

**Subject:** Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee  
(HOSC) 2008/2009 Work Programme

**Date of Meeting:** July 23 2008

**Report of:** The Director of Strategy and Governance

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**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report details the recommendations of the HOSC working group instituted to develop a 2008/2009 work programme.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members agree the draft work programme (reprinted in Appendix A to this report) should form the basis of the 2008/2009 HOSC work programme.

#### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 At the 11 June 2008 HOSC meeting, members resolved to “set up a working group to develop a draft work programme for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee.”
- 3.2 A working group was subsequently instituted. Working group members were: Councillor Denise Cobb and Councillor Kevin Allen. The members were supported by the Head of Scrutiny. A meeting was scheduled for 07 July 2008 at which the draft work programme was developed.

- 3.3 The working group was advised by officers from Brighton & Hove City Teaching Primary Care Trust, Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust, South Downs Health NHS Trust, Sussex Partnership Trust and the Brighton & Hove Local Involvement Network (LINK) Host.
- 3.4 The working group considered a number of proposals for possible areas of work. Many of these proposals came from HOSC members (the previous HOSC had drawn up a list of priority areas at its 23 April 2008 meeting). Proposals were also considered from other sources including local NHS organisations, The Director of Public Health and the Older People's Council.
- 3.5 The Brighton & Hove LINK is still being developed and officers of the LINK Host were not in a position to present the working group with a formal LINK work programme, although members were informed of topics which had been identified as priorities by members of the public attending LINK development events.
- 3.6 When considering items for the draft HOSC work programme working group members had in mind not only the inherent importance of various topics, but their relation to the Council's corporate priorities and to the health needs of City residents. Consideration was also given to the resources available to the HOSC and to whether the Committee could realistically hope to "add value" by scrutinising particular subjects.
- 3.7 After considering a number of topics, working group members determined a draft 2008/2009 work programme (see Appendix A).
- 3.8 Members identified three subjects as being of particular importance: the current national review of the NHS (the "Darzi" review); Community Care (especially in terms of activity transferring from the acute to the community sector); and the Public Health agenda. It was felt that these topics all warranted detailed consideration.
- 3.9 Members also identified a number of other subjects for examination over the next twelve months. All subjects identified by the working group are listed in Appendix A.
- 3.10 In addition the working group sought to determine the most appropriate "mode" of scrutiny for each topic chosen. Thus, some issues might require a single report to a committee meeting, whilst others would be better dealt with via an ad hoc Panel or a Select Committee. This is an area in which the input of HOSC members and advice from partners will be instrumental in developing a work programme which is successful in identifying both the key issues facing the local health economy and the most effective ways of dealing with those issues.

- 3.11 The 2008/2009 work programme is intended to provide a structure for the HOSC over the next twelve months. However, the work programme does not seek definitively to restrict which issues the HOSC can examine. Members are encouraged to suggest additional items for consideration throughout the year, as are local NHS Trusts, the Older People's Council, the Brighton & Hove LINK and members of the public.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 The draft HOSC work programme has been formulated after consultation with officers of Brighton & Hove City Council, Brighton & Hove City Teaching Primary Care Trust, Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust, South Downs Health NHS Trust, Sussex Partnership Trust, the Brighton & Hove Older People's Council and the Brighton & Hove Local Involvement Network (LINK) Host.

#### **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 No financial advice has been sought. It is not anticipated that there will be any financial implications to this report, other than in terms of the need to effectively allocate Scrutiny resources.

##### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 There are no legal implications arising from the recommendation in this report. At the point where reviews are undertaken and proposals made, there may be human rights and other legal implications to consider and these will be addressed as part of the reporting of those reviews .

*Lawyer consulted: Elizabeth Culbert; Date 9th July.*

##### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are no direct equalities implications to this report, although all of the issues featured in the 2008/2009 draft HOSC work programme will need to be explored with reference to equalities considerations.

##### Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no direct sustainability implications to this report, although some of the issues featured in the 2008/2009 draft HOSC work programme will need to be explored with reference to equalities considerations.

##### Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are no direct crime & disorder implications to this report. Some issues included in the draft HOSC work programme may relate to crime & disorder (for instance, in terms of city Public Health priorities regarding alcohol/substance misuse).

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 No formal risk assessment has been undertaken in regard to this report, although the HOSC working group was mindful of the need to focus on areas which present an opportunity for the Committee's work to "add value" to the Local Health Economy.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 Developing and maintaining a successful Local Health Economy is a crucial factor in advancing many corporate and citywide priorities. An effective HOSC can support this development, and the 2008/2009 draft HOSC work programme is a key document in ensuring that the HOSC works effectively.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices:**

1. Appendix A: HOSC Draft Work Programme 2008/2009