

# Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

16 July 2024



## Work Programme 2024/25 for the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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### Report of Helen Bradley, Director of Legal and Democratic Services

#### Electoral division(s) affected:

None

#### Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (AWHOSC) with a work programme for 2024/5.

#### Executive summary

- 2 AWHOSC review their work programme each year to reflect the objectives and associated outcomes and actions identified within the Council Plan and in the context of the County Durham Vision 2035.
- 3 The proposed AWHOSC work programme has been framed around the shared County Durham Vision 2035 based on the three strategic ambitions of 'more and better jobs', 'long and independent lives' and 'connected communities'. The draft work programme also reflects NHS Partner strategies, priorities and actions that have been developed.
- 4 The proposed work programme also reflects the refreshed Council Plan adopted by the County Council at its meeting on 28 February 2024.

#### Recommendations

- 5 The Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- a) Receive and comment on the proposed Adults Wellbeing and Health OSC work programme for 2024/25 (copy attached at Appendix 2);
- b) Agree the Adults Wellbeing and Health OSC work programme for 2024/2025 and the flexibility it offers to respond to emerging issues.

## **Background**

- 6 The AWHOSC work programme is refreshed annually and takes into consideration the priorities of the Committee, areas identified by service groupings and also NHS Partner strategies, priorities and actions that have been developed.
- 7 The current overview and scrutiny committees work programmes are informed by:
  - County Durham Vision for 2035
  - Council Plan
  - Cabinet's Notice of Key Decisions
  - Partnership plans and strategies including those of NHS Partners
  - Performance and budgetary control data
  - Changes in government legislation
  - Key questions for improving performance
  - Local Priorities
- 8 The County Durham Partnership agreed a Vision for County Durham 2035 which sets out our strategic direction and what we would like to achieve over the next 15 years. It was developed with partner organisations and the public. It is structured around three broad ambitions for the people of County Durham:
  - A place where there are more and better jobs
  - People live long, healthy and independent lives
  - Communities are well connected and supportive
- 9 Each ambition contains a number of objectives together with some council specific objectives. Following the refresh of the council plan in February 2024, it is now structured around five objectives which capture the three ambitions within the Vision for County Durham as well as the Council's own improvement agenda:

- Our Economy
- Our Environment
- Our People
- Our Communities
- Our Council

## **Council Plan 2024-2028**

- 10 The Council Plan is the primary corporate planning document for the county council. It details Durham County Council's contribution towards achieving the objectives set out in the Vision for County Durham 2035 together with its own ambitious agenda. It provides a summary for members, partners and the public of our priorities for the county and the main programmes of work that we will undertake to help achieve these priorities. The Plan will be refreshed each year to reflect the integration of corporate and financial planning.
- 11 Both the Vision for County Durham and the Council Plan are structured around the three ambitions for the county and our own improvement agenda. The 'Our Council' theme captures the corporate initiatives the Council has identified and wants to undertake to achieve the ambitions within the vision:
- a) Our resources will be managed effectively
  - b) Create a workforce for the future
  - c) Design our services with service users
  - d) Use data and technology more effectively
  - e) We will build an inclusive and welcoming employee culture
- 12 The key themes which apply to the AWHOSC are :-

### **People will have long and independent lives**

- Promotion of positive behaviours;
- Tackle the stigma and discrimination of poor mental health and build resilient communities
- Better integration of health and social care services;
- People will be supported to live independently for as long as possible by delivering more homes to meet the needs of older and disabled people;
- Support people whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protect adults with care and support needs from harm;

- Protect and improve the health of the local population, tackling leading causes of illness and death.

13 The Council Plan has been structured around 5 objectives: Our Economy; Our People; Our Communities; Our Environment and Our Council. The key Council Plan objective for AWHOSC is Our People – wanting residents to live long and independent lives and in good health, protecting and improving residents health whilst tackling leading causes of illness and death; tackling health inequalities caused by the pandemic including mental health challenges; building our strong record for integrating health and social care and by building on the support the Council has provided to the care sector, ensuring we have a high quality care market that is sustainable for the future.

