

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE 2016

Since my last report to full Council, the Scrutiny Committee has met three times: on 19 April 2016, 10 May 2016 and 7 June 2016.

The 19 April meeting was an extraordinary meeting to discuss reports to Executive dealing with the Care Providers Fee Review for 2016/17 and the Better Care Fund. The first item highlighted some of the issues being noted as part of the scrutiny review of adult social care about the availability of residential and nursing home placements especially for those which are Council funded.

The 10 May meeting saw reports being presented by task and finish groups dealing with the topics of Planning Services and Shanklin Lift. A number of actions and recommendations were made as a result of these reports.

At the 7 June meeting the committee formally recorded its appreciation of the work undertaken by all staff to ensure that not only did the Council come in on budget targets set for 2015/16, but also made additional savings of £1.8m, which offers some help with the level of savings required for 2016/17. However it was also noted that current predictions for 2016/17 are over budget and budget monitoring will continue to be a key standing item at future scrutiny meetings.

In looking at the latest performance management information the Committee raised concerns about the increase in the number of injuries and deaths arising from road traffic collisions. Additional information is being sought on this aspect to help gain a better understanding of what actions can be taken to assist in reducing these figures.

Future Work Plan

The Committee is also reviewing the processes involved in the formulation of the capital programme. The appointment of Chris Ward as the new Chief Financial Officer will clearly be helpful in this area and following his attendance at the June meeting he will be providing a written report to the Committee in due course.

The Committee's future work plan for 2016/17 will include completion of the review of adult social care, ongoing monitoring of the budget together with proactive work on Economic Development (including the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership, the Council's commercial interests and council contribution towards business growth) and a review of contract management with specific emphasis on the Highway PFI.

We will continue to scrutinise strategic asset management and overall performance across the council through the quarterly reports. We will also be looking to scrutinise and support the council in its engagement with the Devolution agenda.

**Councillor Dave Stewart
Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee**

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE TO THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE 2016

The sub committee met on 11 April 2016 and considered the report of the Isle of Wight Community Safety Partnership. This provided an opportunity of hearing how key partners were involved in a number of initiatives aimed at reducing crime and the fear of crime.

Members were briefed by representatives from NHS Wessex on the business case for change to sustainable vascular arterial services in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and the communications strategy to promote and support the case. A series of local events have been held throughout the region to engage with interested members of the community.

The sub committee has continued to monitor the delivery of services throughout the winter period when pressures often lead to cancellations of planned procedures due to demands on bed space. There are on-going concerns as to the impact of ambulance handover times on the availability of vehicles being available to respond to emergencies.

Concerns have also been raised about proposed changes in the operation of the Beacon Health Centre and clarification on a number of issues have been sought from the IW Clinical Commissioning Group.

Members will also be receiving regular updates on the programme of work within My Life a Full Life regarding the Whole Integrated System Review following an initial outline of the work by David Newton, Chairman of WISR.

Councillor Richard Priest
Chairman of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Sub Committee

**REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE
TO THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL
ON WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE 2016**

The Committee had another busy agenda for its meeting on 19 May 2016. Maggie Blyth, the chair of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board kindly gave a very informative overview of its work and current issues. The actions being taken following members' concerns raised at a previous meeting regarding safeguarding procedures in language schools were outlined. Further information is also being sought on reasons why parents elected to home educate their children.

Like a number of other areas there are problems with teacher recruitment. There was discussion on what can be done to assist in making the profession more attractive on the island and how existing teachers can be supported to ensure that these are retained.

The introduction of revised payments to those providing fostering places was considered. The Committee will be monitoring the impact of these to ascertain if it does lead to improvements in the recruitment and retention of carers.

**Councillor Conrad Gauntlett
Chairman of the Children's Committee**