

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care and Health)	Date of Meeting:	7 September 2021
Subject:	Work Programme 2021/22, Scrutiny Review Topics and Key Decision Forward Plan		
Report of:	Chief Legal and Democratic Officer	Wards Affected:	All
Cabinet Portfolio:	Adult Social Care Health and Wellbeing		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To review the Committee's Work Programme for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021/22; to report on progress of the Mental Health Issues Working Group; to agree to undertake a piece of work on the Integrated Care Partnership; to identify any items for pre-scrutiny scrutiny by the Committee from the Key Decision Forward Plan; to receive an update on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and to note the update by Healthwatch Sefton.

Recommendations:

That:

- (1) the Work Programme for 2021/22, as set out in Appendix A to the report, be agreed, along with any additional items to be included and thereon be agreed;
- (2) the progress made by the Mental Health Issues Working Group be noted;
- (3) rather than establish a traditional working group during 2021/22, all Members of the Committee be invited to agree to participate in undertaking a piece of work on the Integrated Care Partnership;
- (4) items for pre-scrutiny from the Key Decision Forward Plan which fall under the remit of the Committee, as set out in Appendix D to the report, be considered and any agreed items be included in the work programme referred to in (1) above;
- (5) the update on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted; and

- (6) the recent activities undertaken by Healthwatch Sefton, as outlined in Appendix E to the report, be noted.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To determine the Work Programme of items to be considered during the Municipal Year 2021/22; to identify scrutiny review topics which would demonstrate that the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee “adds value” to the Council; and to comply with a decision of the Committee to update on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The pre-scrutiny process assists Cabinet Members to make effective decisions by examining issues before making formal decisions.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

No alternative options have been considered as the Overview and Scrutiny Committee needs to approve its Work Programme; to potentially consider scrutiny review topics; and consider other activities in relation to the work of the Committee.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Any financial implications arising from the consideration of a key decision or relating to a recommendation arising from a Working Group review will be reported to Members at the appropriate time.

(A) Revenue Costs – see above

(B) Capital Costs – see above

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): None	
Legal Implications: None	
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.	
Climate Emergency Implications:	
The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	No
Have a neutral impact	Yes
Have a negative impact	No
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Yes
There are no direct climate emergency implications arising from this report. Any climate emergency implications arising from the consideration of reports referred to in	

the Work Programme will be contained in such reports when they are presented to Members at the appropriate time.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: None directly applicable to this report. Reference in the Work Programme to the approval of, and monitoring of recommendations, will contribute towards protecting vulnerable members of Sefton's communities.

Facilitate confident and resilient communities: None directly applicable to this report.

Commission, broker and provide core services: None directly applicable to this report.

Place – leadership and influencer: None directly applicable to this report.

Drivers of change and reform: None directly applicable to this report.

Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: None directly applicable to this report.

Greater income for social investment: None directly applicable to this report.

Cleaner Greener: None directly applicable to this report.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Work Programme and Key Decision Forward Plan Report is not subject to FD/LD consultation. Any specific financial and legal implications associated with any subsequent reports will be reported to Members as appropriate.

Relevant Heads of Service have been consulted in the preparation of the Work Programme for the Committee.

(B) External Consultations

Not applicable

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

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Appendices:

The following appendices are attached to this report:

- Appendix A - Work Programme for 2021/22;
- Appendix B – Terms of Reference for the Committee (extract from the Constitution);
- Appendix C - Criteria Checklist for Selecting Topics for Review; and
- Appendix D - Latest Key Decision Forward Plan items relating to this Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- Appendix E - Update of recent activities undertaken by Healthwatch Sefton.

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

Introduction/Background

1. WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22

- 1.1 The Work Programme of items to be submitted to the Committee for consideration during the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021/22 is attached at **Appendix A** to the report. The programme has been produced in liaison with the appropriate Heads of Service, whose roles fall under the remit of the Committee.
- 1.2 Members are requested to consider whether there are any other items that they wish the Committee to consider, that fall within the terms of reference of the Committee (set out at **Appendix B**). The Work Programme will be submitted to each meeting of the Committee during 2021/22 and updated, as appropriate.
- 1.3 **The Committee is requested to comment on the Work Programme for 2021/22, as appropriate, and note that additional items may be submitted to the Programme at future meetings of the Committee during this Municipal Year.**

2. SCRUTINY REVIEW TOPIC 2020/21 – MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES WORKING GROUP

- 2.1 At the meeting held on 1 September 2020, the Committee established a working group to review the topic of mental health services and the prevention of issues.
- 2.2 The Committee:

“RESOLVED: That

- (2) a working group be established to consider mental health services and the prevention of issues, consisting of Councillors Howard and Roscoe, and Mr. Roger Hutchings, Healthwatch;”

2.3 At the time of drafting this report it is anticipated that the Final Report of the Working Group will appear elsewhere on the agenda for the meeting. The Final Report is likely to be submitted to the Cabinet for consideration during October 2021 and to the Council meeting in November 2021. The outcome will be reported back to the Committee in due course.

2.4 **The Committee is requested to note that the Mental Health Issues Working Group has completed its review.**

3. SCRUTINY REVIEW TOPICS 2021/22

3.1 It is good practise for Overview and Scrutiny Committees to appoint a Working Group to undertake a scrutiny review of services during the Municipal Year.

3.2 In the event that the Committee is minded to appoint a working group for 2021/22, a criteria checklist for selecting and rejecting potential topics to review is attached at **Appendix C**, to assist the Committee in selecting a topic and appointing a Working Group for the Municipal Year.

