

Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee

Dorset County Council



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| Date of Meeting | 29 November 2018 |
| Officer | Helen Coombes, Transformation Programme Lead for the Adult and Community Services Forward Together Programme |
| Subject of Report | Annual Reports 2017/18 and Work Programmes for 2019: Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee and Healthwatch Dorset |
| Executive Summary | <p>Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee operates under the requirements of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013. The Committee includes 12 Members, 6 County Councillors and 6 District and Borough Councillors, representing the localities across the Dorset County Council area.</p> <p>Each year the Committee agrees a work programme, consisting of standing items and new matters for review and scrutiny. An Annual Report is collated, providing a summary of the year's work, setting out the range and nature of the scrutiny that has been undertaken and providing context for the coming year.</p> <p>Healthwatch Dorset also publish an Annual Report and set an annual work programme. Under the terms of a Joint Protocol (November 2014) between Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee and Healthwatch Dorset, the two bodies agreed to share information about their work and priorities, with a view to avoiding duplication and encouraging cooperation and support.</p> <p>This report therefore also provides a copy of the Healthwatch Dorset Annual Report for 2017/18 and enables Members to consider the priorities chosen by Healthwatch for 2019, whilst recognising the changes that will take place to the Committee's structure following the establishment of the new Authority on 1 April. It is suggested that Members defer detailed discussions about the Health Scrutiny Committee work programme which</p> |

Annual Reports 2017/18 and Work Programmes 2019

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| | normally take place at this time of year, until their first meeting under Dorset Council. |
| Impact Assessment: | Equalities Impact Assessment: Not applicable. |
| | Use of Evidence: Minutes of Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee; notes from LGA development workshop; report by Healthwatch Dorset. |
| | Budget: Not applicable. |
| | Risk Assessment: Current Risk: LOW Residual Risk: LOW |
| | Other Implications: None. |
| Recommendations | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Members note the content of the DHSC Annual Report and agree that it is a true record of the work of the Committee from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018; 2. That Members note and comment on the Healthwatch Dorset Annual Report 2017/18 and work priorities for 2019 and consider how the work of the Committee may support those priorities; 3. That Members agree to defer detailed discussions regarding the Committee's work programme for 2019, until their first meeting under the new Dorset Council. |
| Reason for Recommendations | <p>To maintain a record of the work of the Committee and to provide a summary for those who are interested in that work.</p> <p>To support the role of Healthwatch Dorset and to ensure that the Committee is aware of the priorities identified.</p> <p>To enable the Committee to fulfil its duties under the new Dorset Council after 1 April 2019.</p> |
| Appendices | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2017/18 2. Healthwatch Dorset Annual Report 2017/18 |
| Background Papers | Minutes of Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee: https://dorset.moderngov.co.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=142 |
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Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2017/18**1. The role of the Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee**

- 1.1 The Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee (DHSC) operates under the provisions of the National Health Service Act 2006 governing the local authority health scrutiny function and the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013, which came into force on 1 April 2013. Guidance to support Local Authorities was subsequently published by the Department of Health in June 2014¹.
- 1.2 The Committee currently comprises 12 elected councillors, six representing Dorset County Council and one from each of Christchurch Borough Council, East Dorset District Council, North Dorset District Council, Purbeck District Council, West Dorset District Council and Weymouth and Portland Borough Council.
- 1.3 The terms of reference for the Committee reflect the Regulations for Health Scrutiny and the Guidance published by the Department of Health. However, the broad remit of the Committee continues to be that it:
- Works in partnership with local health service providers and the public to improve health and wellbeing in Dorset;
 - Makes constructive recommendations for improvement;
 - Looks at areas or groups of people in the community who suffer from worse health than others and considers how this inequality can be improved;
 - Considers and comments on major developments or changes (substantial variations) by the local NHS that will affect people in Dorset.
- 1.4 This report provides a summary of the work undertaken by DHSC from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, reflecting on what has been achieved.

2. Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee meetings

- 2.1 The DHSC met formally five times during the year April 2017 to March 2018: 10 July, 4 September, 13 November and 20 December 2017, and 8 March 2018. The Committee received and scrutinised a wide range of formal reports, presentations and briefings from organisations such as NHS Provider Trusts and Commissioners, Healthwatch Dorset and Dorset County Council. Some of the key items discussed are highlighted below.

Mental Health Services

- 2.2 The Committee received a number of reports linked to mental health issues over the year, as follows:

¹ Local Authority Health Scrutiny: Guidance to support Local Authorities and their partners to deliver effective health scrutiny: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advice-to-local-authorities-on-scrutinising-health-services>

- A report of the findings following an inspection by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) of Dorset Healthcare University NHS Foundation Trust's Substance Misuse Services was presented in July 2017. The Committee congratulated the Trust on having achieved a 'good' rating for its services and noted the actions that had been suggested and the implementation plan;
- A report was presented to the Committee in March 2018 regarding the outcome of an Inquiry Day which had been hosted by the Dorset County Council People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee in December 2017. Following the restructure of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees in 2016, there has been a greater focus on member-led reviews such as this and a drive towards increased liaison between Committees, where areas of interest overlap. The Chair of the Health Scrutiny Committee was therefore invited to the Inquiry Day and it was agreed that the outcomes would be shared in due course. The report highlighted the key issues that had been raised (the need for consistency, accessibility, a more positive profile for mental health and more person-centred recovery support) and set out the plan going forwards. It was reported that new models of care were being developed and further reviews of services, including dementia support, were to be undertaken.

Primary Care, Community Services and Acute Care Provision

2.3 The Health Scrutiny Committee has also considered a number of reports over the past year in relation to primary care services, community services and the system-wide Sustainability and Transformation Plan, looking in particular at new ways of working and integration:

- In September 2017 NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) provided an update report (following previous reports in December 2016 and March 2017) detailing the on-going evolution of primary care services (general practitioners) and the links to community hubs. Different ways of delivering services, including mergers and joint-working between surgeries and hospitals, were being developed and workforce planning continued. Members expressed concerns about transport and accessibility of surgeries in some areas and queried the location of the planned hubs. The CCG stressed that they were working with GPs (and others) to look at transport and access and that services would not close before plans were in place for patients to continue to receive services;
- In March 2018 Members received a presentation from the CCG regarding proposals for an Integrated Urgent Care Service. The changes would offer features such as an improved NHS 111 Service, more efficient GP out of hours facilities, direct booking into Urgent Treatment Centres and, in time, access to on-line GP consultations. The service would have a partnership approach and was subject to a procurement exercise (with the contract to commence in April 2019);
- The implementation of the local Sustainability and Transformation Plan is led by the CCG and in September 2017 they provided the Committee with an update highlighting the key work streams within the plan, governance matters and progress so far. It was reported that the work sitting under the five enabling portfolios was progressing at different pace across the system, as a result of the need to wait for key decisions to be made regarding the Clinical Services Review later that month. The portfolios were: One Acute Network; Integrated Community and Primary Care Services; Prevention at Scale; Digitally Transformed Dorset; and Leading and Working Differently. Members heard about specific projects, challenges and the national drive for different models of care, supporting more people in the community.

