

Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee

Annual Report

2018-19



Contents

1. Introduction	4
2. Overview of the work of the Committee in 2018/19.....	4
2.1 Number of Meetings	4
2.2 The Forward Work Programme	4
2.3 Performance Monitoring / Strategic Issues.....	5
2.4 Revenue & Capital Budgets	6
2.5 Adult Social Care Complaints and Compliments Report.....	6
2.6 Draft Regional Strategy - “Safer Lives, Healthier Families” Tackling Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence In Our Communities 2018-2022.....	6
2.7 Annual Report on Adult Safeguarding (2016-18)	6
2.8 LDP Planning Policy In Relation To Disabilities	6
2.9 Meals on Wheels Provision	7
2.10 Workforce Planning & Development: A Regional Approach	7
2.11 Direct Payments Policy.....	7
2.12 Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2017/18	7
2.13 Transforming Clinical Services - Post Consultation and Next Steps	7
2.14 Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 - Policy & Procedures Revisions for Charging Adults for Services.....	7
2.15 Regional & Partnership Working Update.....	7
2.16 Services & Support for Children & Young People with Mental Health Issues.....	8
2.17 Regional Advocacy Service.....	8
2.18 Additional Reports Requested.....	8
3. Other Scrutiny Activity	9
3.1 Task and Finish	9
3.2 Development Sessions.....	9
4. Challenges	10
5. Future Work	10
6. Support for the Scrutiny Function	10
7. Attendance.....	11

Chair's Foreword



As Chair of the Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee, I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Committee for the year May 2018 - April 2019.

The Annual Report gives a comprehensive account of the work carried out by the Committee during 2018- 2019. A wide range of reports were considered including the budget monitoring reports, quality assurance arrangements and Transforming Clinical Services.

There have been a number of changes to the Committee membership during the year. A warm welcome is extended to all new members and I would like to thank all members, both past and present, for their diligence and commitment and for their active participation at Committee meetings.

As a committee, we strive towards continued improvement of Social Care Services and we greatly value the joint meetings held with other Scrutiny Committees where our portfolios interlink. During the year, a joint meeting was held with the Environment & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee where the Area Planning Board's Drug & Alcohol Misuse Annual Report and the Substance Misuse Service Annual Report were discussed.

The Local Authority regards Partnership working as extremely important. This ensures that a high standard of Social Care Services is maintained for the citizens of Carmarthenshire. As a Scrutiny Committee we have worked closely with and received regular reports from both the Hywel Dda University Health Board and the Regional Partnership Board. During the year, the Scrutiny Committee has also received informative presentations including Workforce Planning, Safeguarding and Country Cars. These comprehensive and informative reports enabled the Committee to gain an appreciation of the hard work and commitment of our dedicated Health and Social Care Staff and our partners.

We continue to arrange pre-meetings prior to our Scrutiny Committee meetings. These informal meetings can add clarity by providing explanations to minor queries. The pre-meetings can also give direction in preparation for the main meeting and are therefore a valuable addition to the scrutiny role.

During the year, the Task and Finish Group continued to consider the impact of loneliness and isolation within Carmarthenshire. The cross party group of six Councillors carried out a scoping exercise, received several presentations and arranged site visits prior to preparing a final report. The Task and Finish Group had a very interesting visit to the 'Men's Sheds' initiative in Ferryside where local men, with a shared interest in woodwork, meet regularly. 'Men's Sheds', a national organisation, can help alleviate loneliness and there are plans in place to develop this further within the County. The final report prepared by the Task and Finish Group, together with recommendations made, will now be presented to the Executive Board for approval.

The passing of Councillor Alun Davies brought great sadness to his fellow Councillors and to us as members of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee. Alun was a very

loyal and conscientious member who took a real interest in social services and health – we felt his loss very much. Councillor Karen Davies, Alun's wife was subsequently elected to represent the Saron Ward and was appointed onto the Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee. Our sympathies to Karen and we wish her well in taking up her new position on the Council.