3.3 If the Committee wishes to establish a working group to review a potential scrutiny topic, the Committee is requested to appoint at least 3 Members to the Working Group.

3.4 Members of the Committee may have their own suggestions for a working group review.

3.5 The Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health has suggested that rather than undertake a traditional working group review, all Members of the Committee may wish to participate in a piece of work on the Integrated Care Partnership. This could lead to recommendations being developed in terms of planning for the Health and Care Bill. A separate report on Sefton Integrated Care Partnership Development is anticipated to appear elsewhere on the agenda for the meeting and this provides further information on the matter.

3.6 **The Committee is requested to consider undertaking a piece of work on the Integrated Care Partnership.**

4. PRE-SCRUTINY OF ITEMS IN THE KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN

4.1 Members may request to pre-scrutinise items from the Key Decision Forward Plan which fall under the remit (terms of reference) of this Committee. The Forward Plan, which is updated each month, sets out the list of items to be submitted to the Cabinet for consideration during the next four-month period.

4.2 The pre-scrutiny process assists the Cabinet Members to make effective decisions by examining issues beforehand and making recommendations prior to a determination being made.

- 4.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has requested that only those key decisions that fall under the remit of each Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be included on the agenda for consideration.
- 4.4 The latest Forward Plan, published on 30 July 2021, is attached at **Appendix D** for this purpose. For ease of identification, items listed on the Forward Plan for the first time appear as shaded.
- 4.5 There are two items within the current Plan that fall under the remit of the Committee on this occasion, namely:
- Living Well Sefton Service Contract Extension; and
 - Mental Health Issues Working Group Final Report.
- 4.6 Should Members require further information in relation to any item on the Key Decision Forward Plan, would they please contact the relevant Officer named against the item in the Plan, prior to the Meeting.
- 4.7 At the time of drafting this report the next Forward Plan is due to be published on 31 August 2021. In the event of any additional items that fall under the remit of the Committee, Members will be advised.
- 4.8 **The Committee is invited to consider items for pre-scrutiny from the Key Decision Forward Plan as set out in Appendix D to the report, which fall under the remit of the Committee and any agreed items be included in the Work Programme referred to in (1) above.**

5. LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 5.1 During the October/November 2019 cycle of meetings, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees considered a report on the guidance produced by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government relating to Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities following on from the Communities and Local Government Select Committee's inquiry into Overview and Scrutiny. This Committee considered the matter at its meeting held on 15 October 2019 (Minute No. 32 refers).
- 5.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees all agreed the recommendations contained in the report, one of which being that updates on Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee (LCRCA O&S) be included in the Work Programme report considered at each Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting.
- 5.3 In accordance with the above decision, information on the LCRCA O&S is set out below.
- 5.4 **Role**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee was established by the Combined Authority in May 2017 in accordance with the Combined Authorities Order 2017.

The role of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to:

- Scrutinise the decision and actions taken by the Combined Authority or the Metro Mayor;
- Provide a “critical friend” to policy and strategy development;
- Undertake scrutiny reviews into areas of strategic importance for the people of the Liverpool City Region; and
- Monitor the delivery of the Combined Authority’s strategic plan.

5.5 **Membership**

The Committee is made up of 3 elected Members from each of the constituent Local Authorities of the LCR Combined Authority, along with one elected Member from both the Liverpool City Region Liberal Democrat Group and the Liverpool City Region Conservative Group.

Sefton’s appointed Members are Councillors Hansen, Howard and Waterfield. Councillor Howard is Sefton’s Scrutiny Link.

Councillor Patrick Moloney is the representative of the Liberal Democrat Group on the Committee. The Conservative Group nomination is still awaited by the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

5.6 **Chair and Vice-Chair**

The Chair of the LCRCAO&S cannot be a Member of the majority group. The Chair was appointed at the first meeting of the Committee on 14 July 2021.

5.7 **Quoracy Issues**

A high number of meetings of the LCRCA O&S have been inquorate.

The quorum for meetings of the LCRCAO&S is 14, two-thirds of the total number of members, 20. This high threshold is not set by the Combined Authority but is set out in legislation.

The Combined Authority’s Monitoring Officer will be looking to work with the Monitoring Officers from the other Combined Authorities to identify what problems they are experiencing with Scrutiny and how/if they had overcome them. Representations to Government would also be considered once all options locally to resolve the quorum issue had been exhausted. The CA Monitoring Officer would then be able to provide evidence to Government that the quorum level was obstructing the work of scrutiny within the CA.

5.8 **Meetings**

Information on all meetings and membership of the LCRCAO&S can be obtained using the following link:

<https://moderngov.merseytravel.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=365&Year=0>

Latest Meeting – 14 July 2021

The latest meeting of the LCRCAO&S was held on 14 July 2021.

Matters considered at the meeting related to:

- Appointment of Chairperson for 2021/22
- Appointment of Vice Chairperson for 2021/22
- Verbal Update from Metro Mayor Steve Rotheram
- Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Corporate Plan 2021-24
- Work Programme 2021/22
- Appointment of Scrutiny Members to the Audit and Governance Committee 2021/22

The next meeting of the LCRCAO&S will be held on 8 September 2021.

Details of all meetings can be obtained using the link referred to above.

5.9 *The Committee is requested to note the update on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee.*

6. HEALTHWATCH SEFTON

6.1 An update of recent activities undertaken by Healthwatch Sefton is attached to this report at **Appendix E**, for information.

6.2 ***The Committee is requested to note recent activities undertaken by Healthwatch Sefton.***