

SOUTH RIBBLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 27 FEBRUARY 2013

REPORTS OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Scrutiny Committee has met on two occasions, namely on the evenings of 29 January and 11 February 2013.

A. 29 January 2013

This meeting was arranged to look at **Take a Healthy Interest in Local Health Services**, in so far as the committee had invited a number of representatives from local health organisations to explain the changes to the health service.

The committee welcomed:

Mike Barker (Head of Corporate Governance, Chorley & South Ribble Clinical Commissioning Group and Greater Preston Clinical Commissioning Group)
Dr Sakthi Karunanithi (Director of Population Healthcare, Lancashire County Council)
Denise Johnson (Director of Regeneration & Healthy Communities, SRBC)
Jan Ledward, (Chief Officer, Chorley & South Ribble Clinical Commissioning Group and Greater Preston Clinical Commissioning Group)
Maggi Morris (Executive Director Public Health, NHS Central Lancashire)
Councillor Phil Smith (Cabinet member for Regeneration, Leisure & Healthy Communities, SRBC)

who were pleased to introduce themselves and spoke about the changes to the health service and answered questions from both members of the committee and public on services in South Ribble.

The committee thanked all the guests for their attendance and responding to comments and enquiries from members of the council and public. Whilst it might be apprehensive of some of the changes, there was a majority of opportunities particularly in relations between clinicians, local authorities and patients. The committee felt that it was important to ensure the best was done in South Ribble to deliver, monitor and measure changes in practice. It raised the matter of the current boundaries of the two local CCGs (Chorley & South Ribble and Greater Preston) and hoped that this would be monitored and reviewed. The committee was re-assured that the CCG had established the Health & Wellbeing Partnership which was producing plans. It hoped that all would proactively take on board issues concerning access for the disabled and those individuals with needs. The committee looked forward to working with the CCG and LCC in the future and through its Health Inequalities Task Group.

B. 11 February 2013

The committee started by considering **Matters Arising** which listed the outstanding matters from the last ordinary meeting of the committee. The committee appreciated and noted the supplied explanation/progress on the topics and agreed they now be removed them from the list. However, it sought clarification of the response relating to E-citizen and Firmstep as this did not appear to reflect the committee's request that all councillors receive an update.

The next item looked at was the **Draft Corporate Plan and Budget 2013/14**. The committee welcomed the review of the performance management framework and looked forward to reviewing the format and details to ensure that the actions in the Corporate Plan were as SMART as possible. It appreciated the inclusion in the budget of core funding for the Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service following the Scrutiny Committee's lobbying. The committee looked forward to receiving written responses regarding; the value of Fixed Penalty Notices issued by PCSOs relating to dog fouling, dogs off leads and littering; the background to the projected outturn on Preston Guild, and the detail behind the efficiency savings proposals 2013/14 outlined in Appendix E of the budget.

The committee then looked at the **Performance Monitoring Report – Third Quarterly Report 2012/13 - April 2012 to December 2012**. The committee congratulated the Leader and all those involved in the significant progress against the Corporate Plan and the budget. It commended the Environmental Health team in securing compliance in the borough's outlets with Food Hygiene Standards. The committee looked forward to the outcome of the review of performance management and improved ways of measuring performance so that residents and members could sufficiently assess and judge how the council was doing. It requested an update on the future developments at the Worden Arts and Craft Centre, and also further information on the number of council posts rationalised over the last 12 months.

It then turned its attention to the **NHS Lancashire's Consultation on the Future of Dementia Care Services in Lancashire** and agreed that the presented draft response to the consultation would be submitted on behalf of the committee.

The final item for discussion by the committee was an **Update on Scrutiny Reviews and Scrutiny Matters**. The committee received an update on the progress of its Health Inequalities task group which hoped to finalise its findings by the end of April. The chairman had attended the most recent meeting of Lancashire County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee at which there had been an update on the process of transferring responsibility for public health from the NHS to the county council. In respect of the committee's forward plan the remainder of 2012/13 was noted, and it was agreed that the 2013/14 work programme would be formulated at the end of April, following a series of internal and external communications aimed at publicising the work of the committee and seeking ideas for inclusion on its work programme.

I hereby commend the reports of the Scrutiny Committee to the Council.

COUNCILLOR MICK TITHERINGTON
CHAIRMAN
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE