

Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee Chair's Update – November 2024

Scrutiny Review – Reablement Service	
Achieved since last meeting	<p>The scope and plan for this review was agreed by the Committee at the meeting in September 2024. The aim is to identify whether the Reablement Service offered by the Council is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) maximising independence for people being discharged from hospital and living in the community. 2) reducing the need for ongoing, more intensive support in people's own homes and reducing the need for admission into 24-hour care. 3) working effectively with NHS provision that supports people on a reablement pathway. 4) using technology as effectively as possible. <p>Identified contributors include the SBC Adults, Health and Wellbeing directorate, the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB), local NHS Trusts, the VCSE sector, service-users and their families / carers, and other Local Authority approaches.</p> <p>The first evidence-gathering session took place at the last Committee meeting in October 2024 where officers from the SBC Adults, Health and Wellbeing directorate provided an initial submission which covered several elements including legal requirements, existing service structures, and current / future challenges. Members requested further information around service funding and costs.</p>
Problems or concerns	<p>As previously noted, ensuring the Committee is briefed on any developments in relation to this service instigated via the Council's ongoing <i>Powering Our Future</i> initiative will be important so Members have all relevant information prior to formulating any recommendations.</p>
Planned this / next month	<p>The NENC ICB will be providing views on this scrutiny topic at the next Committee meeting in November 2024.</p>
On track – yes / no	<p>Yes</p>

Overview / Performance and Quality Assurance	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>Healthwatch Stockton-on-Tees – Annual Report 2023-2024: In September 2024, the Committee was presented with the latest Healthwatch Stockton-on-Tees Annual Report (2023-2024) which covered the year in review, how they made a difference, the public's voice heard at a wider level, hearing from all communities, advice and information, volunteering, finance and future priorities, and statutory statements. Members raised comments / questions around NHS dentistry provision, the benefits of the organisation's 'Word on the Street' reports, and following-up on recommendations from previous reviews of local services.</p>

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	<p>SBC Community Spaces: Following a commitment made to the SBC Executive Scrutiny Committee in January 2024 to bring a report to a future SBC Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee meeting, consideration was given to an update on the SBC Community Spaces initiative in September 2024. An ‘Annual Evaluation’ report was presented (which included a review of the previous year and incorporated case studies), with Members commenting on the positive value of these spaces, whilst expressing concern that further pressure would be put on this initiative as a result of the recent national decisions on winter fuel allowance payments.</p> <p>LGA Peer Assurance Challenge Update: The September 2024 meeting also included an update following the Council’s involvement in a recent Local Government Association (LGA) Assurance Peer Challenge (undertaken ahead of the forthcoming Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection). Whilst welcoming the positive feedback from the LGA, Members highlighted the ‘front door’ issues identified by the LGA review team and expressed concern about residents being passed from ‘pillar to post’ – indeed, it was felt that this was a Council-wide problem rather than just an Adults, Health and Wellbeing directorate one.</p> <p>Care and Health Winter Planning Update: Prior to its presentation to SBC Cabinet in November 2024, the Committee considered a report on plans for the forthcoming winter period at the meeting in October 2024. Subsequent discussion points covered the value of the Council’s PAMMS inspections, the capacity dashboard, the recent Winter Conference, ongoing concerns regarding SBC switchboard issues, increasing COVID rates / hospitalisation, and sufficiency / promotion of COVID vaccine sites.</p>
Requests for more information	None

NHS Updates / Consultations	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	None
Requests for more information	None

Regional Health Committees	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee: The chair and support function for the Committee sits with Hartlepool Borough Council for 2024-2025. The first meeting of the municipal year took place on 19 September 2024 and included Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV) updates on Respite Care / Adult Learning Disability Services and the Community Mental Health Transformation initiative, as well as an update on the Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) in Stockton. The next meeting is scheduled for the 7 November 2024 – agenda items</p>

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	<p>include a NENC ICB winter plan update, opioid prescribing and dependency across the Tees Valley, the Tees Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan, and Health Inequalities in the Tees Valley.</p> <p>Southern Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) / Integrated Care System (ICS) Joint Health Scrutiny Committee: No meetings are currently scheduled.</p> <p>North East Regional Health Committee: No meetings are currently scheduled.</p>
Requests for more information	None

Monitoring	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>No updates had been received by the Committee since the last Executive Scrutiny Committee meeting.</p> <p>Future progress updates regarding previously completed reviews will be received by the Committee as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care at Home (TBC) • Access to GPs and Primary Medical Care (TBC)
Requests for more information	None

Next Scrutiny Review
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be confirmed

Remaining 2024-2025 Meetings (all 4.00pm unless stated)	
Tuesday 19 November 2024	Tuesday 18 February 2025
Tuesday 17 December 2024	Tuesday 18 March 2025
Tuesday 21 January 2025	