

MEETING:	HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE:	18 JUNE 2010
TITLE OF REPORT:	CONSIDERATION OF POPULATION HEALTH ISSUES
REPORT BY:	DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Purpose

To consider a timetable for Committee's consideration of issues relating to population health.

Recommendation

THAT: the Health Scrutiny Committee approves and agrees the revised order in which the population health issues are presented to the Committee.

Key Points Summary

- A series of issues and questions relating to population health in Herefordshire has previously been proposed under the following five headings:
 - What are Herefordshire Public Services doing to improve the health and wellbeing of older people in the short and medium term?
 - What are Herefordshire Public Services doing to improve access to health services, bearing in mind the unique issues faced by our rural population?
 - What are Herefordshire Public Services doing to improve people's diet and take-up of exercise?
 - What are Herefordshire Public Services doing to address alcohol misuse and smoking?
 - What are Herefordshire Public Services doing to address health issues which are related to housing?
- A revision to the order in which the issues listed above are considered by the Health Scrutiny Committee is recommended as this will allow ongoing and future developments to be included in reports and presentations to the Committee on these topics, including the development of the Health Improvement Plan 2010/11; the Health and Wellbeing Conference on 10 June 2010; the Employment and Recovery Conference on 17 June 2010 and the Audit Commission inspection of housing which finished on 28 May 2010.
- The proposed order to address the issues is as follows:

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Name and Title: Dr Akeem Ali on (01432) 260668

- What are Herefordshire Public Services doing to address alcohol misuse and smoking?

Proposed Committee meeting date: 30 July 2010

- What are Herefordshire Public Services doing to improve people's diet and take-up of exercise?

Proposed Committee meeting date: 20 September 2010

- What are Herefordshire Public Services doing to improve access to health services, bearing in mind the unique issues faced by our rural population.

Proposed Committee meeting date: 22 November 2010

- What are Herefordshire Public Services doing to improve the health and wellbeing of older people in the short and medium term?

Proposed Committee meeting date: 21 January 2011

- What are Herefordshire Public Services doing to address health issues which are related to housing?

Proposed Committee meeting date: 18 March 2011

Alternative Options

- 1 To consider the issues in the order proposed in the original background paper. The disadvantage of this would be that not all of the information which is of direct relevance may be available in time and opportunities for the Committee to consider the issues fully may therefore be compromised.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 2 The reason for the recommendation is to ensure that the Health Scrutiny Committee receives the best possible information to inform its understanding of the issues with regard to population health in Herefordshire.

Introduction and Background

- 3 The work programme of the Health Scrutiny Committee 2010/11 was considered at the Health Scrutiny Committee meeting on 29 March 2010 and a future work programme was proposed which included population health and inequalities. A report to the Committee on population health was planned for 18 June 2010. Further to these discussions a paper was produced outlining key questions under five topic headings about population health issues in Herefordshire (*Population Health: issues to address/questions to ask*). This was sent to the Director of Public Health on 3 May 2010. The contents of this paper have now been considered by the Director of Public Health, Assistant Directorate of Public Health and Public Health Leads in the context of the work of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Group (which consists of public, private and voluntary sector partners and is a Policy and Delivery Group of the Herefordshire Partnership) and in the context of the recent establishment of the Staying Healthy Programme Workstream (Staying Healthy is one of the six Programme Workstreams) and the development of the Herefordshire Population Health Improvement Plan 2010/11. A wide range of stakeholders will have the opportunity to contribute to the Population Health

Improvement Plan at the forthcoming Health and Wellbeing Conference on 10th June 2010 and the final version of the Plan is due to be signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Group on 22 July 2010. It is envisaged that this Plan will form the action plan for the Staying Healthy Programme Workstream, with the Health and Wellbeing Group being instrumental in ensuring its implementation. The Population Health Improvement Plan will provide a single, unified plan for population health improvement in the county and will therefore be a key source of information of relevance to the issues to be considered at future meetings of the Health Scrutiny Committee. The Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2009 will also be launched at the Health and Wellbeing Conference on 10 June 2010 (see separate paper).

Key Considerations

- 4 The Health Scrutiny Committee would be best served by a revised order of the issues to ensure that appropriate information could be provided on each issue. Smoking and alcohol are identified as key priorities for the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Group and Directorate of Public Health and key data are currently available on these topics. Smoking and alcohol are therefore proposed as the first topics for consideration by the Health Scrutiny Committee in July 2010 with the full proposed work programme in relation to population health being as outlined above.

Community Impact

- 5 None identified in relation to the recommendation to revise the order in which the Committee considers issues relating to Population Health.

Financial Implications

- 6 None identified in relation to this recommendation.

Legal Implications

- 7 No legal implications identified in relation to this recommendation.

Risk Management

- 8 No risks identified in relation to this recommendation.

Consultees

- 9 Director of Public Health, Assistant Director of Public Health and Public Health Leads.

Appendices

- 10 None.

Background Papers

- None