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to Councillor Ieuan Davies for his continued assistance as Vice Chair of the Scrutiny Committee and also a special thanks to Councillor Jane Tremlett, the Social Care and Health Executive Board Member for regularly attending and supporting our Committee meetings.

I wish to extend my most sincere thanks to Emma Bryer, Democratic Services Officer and to all the Officers who have been in attendance at the Scrutiny meetings. Your expert advice, support and guidance is very much appreciated.

Councillor Gwyneth Thomas
Chair of Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee

1. Introduction

Article 6.2 of the Council's Constitution requires all Scrutiny Committees to “*prepare an annual report giving an account of the Committees activities over the previous year.*”

The main aim of the report is to highlight the work that has been undertaken by the Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee during 2018/19. The document may also facilitate discussion on other items that could be included within future work programmes.

The Committee is chaired by Councillor Gwyneth Thomas and is made up of 14 Elected Members. Support is provided by the Democratic Services Unit and other Council officers as and when required.

This report provides an overview of the work of the Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee during the 2018/19 municipal year. It gives Members the opportunity to reflect on the achievements during the year and to identify what worked well and where improvements could be made. This analysis is instrumental in developing scrutiny.

2. Overview of the work of the Committee in 2018/19

2.1 Number of Meetings

The Scrutiny Committee held 8 meetings plus 2 joint meeting with the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee and Environment & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee during the 2018/19 municipal year.

2.2 The Forward Work Programme

The Scrutiny Committee develops its own Forward Work Programme (FWP). The Committee met informally to identify, discuss and programme items to be considered by the Committee for the forthcoming year. This involved the inclusion of standard items such as performance, budget and action plan monitoring reports. Additional reports were also requested by members throughout the year and the Forward Work Programme was amended accordingly. In the main, meeting agendas were consistent with those outlined in the FWP.

The concept and development of the Forward Work Programme and the process for its agreement has allowed each Scrutiny Committee to determine its own agendas. The benefits of such an approach has led to an improved level of debate and input during Scrutiny Committee meetings.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 places long-term sustainability at the forefront of how public services are designed and delivered and it places emphasis on public bodies to work in partnership with each other and the public to prevent and tackle problems.

The Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee's key responsibilities are:

- Social Services for Older People including Nutritional Standards
- Adults with Learning Disabilities
- Support for Carers
- Mental Health Services
- Safeguarding of Adults
- Integration of Health and Social Care Services
- Dementia Services

To complement the work undertaken during formal meetings, the Committee also undertakes other scrutiny functions such as Task and Finish, visits to establishments falling within its remit together with member development sessions.

2.3 Performance Monitoring / Strategic Issues

Performance Monitoring Reports - One of the principal roles of Scrutiny Committees is to monitor the performance of services and functions within its remit. They undertake this work mainly through the consideration of performance monitoring reports and various action plan monitoring reports. The performance monitoring reports provide a balanced picture of performance across the relevant service areas.

The Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee received the Performance Monitoring Report for the Council's 2018/19 Wellbeing Objectives at meetings in September and April.

Carmarthenshire County Council's Draft Annual Report 2017/18 - As part of its performance monitoring role the Committee received relevant information from the Council's key strategies and plans. In July 2018, the Committee considered the Council's draft Annual Report for 2017/18, which included an overview of 2017/18 performance and progress reports for all 15 Well-being objectives. The report also provided additional performance information on out-turn data and National Survey for Wales Results.

Communities Departmental Draft Business Plan 2019/20-2022 – In December the Committee considered the Communities Departmental Draft Business Plan 2019/20-2022, which detailed the department's aims and objectives for 2019-22. This provided the Committee with an opportunity to consider and comment upon the priorities outlined for the department for the three-year period. Elements of the business plan considered were:

- Care & Support Services,
- Mental Health, Learning Disability and Safeguarding,
- Integrated Services,
- Commissioning Services.

Actions & Referrals - During the course of the municipal year, several requests for additional items are made by members of the Committee to assist them in discharging their scrutiny role. Actions & Referrals updates are presented quarterly to the Committee, which provide an update on progress in relation to these requests.

