dedicated Health Scrutiny Committee was set up to scrutinise partner organisations on issues relevant to the residents of the Borough. Full terms of reference are:

- To carry out the Council's statutory obligations in relation to reviewing and scrutinising any matters relating to the planning provision and operation of health services in the area of the Council.
- To oversee the health and well being of the borough's population
- To scrutinise the provision, planning and management of Adult Care Services.
- To monitor the implementation of any scrutiny recommendations accepted by the Cabinet.

## **2.8 Overview Project Groups**

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is responsible for setting up and monitoring reviews carried out by Overview Project Groups. These Groups are tasked with reviewing particular policy areas with a view to making recommendations that will ultimately result in service improvements.

## **3.0 KEY OUTCOMES**

During 2017/2018 the Council's Scrutiny Committees and Overview Project Groups have looked at a wide range of topics and issues. Various methods have been used to examine and investigate issues which have resulted in positive outcomes in terms of policy development and holding decision makers to account.

### **Children's Safeguarding**

Children's Safeguarding has formed a major part of the Committee's work programme during 2017/18. The Committee have monitored the OFSTED Children's Safeguarding Action Plan and taken evidence on progress from the Strategic Lead.

Set up and monitored by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Children's Safeguarding Overview Project Group carried out a detailed review of Children's Safeguarding services and performance. Since the first meeting in November 2014 a large amount of work has been undertaken by the Group. Much of the initial work has focused on providing Members with a detailed context of the issues surrounding the safeguarding of children and ensuring an understanding of the processes, procedures and policies that are in place.

Evidence to assist the Group has been provided from a number of Senior Officers and practitioners, through both written reports, visits (Members visited the Multi-Agency Hub at the Police Station) as well as interviews with a range of different practitioners.

During the current year the Group have focussed attention on the following areas:

1. Child Sexual Exploitation and the Phoenix Team
2. Children with Disabilities
3. Placements with Children and their relatives
4. Missing from Home
5. Healthy Young Minds and Special Educational Needs update
6. The role of the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)
7. Ofsted Action Plan
8. Children's Social Care Performance reports

At an early stage Members of the Group recognised the complex multi agency approach to safeguarding meant that to treat the review as a time bound, self contained piece of work would not do justice to the critical nature of the subject matter. Interim reports were submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in March 2017 and March 2018 where it was recommended to establish the group as a standing council committee with the existing membership where possible.

### **Decisions Called In 2017/18**

Under the Council's Constitution, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Health Scrutiny Committee has the power to call in decisions made by the Cabinet, individual Cabinet Members and key decisions made by officers. In 2017-18 there was one decision "called in":-

Library Review - Outcome of Third Public Survey on Proposed Options and Recommendations

The Scrutiny Committee considered a called-in decision of the Cabinet meeting held on 28 June 2017 in accordance with the Council Constitution.

The Cabinet had made the following decision:

That approval be given to Option 2, as presented in the report submitted, to retain Bury, Ramsbottom, Prestwich and Radcliffe Libraries and a smaller Service Wide Team.

A Call – In Notice had been submitted by Councillor Caserta, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, setting out the reasons for the Call In of the decision.

Insufficient consideration given to:

- The discrimination against young people many from disadvantaged backgrounds who rely on the libraries as a place to do their homework after school. This especially applies to Tottington Library.

- It will discriminate against people with mobility problems who are unable to travel long distances.
- Insufficient notice of closure for applicant community groups to take-over operation of the buildings.

The Cabinet Member for Children and Families responded to the Committee on the issues set out above.

Following further questions and discussion, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee decided not to offer any comments to the Cabinet with regard to its decision.

### **Further Work of the Committee**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee requested updates from the relevant Cabinet Members in respect of the following Council services:

- Highway Maintenance
- Environmental Quality & Fly Tipping
- Greater Manchester Devolution
- Parks and Countryside
- Air Quality
- Council run Car Parks
- School Finances/SEN Costs

The Committee also received information with regards to:-

- Children's Social Care Annual Complaints
- Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Complaints
- Progress made on the actions set out in the Newsam Report

### **Performance Monitoring**

As part of its performance monitoring role, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has received regular reports in relation to Corporate Performance; Financial Monitoring; Treasury Management; and all the 2017/18 draft Budgetary reports.

