

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2016

Rural Broadband Project

At its meeting on 8 November 2016 the Scrutiny Committee considered a report on the completion of the rural broadband project. This had been successfully implemented and well within the budget. Although there is still 1% of households and businesses without access to fibre broadband a number of other initiatives were available to help overcome this.

Quarterly performance

In discussing issues highlighted within the quarter two performance report, the committee has asked for more details on the reasons why the targets for the number of adults and children engaged in sport and physical activities are not being achieved.

The committee noted that a service review of the Fire and Rescue Service was to be undertaken next year. It has requested to see the terms of reference and other relevant detail about consultation. Additionally a more detailed report on aspects of performance has been sought.

The continued absence of performance measures was raised. I will be meeting with the Executive member for Public Health, Public Protection and PFI to find a way forward without compromising any commercially sensitive information.

Budget

The committee continues to challenge the delivery of savings and the robustness of the process in identifying these and ensuring action is taken to deliver these. Members have expressed concerns over the £1.4m funding gap in respect of the Better Care Fund resulting from the IW Clinical Commissioning Group's financial situation.

Devolution

In addition to having this as a standing item on the agenda in the future, it was suggested that group leaders should meet with the Chief Executive to agree on a mechanism whereby information can be disseminated and discussed.

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, 16 NOVEMBER 2016

It is interesting to note that there is a motion on the full council agenda relating to pharmacies on the island and the possible impact that recently announced funding reductions by NHS England would have. The sub committee was fortunate in having Paul Bennett, the Chief Officer of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Pharmaceutical Committee, in attendance at its meeting on 17 October who gave a comprehensive report on a range of key issues. One of these related to the funding cuts and reforms facing local pharmacies at a time when they are being asked to play a greater role in the public's health and wellbeing. As the result of this the Health and Wellbeing Board has been asked to consider the impact of any reduction in the level of service on the Island. Additionally a letter of concern has been sent to NHS England expressing the concerns of the sub committee about the funding cuts and reforms. A copy of Mr Bennett's report is available on the website with the rest of the sub committee's agenda papers.

Members also congratulated Shanklin Pharmacist, Francisco Alvarez, on becoming National Community Pharmacist of the Year, in part recognising his work on the Island with Pharmacy First: With Shanklin Mayor, I attended a local presentation event celebrating this success, and am arranging a local event highlighting the work of Pharmacies in local communities.

Members heard from Dr John Rivers, Chairman of the IW Clinical Commissioning Group on proposals to cease the provision by prescription of gluten free foods to those diagnosed with coeliac disease. In the light of the debate on this matter I have written to the CCG setting out concerns as to the possible impact that this would have on those currently in receipt of this service.

An update was given on the Whole Integrated System Review as part of My Life a Full Life. The sub committee will be looking in greater detail at the financing and governance of this project together with the timeframe involved.

Members are keeping the completion of a discharge summary for patients leaving St Mary's Hospital, ambulance handover and response times and the redesign of urgent care services under regular review. Comments have also been made in respect of co-responders employed by the Council.

The annual social care complaints report was also considered and the actions being taken as the result of cases noted.

I have also met with several service users regarding concerns they have with service provision, discussed potential projects with Carers Association, and met with a representative of MND regarding a future initiative.

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, 16 NOVEMBER 2016**

The Children's Committee next meets on 24 November 2016.

The agenda will feature a progress report on the delivery of the Youth Justice Plan by the Head of the Youth Offending Team. This will provide an opportunity of reviewing activities and achievements during 2015/16, progress on actions being taken as the result of the HMI Probation inspection in April 2016 and the impact of financial pressures due to reducing funding and grants.

Consideration will be given to the implementation and operation of the Neglect Strategy. Neglect has been identified by both Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children's Board as a priority. The strategy will help raise general awareness of this issue and the role that all partners can play in overcoming this form of abuse.

Members will have the opportunity of using current data to develop a new education strategic plan for the Island. It is anticipated that a number of key themes will be identified that can then be incorporated into the revised document.

A presentation will also be given on adolescents at risk and the work being undertaken to reduce this.

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