

Report to: **Scrutiny Committee for Adult Social Care**
Date: **15 November 2007**
By: **Director of Law & Personnel**
Title of report: **Suggestions for future tabletop reviews**
Purpose of report: **To put forward suggestions for future tabletop reviews that members of the committee may wish to be involved in**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1. consider which review(s) it would be interested in; and**
 - 2. decide membership of the review board(s)**
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1.0 Financial Appraisal

1.1 Any costs associated with carrying out scrutiny reviews is contained within the scrutiny budget.

2.0 Background and supporting information

2.1 Scrutiny committees normally carry out one or two formal reviews during the course of the year, which take approximately 6 to 9 months to complete. These reviews are invaluable in enabling members to gain in-depth knowledge on a particular service, draw out key issues and then put forward recommendations on ways in which service improvements can be made.

2.2 Another way of enabling in-depth scrutiny work to be carried out is by having tabletop reviews. These are much shorter reviews carried out over the course of just one or two meetings. There are several advantages to working in this way; such as being able to focus on a specific issue that would not warrant a formal 6 month review or using the process to enable scrutiny members to carry out a 'critical friend' role in relation to policy development at an early stage in the process.

2.3 Following discussions with officers in Adult Social Care a couple of areas have been identified that would be well suited for a tabletop review (see appendix 1). Each review would require the involvement of one or two members, with the work likely to take place between December 2007 and January 2008.

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Ideas for future tabletop reviews

Title of review	Background and outline member involvement
Integrated Community Equipment Services (ICES)	<p>Adult Social Care currently has a contract with the Nottingham Rehabilitation Service (NRS) to provide equipment to aid people in their daily lives (such as walking aids or bathing equipment). This contract ends in 2009 and, prior to beginning the re-tendering process; the department is deciding exactly what type of service it wants in the future to meet the needs of its clients.</p> <p>Central Government may be looking to make changes to the way that daily living equipment is provided and this may include providing clients with money so that they can buy their own equipment. The department will need to look carefully at how this would fit in with its new service.</p> <p>Officers are currently drawing up an 'options appraisal' for the contract, which will need to go to the Commissioning Board for approval. Once this has been done there will be an opportunity for the board to meet with officers to discuss the various options that could be included in the future provision of the service.</p> <p>Timetable – main meeting likely to take place December 07/January 08. Initial discussion would be needed to bring the board up to speed on the item first.</p>
Safeguarding Adults	<p>A departmental review on the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Service is about to commence. The objectives of the review include looking at whether there is a consistent approach to investigating safeguarding adult allegations across all services and establishing whether Safeguarding Adults activity is leading to greater protection of the public.</p> <p>A Project Manager for the review is now in place and work on the review will commence shortly. There is scope for a board to get involved in this review and initial discussions are currently taking place with officers around possible areas where members could add value to the work. An update at the scrutiny meeting will be provided.</p> <p>Timetable – main meeting likely to take place January 08. Initial discussion/meeting would be needed to bring the board up to speed on this area of work first.</p>

Possible idea for a future review

Provision of short-term respite in the independent sector	<p>This issue was raised at DPS board on 11 October as an area for possible future work. Members raised the issue that there was a lack of provision of short-term respite services in the independent sector.</p> <p>A tabletop review could investigate this issue further, highlight if there are any barriers to the independent sector providing these services, and if so, identify if anything can be done to overcome them.</p> <p>Timetable - flexible</p>
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