

**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
HEALTH & ADULT CARE SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 16 JANUARY 2003 AT 10.30 AM**

Agenda item
No.

4

**ADULT CARE SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME 2003/4**

Report of the County Secretary

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1. Purpose of Report

To consider the items outlined for possible scrutiny by the Scrutiny Committee.

2. Summary

This report presents a number of items which have been put forward to be included on the Committee agenda for scrutiny. These may form a Work Programme for 2003/4 FOR THE Adult Care Services part of the agenda, but will not preclude Members raising other issues over the course of the year. The report also includes a list of areas of work the Committee have scrutinised since January 2002.

1. Background

- 1.1 Since January 2002, the Adult Care Services Scrutiny Committee scrutinised the following areas of work:
- Progress on the National Carers' Strategy in Hertfordshire
 - Annual Report on Complaints
 - Direct Payments
 - Waiting times for Assessment and for services
 - Supply and Demand of Nursing Home Care and Home Care
 - Implementation of the National Service Framework for Older People
 - Supporting People
 - Joint Investment Plan for Learning Disability.
- 1.2 Items on progress on the Best Value Review Physical Disability and Sensory Loss and SSI Inspection of Services for Older People appear elsewhere on this agenda.

2. Proposed Work Programme

a. Waiting Times for Assessment and for Services

Members scrutinised this item at their March 2002 meeting and requested a report on progress. Waiting times for assessment were also identified as a top priority for action during the SSI Inspection of Services for Older People. It is suggested that a report on progress is presented to March 2003 Scrutiny Committee.

b. Direct Payments

This item was also scrutinised at the March 2002 meeting and the Director of Adult Care Services was requested to report back on a number of actions. It is suggested that a report on progress is presented to March 2003 Scrutiny Committee.

c. SSI Inspection of Services for Older People

The outcome of the SSI Inspection of Services for Older People and associated action plan appears elsewhere on this agenda. We are required to report back to the SSI in July. It is therefore suggested that this report is presented to the June 2003 Scrutiny Committee before it is sent to the SSI.

d. Building Capacity in Residential and Nursing Home Care Market

A report on supply and demand of Residential, Nursing and Home Care was presented to the June 2002 Committee. A short life Topic Group was established to consider progress on building capacity and how to monitor the quality of care. It is suggested that the Topic Group report back to the June 2003 Scrutiny Committee.

e. Asylum Seekers

Adult Care Services has the responsibility to provide financial support to Asylum Seekers who are waiting for their legal position to be determined and who are not the responsibility of the National Consortium. It is suggested that a report on this area of work is presented to the June 2003 Scrutiny Committee.

f. Transition into Adulthood

Adult Care Services and Children, Schools and Families are together responsible for ensuring that arrangements are in place and are effective to support children with disabilities who are moving into adulthood. It is suggested that a report on these arrangements is presented to the October Scrutiny Committee.

3. Conclusions

The Committee should discuss whether or not they wish to scrutinise the above items. If they choose to do so, this may be done:

- at the meeting by questioning officers/executive Member
- by requesting a further report to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Committee
- by referring the matter to a topic group
- any other way they choose

4. Financial Implications

The Assistant Chief Executive holds a small budget for support to Scrutiny Committee. If the Committee identifies that they may need additional resources for any scrutiny item, this can be considered in consultation with the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen's Group.

Background information referred to by the author whilst compiling this report

Previous report to Adult Care Services on 27 June 2002.