2.4 Revenue & Capital Budgets

Budget Monitoring Reports - The Committee received quarterly reports on the departmental and corporate revenue and capital budgets at the meetings held in July, September, November, January and April. These reports enabled members to monitor the level of spend in each area and the progress made in connection with any capital works.

Revenue Budget Strategy 2019/21-2022 - As well as monitoring the current budget, in November, the Committee was also consulted on the Revenue Budget Strategy 2019/20 to 21/22. The report provided the Committee with the current proposals for the Revenue Budget for 2019/20 together with the indicative figures for the 2020/21 and 2021/2022 financial years.

2.5 Adult Social Care Complaints and Compliments Report

The Committee considered the Adult Social Care Complaints and Compliments report at Committee meetings in May and November, which summarised the number and type of complaints and compliments, received and detailed the service area to which they related.

2.6 Draft Regional Strategy - “Safer Lives, Healthier Families” Tackling Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence In Our Communities 2018-2022

The Committee considered the above mentioned report at the Committee meeting in May, which outlined how the region will support victims, and survivors, tackle perpetrators, ensure professionals have the tools and knowledge to act, increase awareness of the relationships and that abusive behaviour is always wrong.

2.7 Annual Report on Adult Safeguarding (2016-18)

The Committee considered the above mentioned report at the Committee meeting in May that provided information on the role, functions and activities undertaken by the Authority with regard to Adult Safeguarding. The report explained the changing policy context of adult safeguarding and detailed arrangements the Authority established to prioritise adult safeguarding.

2.8 LDP Planning Policy In Relation To Disabilities

The Committee considered the above mentioned policy at the Committee meeting in July, which provided an overview of the preparation of the revised Local Development Plan, the relevant planning policies and the potential considerations for people with disabilities.

2.9 Meals on Wheels Provision

The Committee considered the above mentioned report at the Committee meeting in July which provided an update on changes to the Meals on Wheels service in the county due to RVS withdrawing from providing the service. In September, the Committee also considered a report providing an update on the plan developed by the Communities Department in connection with the changes to the Meals on Wheels Service.

Outcomes

The Committee resolved that a member seminar be arranged on the Prevention Strategy – the seminar was held on the 22nd November, 2018.

The Committee also resolved that a final evaluation report on customer satisfaction in relation to the new arrangements be submitted to a future meeting for consideration - the report was considered at the Committee meeting on the 22nd November, 2018.

2.10 Workforce Planning & Development: A Regional Approach

At its meeting in September, the Committee considered the above mentioned report providing an overview of the collaborative work underway within West Wales in relation to workforce planning and development.

2.11 Direct Payments Policy

At its meeting in September, the Committee considered the Authority's Direct Payments Policy which had been updated in line with changes in legislation.

2.12 Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2017/18

The Committee considered the Scrutiny Committee annual report at the Committee meeting in November, which in accordance with Article 6.2 of the Council's Constitution provided an overview of the Committee's activities over the previous year.

2.13 Transforming Clinical Services - Post Consultation and Next Steps

In November, the Committee received a presentation from the Hywel Dda University Health Board providing an overview of the Transforming Clinical Services Consultation Closing Report.

2.14 Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 - Policy & Procedures Revisions for Charging Adults for Services

The Committee considered the above mentioned report at the Committee meeting in December, which set out the revised policy, and brought together the previous policies and interim policy agreed in 2006.

2.15 Regional & Partnership Working Update

The Committee considered the above mentioned report at the Committee meeting in January. This provided an update on the work of the West Wales Care Partnership and associated national developments including the publication by Welsh Government of 'A Healthier Wales: Our Plan for Health and Social Care'.

Outcomes

The Committee resolved that the Planning Department collaborate with the Regional Partnership board to consider the housing requirements of the Health Board staff in the LDP. Initial meeting held and mechanism to facilitate regular exchange between the Health Board and Planning to be finalised.

The Red Cross be invited to provide an update to the Committee on the work they do through the Home from Hospital Service [to be scheduled].

