



REPORT OF: Democratic Services

REPORT TO: Health and Adults Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

ON: 21st January 2015.

RE: Work programme update

1. Purpose of the Report

For Members of the Health and Adults Overview and Scrutiny Committee to note the progress to date of the work programme 2014-15 and to review the priorities for the remainder of the year, acknowledging that only one Standing Committees remain in the Municipal year; namely 9th March.

2. Background

The last meeting of the Committee took place on 1st December 2014. Members considered the item "Food poverty, food relief and food resilience. The Director of Public Health attended and gave a presentation on the subject. An agreement was reached to invite a group of key stakeholders in the borough to the next meeting, namely; [Waste and Action Resources Programme](#), [Blackburn Foodbank](#), [Tauheedul Charity and Food for All](#) and [Darwen Food Larder](#)

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 To note the progress on the work programme and
- 3.2 Review the work programme for the remainder of the Municipal Year that is able to report recommendations to the last meeting of the Committee on 9th March 2015.

4. Remaining work programme 2014- 2015.

As outlined in the purpose of the report the Committee has only one further Standing meetings in the municipal calendar; namely 9th March 2015: Therefore all other work needs to be concluded to deliver recommendations at its final meeting on 9th March 2015.

The caveat being that this does not include any work the Committee choose to undertake outside of the formal meetings by way of task and finish groups or informal collaborative reviews, however the Committee should be mindful that the outcomes of any additional work will require reporting back by the same date; namely 9th March 2015.

Members will be aware that the Executive Member for Health and Adults and the Director of Public health presented priorities and risks to the first meeting in the municipal year, with Members being asked to choose which areas they as a Committee felt they wished to scrutinise.

“The effective delivery of the nationally mandated Public health programmes” was a Member learning and awareness event successfully concluded on 10th September.

“Independence through preventative support” and revisit of *Loneliness and Social Isolation* was partially dealt with in a meeting with the Director of Adult Social Care and the Chief Executive of AgeUk on 15th October. However, it should be noted that one of the outcomes was an agreement to undertake some follow up work. This still remains to be done with further work being undertaken in the New Year (2015).

Obesity as a review formed the main focus of the October meeting of the Committee, however it is envisaged more work will be done before the last meeting with recommendations being presented to the 9th March.

“Reducing Health Inequalities in vulnerable communities” was the headline from which the Committee chose to look specifically at *Food banks food poverty and the effects of welfare reform*: This review, started in December, and forms the main part of the agenda for this January meeting.

This summarises the work of the Committee so far, however, as is often the case, other issues may arise throughout the year which may warrant the attention of the Committee: With the winter of 2015 being purported to be “the worst winter in 100 years”, a meeting was convened on 10th December with a group of partner organisations to consider Blackburn with Darwen’s partnership approach to winter preparedness and resilience (formally referred to as the Winter Plan). Key outcomes from that meeting in the form of an assurance exercise with key stakeholders testing the whole system model, challenging performance and testing assumptions which could drive better value across a range of disciplines and sectors, producing a more robust whole sector approach to delivering winter resilience and business continuity is being considered.

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