The Clinical Services Review

- 2.4 Although formal scrutiny of the Clinical Services Review (and Mental Health Acute Care Pathway Review) must, in line with Regulations, be devolved to the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee, Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee Members have maintained a close interest in the matter. An update report is therefore included on the agenda at each DHSC meeting. In November 2017 a report was presented outlining the response from the CCG to recommendations which had been made by the Joint Committee, following a meeting on 3 August. Those recommendations related to the outcome of the CCG's Governing Body meeting held on 20 September, at which key decisions were made with regard to the future provision of health services in Dorset.
- 2.5 In addition to the update report, three questions and three statements concerning the Clinical Services Review had been submitted to DHSC by members of the public. The representations requested that, in light of concerns that the public had, DHSC refer the matters to the Secretary of State for Health. Following discussion, it was agreed that DHSC would make a referral, pending a meeting of the JHSC to seek their view, which was to be arranged as soon as possible.
- 2.6 The JHSC met on 12 December and considered the decision made by DHSC to submit a referral. On balance, the members of that Committee decided not to support the decision, and this was subsequently fed back to DHSC on 20 December 2017. DHSC Members considered the discussions that had taken place at the Joint Committee and heard evidence from NHS Dorset CCG and a range of representatives from the local acute hospitals, ambulance services, community health services and general practice. The rationale for the changes was emphasised along with view that they would benefit Dorset's residents.
- 2.7 Members discussed whether to proceed with a referral, based on the additional information that had been provided and on the advice that a referral was unlikely to meet the necessary criteria. By a majority vote, Members resolved not to proceed, but to support the proposed further scrutiny of ambulance services and emergency transport, in relation to the changes to be implemented under the Clinical Services Review.
- 2.8 In March 2018 an update report to DHSC restated the outcome of the Joint Committee meeting on 12 December and the subsequent DHSC meeting on 20 December, at which Members had resolved not to proceed with a referral to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, but to support further scrutiny of emergency transport by a Joint Committee to be hosted by the Borough of Poole. However, reflecting the views of public participants at the meeting, some Members felt that the Committee had failed to fully scrutinise the CSR proposals and whether they were 'in the interests of the health service' in the area, and suggested that the decision to make a referral to the Secretary of State should again be reviewed. Following discussions, it was agreed that a task and finish group of five Members would be established to collate wider evidence and determine whether the criteria for a referral would be met. The group met for the first time in July 2018 and subsequently reported back to DHSC with recommendations once their work was completed. *(Update: On 17 October 2018 DHSC considered the recommendation of the Task and Finish Group that a referral should not be made to the Secretary of State. By a majority vote, Members rejected the recommendation and decided to proceed with a referral, and this was done on 5 November 2018. At the time of reporting the outcome was awaited.)*

3 Review – End of Life Care in Dorset

- 3.1 Following a commitment under their annual work programme, in November 2017 the Committee considered a multi-agency presentation and report about the provision of end of life care in Dorset. Members heard from representatives of the CCG, the community services provider (Dorset HealthCare), the acute care provider (Dorset County Hospital) and the local Hospice (Weldmar) about current services, challenges and plans for the future.
- 3.2 Members raised concerns about communications between agencies, the provision of urgent equipment, access to IT systems where information needed to be shared, funding arrangements and workforce issues. Members were reassured to hear of on-going work in relation to improving access to information systems and the session provided a useful opportunity for the presenters to hear of some of the difficulties that arise in the community, which they resolved to take back to their working groups.

4. Joint Health Scrutiny Committees

- 4.1 Two Joint Health Scrutiny Committees are currently in place, but only one met in 2017/18. Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee appoints three Members on an annual basis to each of these Joint Committees. The first (scrutinising the Clinical Services Review and Mental Health Acute Care Pathway Review) is hosted by Dorset County Council, the second (scrutinising services provided by South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust) is hosted by the Borough of Poole.

Joint Health Scrutiny Committee: Clinical Services Review and Mental Health Acute Care Pathway Review

- 4.2 NHS Dorset CCG commenced a Clinical Services Review (including Integrated Community Services) in October 2014, followed by a parallel but separate Mental Health Acute Care Pathway Review. As the Reviews cover Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole and affect residents in Hampshire and Somerset, a Joint Committee was convened to include members from each of the five Local Authorities, and met for the first time formally in July 2015. During the year 2017/18 the Committee met twice.
- 4.3 In August 2017 the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee (JHSC) met to review the outcomes of public consultations into the Clinical Services and Mental Health Acute Care Pathway Review that had been undertaken by the CCG. Following the meeting, the minutes were used as the basis for a formal response from the Joint Committee to the CCG, regarding their view of the outcomes. The response included a series of recommendations centred around service provision, the consultation process and implementation of any agreed proposals. The CCG subsequently responded to those recommendations and set out the actions that they would take.
- 4.4 In December 2017 an urgent meeting of the JHSC was convened to respond to concerns that had been raised through public statements and questions at a meeting of Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee (DHSC) on 13 November 2017. Those concerns particularly related to the impact of changes on residents living in the Purbeck area, with access to emergency treatment foremost. The Joint Committee met to consider its position (in accordance with governance) in relation to a decision by DHSC to make a referral to the Secretary of State for Health. The Joint Committee received presentations and evidence from the CCG and a range of providers, including the acute hospitals, community health services and general practice. Members recognised the concerns raised, in particular noting the