2.16 Services & Support for Children & Young People with Mental Health Issues

The Committee considered the above mentioned report at the Committee meeting in April, which provided an overview of the existing services available for young people with emotional and mental health issues. The report also outlined plans to improve the coordination of services and support through a multi-agency forum. The Education & Children Scrutiny Committee were invited to attend this session.

Outcomes

It was resolved that the Committee be provided with an update on the outcomes of the Multi Agency Forum [updated to be provided at Development Session 24/09/19].

2.17 Regional Advocacy Service

The Committee considered the above mentioned report at the Committee meeting in April. The report provided information on the work that was underway to develop a co-produced regional advocacy service; the strategic and legislative background and context to this work. The report also provided details of the engagement work that had been commissioned to support the development of a co-produced regional advocacy service.

2.18 Additional Reports Requested

During the course of the year, the Committee requested reports on the following topics to be included in the Forward Work Programme: -

- Final evaluation report on customer satisfaction in relation to the new Meals on Wheels Service [November 2018]
- Update of the work of the Regional Partnership. [January 2019 meeting]
- Report on Services & Support for Children & Young People with Mental Health issues. [April meeting]
- Update on the Regional Advocacy Service. [April meeting]
- Report on Living Units for people with Learning Disabilities [report to be received via e-mail]
- Report on Intermediate Care. [Scheduled for Development Session in September]
- Report on Continuing Care. [Scheduled for Development Session in September]

3. Other Scrutiny Activity

3.1 Task and Finish

At the Committee's Scrutiny Meeting held in May 2018 the Committee considered a number of potential suggestion and agreed to undertake a Task & Finish review into Loneliness in Carmarthenshire. The membership of the Task & Finish Group was as follows:

- Cllr. Ieuan Wyn Davies (Vice Chair)
- Cllr. Ken Lloyd
- Cllr. Louvain Roberts
- Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone
- Cllr. Gwyneth Thomas (Chair)
- Cllr. Dorian Williams

The Task & Finish Group met a total of 9 times between June 2018 and May 2019.

3.2 Development Sessions

The following member development sessions were held during 2018/19: -

- Chairs & Vice Chairs of Scrutiny Forum
- Workshop with Hywel Dda University Health Board;
- Code of Conduct Training (Town & Community Council)
- Carmarthenshire Rural Affairs Conference
- Homelessness Seminar
- Digital Transformation Seminar
- Eiriol Independent Mental Health & Carers Advocacy
- Seminar – Transform, Innovate & Change Programme
- Mentoring Training
- Seminar – Choice Based Letting
- Seminar – Welsh Water
- Seminar – Economic Development in Carmarthenshire
- Centre for Public Scrutiny - Member & Officer Scrutiny Training

In addition to the above, several departmental budget seminars were held.

The Committee also received the following presentations at meetings during the course of the year: -

- Presentation by Sarah Powell & Karyn Morris on the service provided by Country Cars.
- Presentation from the Hywel Dda University Health Board (Mrs Bernadine Rees, Mr Steve Moor, Helen Annandale, Bethan Lewis and Lisa Davies) providing an overview of the Transforming Clinical Services Consultation Closing Report.

4. Challenges

Due to the number of reports being received, the Committee felt they have been unable to fully scrutinise the reports. It was agreed that for next year scrutiny would focus on the key areas that really matter ensuring that it makes best use of member and officer time. This would add more value to support better outcomes for the people of Carmarthenshire. Social Care & Health Development sessions will be held quarterly to receive presentations and updates on information only reports.

5. Future Work

The Committee has made significant progress and will continue to concentrate on topics where Members' input will result in positive outcomes to drive forward service improvement for the people of Carmarthenshire. To ensure that the best use is being made of meeting time and with the benefit of the added value of pre-meetings, the Committee is keen to achieve a more streamlined scrutiny process.

The future work of the Committee will be considered as part of the Forward Work Programme planning session where the Committee will prioritise the work based on what it considers to be of key importance and impact. The FWP will continue to be monitored during the course of the year, together with the Executive Board FWP.