## **4.0 Local Health Scrutiny Committee**

Throughout the year the committee has chosen to focus on four overarching areas of work:

1. Transformation
2. Urgent Care Redesign
3. Delayed Discharge
4. North West Ambulance Service Care at Home Update

## **Transformation**

The Transformation agenda incorporating the development of the Local Care Organisation and the One Commissioning Organisation was a primary focus for members during this municipal year.

The Chair recognised the need for members to be fully briefed on this area. It was therefore agreed at the commencement of this municipal year that a training session was held jointly facilitated by the Chief Operating Officer of Bury Clinical Commissioning Group and Bury Council's Interim Chief Executive to brief members on the plans for the integration of Health and Social Care.

Building on the training session, members invited the Programme Lead (Devolution) to a subsequent meeting to provide them with an update in respect of; the governance arrangements, the measures of success, pooled budget arrangements, available monies and financial sustainability.

## **Urgent Care Redesign**

Urgent Care redesign was a primary focus for Members during this municipal year. Members were mindful of the high levels of public concern in respect of this issue.

Members played an active part in the initial engagement phase and the Committee Chair met with the CCG Chair to discuss the arrangements for the formal consultation phase, prior to its commencement. The Committee offered advice to the CCG in respect of wider public consultation as well as interviewing the Chief Operating Officer, Stuart North and the CCG Chair, Dr. Patel.

Members agreed to provide a formal response to the proposals. As the plans had shown to be influenced and changed as a result of the engagement phase, the Committee were broadly supportive of the proposals and this was reflected in their consultation response.

## **Delayed Discharge**

Members were very keen to continue their scrutiny of problems with delayed discharge. Members interviewed representatives from Social Care, the Acute Trust, the CCG and social workers as part of the scrutiny process.

Delayed discharge is a high profile issue and key measure for the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Strategic Partnership Board.

Members were supportive of the arrangements put in place to assist in alleviating the problems with delayed discharge but expressed further concern that there needs to be a long term multi-agency response to address the problem.

## **North West Ambulance Service Care at Home Update**

Following concerns expressed by Members with regards to the number of call outs received by the NWAS to individual nursing and residential homes in the Borough, representatives from the Ambulance service were invited to attend a meeting. Representatives attended the meeting to inform members of the work being undertaken by the service in relation to local care homes including an initial pilot scheme. The pilot scheme enables staff in the care homes to access ongoing help, advice and support from paramedics to avoid un-necessary 999 calls. Members agreed to continue to monitor the call outs to individual nursing/residential homes into the next municipal year.

### **Other issues considered by the Committee:**

- Members resolved to establish a short term task and finish group to scrutinise the development of the Suicide Action Plan.
- Health and Wellbeing Board Annual Report
- Care at Home Service
- Health Protection Annual Report
- Sexual Health Services Update

## **5.0 WORK OF THE JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES (JHOSC)**

The two Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee were established jointly by Bury, Manchester, Oldham and Rochdale Councils to consider issues affecting the health of local people (the overview role) and to call the NHS to account on behalf of the local communities (the scrutiny role).

Each of these Councils has appointed three representatives to sit on each Committee.

Both the Pennine Acute and Pennine Care Joint Committees were inspected by the Care Quality Commission in the previous municipal year. The focus continued to be the inspection report and its findings. Both reports were concerning and senior managers including Sir David Dalton attended the meeting to report on action taken by the Trust in response to the inspection findings.

The Pennine Acute Joint Committee also re-reviewed the North East Manchester Diabetic Eye Screening Review. The North east sector acute strategy as well as the Pennine Acute Improvement Plan. Due to ongoing recruitment problems across the footprint members received regular updates with regards to staffing including; recruitment and retention rates, sickness rates and the use of agency staff.

In respect of the Pennine Care Joint Committee; the Committee choose to focus their scrutiny on the Trust's request for financial support from the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership Board. As part of the Scrutiny of this process the Joint Committee interviewed Jon Rouse, Chief Officer GM H&SCPB, representatives from the CCG and the Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust.

Going forward the two Joint Committees will focus their attention on the reconfiguration of services.

## **6.0 CONCLUSION**

The Scrutiny function is well established in Bury, with good examples of in depth reviews and partnership working.

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### **List of Background Papers:-**

#### **Contact Details:-**

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