difficulties in relation to emergency access to acute and maternity services for some individuals. However, a majority of Members voted not to support the decision by Dorset's Members to make a referral to the Secretary of State, proposing instead that detailed scrutiny of emergency ambulance services would be more appropriate and beneficial. It was agreed that this detailed scrutiny work would be undertaken by the Joint Committee which had originally been established to look at the NHS 111 service provided by South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SWAST).

5 Healthwatch Dorset

- 5.1 Healthwatch Dorset continue to attend Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee meetings to provide the perspective of the customer voice, contributing to discussions and to the planning of the work programme.
- 5.2 In September 2017 the Vice-Chair (Margaret Guy) presented their annual report, outlining the projects that Healthwatch Dorset had undertaken during the previous year, looking at both health and social care. In addition, the work of the organisation in relation to the Clinical Services Review and the CCG's Sustainability and Transformation Plan was highlighted and Members noted the on-going nature of their role in promoting customer engagement and meaningful involvement.

6 Task and Finish Groups

Quality Accounts

- 6.1 Task and Finish Groups consisting of the Chair, Vice-Chair and a Trust Liaison Member appointed annually, met twice during the year 2017/18 to consider Quality Account reporting by the two main provider Trusts operating within the County: Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust and Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. These meetings offer an informal opportunity for the Trusts to share information and to report progress against national and local performance targets, and for the Groups to explore any concerns and gain an understanding of particular context and/or pressures.
- 6.2 The Trusts are required, under the Health Act 2009 and under amendments within the Health and Social Care Act 2012, to submit their Annual Quality Accounts to the Secretary of State (Department of Health) and the submission must be shared with local Scrutiny Committees, who are invited to comment. In July 2017 the DHSC received a report regarding the final submissions, sharing with the Committee the commentary provided by the Task and Finish Groups. The content of that report and the full commentary can be found at agenda item 24 here:
<https://dorset.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=142&MId=1009&Ver=4>

7. Local Government Association development workshop

- 7.1 In September 2017 the Committee took up an offer by the Local Government Association to facilitate a development workshop, to help Members to think about what the Committee does and how it does it; to look at how the Committee works with the public and organisations; and to consider priorities within the next year's work programme.

- 7.2 The workshop helped Members, a number of whom were new to the Committee, to understand the legal context underpinning health scrutiny and the national and local context of health services. The skills and information that Members need were considered, along with the variety of ways that such a Committee can operate.
- 7.3 The development of the annual work programme was also discussed, looking at the priority areas that Members wished to focus on, alongside the priorities that had been identified by other Committees within the Council and Healthwatch Dorset. Giving due regard to the rationale behind each priority and what could be achieved via scrutiny, it was agreed that the following four topics would be reviewed during the coming year: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services; Suicide prevention; Health and housing; and Transport for health. These topics were subsequently confirmed at Committee on 13 November 2017, and lead Members were appointed to work with the Health Partnerships Officer and officers from relevant organisations to develop plans for delivery of the reviews.

8 Minutes, agendas and Committee membership

- 8.1 The minutes for all Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee meetings can be found at: <http://dorset.moderngov.co.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=142>
- 8.2 The minutes for the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee scrutinising the Clinical Services Review and Mental Health Acute Care Pathway Review can be found at: <http://dorset.moderngov.co.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=268>
- 8.3 The minutes for the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee scrutinising NHS 111 Services can be found at: <http://ha2.boroughofpoole.com/akspoole/users/public/admin/kab71.pl?cmte=HES>
- 8.4 Details of the current membership of the Committee and terms of reference can be found at: <http://dorset.moderngov.co.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=142>

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November 2018

Healthwatch Dorset Annual Report – Please see PDF