### **Adults Wellbeing and Health OSC Work programme**

14 In addition to providing a scrutiny role for activity of the Council, the Committee is also the designated Health Scrutiny Committee for the Council for the purposes of the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The Committee therefore leads on the review and scrutiny of NHS Services, Adult Social Care, Health inequalities and improvement and Public Health Services.

15 During 2023/2024, the Committee held six scheduled meetings, one special meeting and one informal briefing session. Supplementary briefing reports on issues identified by NHS Partners were circulated via email to members. The committee has undertaken budgetary and performance monitoring, responded to consultations and considered overview and progress monitoring reports and presentations in relation to the following:

16 Consultations

- North East and North Cumbria ICB Joint Forward Plan 2023/24 to 2028/29
- Adult Learning Disabilities across County Durham and Tees Valley
- Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2023/28
- Oral Health Promotion and Community Water Fluoridation
- NHS Foundation Trust Quality Account 2022/23 responses and 2023/24 priorities for
  - North East Ambulance Service NHS FT
  - County Durham and Darlington NHS FT
  - Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS FT

17 Overview Activity:-

- Winter Planning and the work of the Local Accident and Emergency Delivery Board 2023/24
- Shotley Bridge Community Hospital
- County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust Maternity Services CQC Inspection and Improvement Action Plan
- Adult Social Care – Introduction of Local Authority Assessment by the CQC
- Reconfiguration of Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS FT Mental Health Services for Older People Community Teams in County Durham and Darlington
- NHS Dentistry Services
- Pharmacy Services and the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment in County Durham
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS FT CQC Inspection and Improvement Action Plan
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS FT Community Services Transformation Plan
- County Durham and Darlington NHSFT Sepsis Update
- Breast Cancer Screening update
- GP Contract Changes 2024/25
- Director of Public Health Annual Report 2023
- Health and Wellbeing Board Annual Report 2023
- Durham Safeguarding Adults Partnership Annual Report 2023
- North East Ambulance Service NHS FT – Performance and Quality Account Update 2023/24

18 Budgetary and performance monitoring:

- Quarterly budgetary monitoring for the Adults and Health service grouping.
- Quarterly corporate performance monitoring overview for the Adults and Health service grouping.

19 The Adults Wellbeing and Health OSC has also considered the following areas which cut across objectives within the Council Plan or the remit of other Overview and Scrutiny Committees:-

- Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Leisure Transformation
- Alcohol and Drug Harm Reduction Group Update

- 0-25 Family Health Services Update
- Best Start in Life o Preparation for Adulthood
- Valuing Neurodiversity in County Durham
- Children and Young People and Vaping – Update on the Evidence Base
- Sexual Health Strategy

## **Areas for consideration in the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme**

- 20 Members of the AWHOSC are asked to agree the proposed work programme for 2023/24 that has been prepared and is attached at Appendix 2. The work programme is very comprehensive drawing on topical areas across the remit of the committee and it should be noted that it is also flexible.
- 21 Paragraphs 15 to 19 of the report identifies the activity undertaken by the Committee during 2023/24. The committee is asked to consider areas and review topics for inclusion in the work programme for 2024/25 in light of the current Council Plan and Vision for County Durham 2035. It is also important that members are able to respond to any statutory health service plans and/or consultations that are received during the course of the year.

## **Conclusion**

- 22 The work programme identifies areas of work that fall within the remit of the AWHOSC and is flexible in its delivery.

## **Background papers**

- [A Vision for County Durham 2035](#)
- [Council Plan 2024-28](#)

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

Not applicable

### **Finance**

Not applicable

### **Consultation**

Not applicable

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Not applicable

### **Human Rights**

Not applicable

### **Climate Change**

Not applicable

### **Crime and Disorder**

Not applicable

### **Staffing**

Not applicable

### **Accommodation**

Not applicable

### **Risk**

The Overview and Scrutiny work programme is an important element of the Council's governance and risk management arrangements.

### **Procurement**

Not applicable

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## **Appendix 2: Adults Wellbeing and Health OSC Work Programme**

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Attached as a separate document.