6. Support for the Scrutiny Function

The Democratic Services Unit, based in the Administration & Law Division of the Chief Executive's Department, provides support for Carmarthenshire County Council's Scrutiny function.

Support for the Scrutiny function includes:

- Formulating, in accordance with the FWP, and despatching agendas for Scrutiny Committee meetings a minimum of 4 working days prior to the meeting;
- Providing support and constitutional advice to the Scrutiny Committees and to members of those Committees as well as producing minutes of their meetings and ensuring items arising from those meetings are actioned;
- Giving support and advice in relation to the functions of the Council's Scrutiny Committees to executive and non-executive members of the Council and its officers;
- Managing the strategic development of Scrutiny in Carmarthenshire through engaging in national and regional Scrutiny networks and initiatives, supporting the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny Forum and meetings of the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs with the Executive Board;
- Advising and supporting the implementation of the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 as and when guidance is published;
- Managing the co-ordination and development of the Scrutiny Committees' forward work programmes in conjunction with Scrutiny Committee members;
- Managing and co-ordinating Scrutiny review work, including the administration of scrutiny task and finish groups, assisting in writing reports in conjunction with the groups and assisting in the implementation and monitoring of completed reviews;
- Assisting with the Scrutiny member development programme.

For more information on Scrutiny in Carmarthenshire including forward work programmes, task and finish reports and annual reports, visit the County Council's website at: www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/scrutiny

To contact the Democratic Services Unit, please call 01267 224028 or e-mail scrutiny@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

7. Attendance

Attendance by members of the Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee during the 2018/19 year is shown in the table below. A total of 7 meetings were held between 1st May 2018 and 30th April 2019.

Scrutiny Committee Member	Meetings Attended	%
Cllr. Sue Allen	7	100%
Cllr. Kim Broom	7	100%
Cllr. Ieuan Wyn Davies	7	100%
Cllr. Karen Davies (appointed 12/09/18)	5	100%
Cllr. Rob Evans	5	71%
Cllr. Tyssul Evans	7	100%
Cllr. Amanda Fox (appointed 10/04/19)	0 ¹	0%
Cllr. Gary Jones (appointed 09/12/18)	1	33%
Cllr. Jean Lewis	7	100%
Cllr. Ken Lloyd	7	100%
Cllr. Andre McPherson (resigned 09/12/18)	2	50%
Cllr. Eryl Morgan (resigned 11/03/19)	5	83%
Cllr. Louvain Roberts	5	71%
Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone	6	86%
Cllr. Gwyneth Thomas	6	86%
Cllr. Dorian Williams	5	71%

¹ Unable to attend due to commitments agreed prior to appointment to Committee in April

Substitutes	No. of meetings attended
Cllr. J S Phillips (May)	1
Cllr. G J Prosser (May)	1
Cllr. D Price (July)	1
Cllr. D M Cundy (Nov)	1
Cllr. A Lenny (Nov)	1
Cllr. D.E Williams (April)	1
Cllr. S. Davies (April)	1

Executive Board Member	No. of meetings attended
Cllr. Jane Tremlett	5
Cllr. L. D Evans	1

Attendance at the Joint Meeting of the Environmental & Public Protection Committee and Education & Children Scrutiny Committees shown in the table below.

Scrutiny Committee Member	Environmental & Public Protection Joint Committee 21/05/18	Education & Children Joint Committee 04/07/2018
Cllr. Sue Allen	1	1
Cllr. Kim Broom	1	1
Cllr. Ieuan Wyn Davies	1	1
Cllr. Rob Evans	1	1
Cllr. Tyssul Evans	1	1
Cllr. Jean Lewis	1	1
Cllr. Ken Lloyd	1	1
Cllr. Andre McPherson	0	1
Cllr. Eryl Morgan	1	1
Cllr. Louvain Roberts	1	1
Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone	1	1
Cllr. Gwyneth Thomas	1	0
Cllr. Dorian Williams	1	1

Substitutes	No. of meetings attended
Cllr. John Prosser	1
Cllr. Elwyn Williams	1

Executive Board Member	No. of meetings attended
Cllr. Jane Tremlett	2