

ASSESSMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEW

* - sections to be filled in by the proposer of the topic

*Subject of Proposed Review:- PUBLIC HEALTH CARE EXPENDITURE
*Reason for the Review:- (see Note 1 below) To investigate KCC Public Health budget to confirm expenditure on mandatory healthcare, and those parts which could be considered optional is carried out within the established guidelines.
*Issues to be covered by the Terms of Reference:- Ensure that KCC fully meets its obligations in helping to improve the general health of everyone living in Kent, and that all health and care services provided are the best value they can be.
*Scope of the review:- To audit the current KCC arrangements in Public Health funding.
*Purpose and objectives of the Review:- At this time of making the best use of budgets, to ensure that KCC continues to meet its obligations in an effective and transparent way.
Proposer of the review - (Please print name and sign)

To be completed by the Directorate/Cabinet Member(s)

Are there any reasons why this review should not be put forward for inclusion in the work programme for 2014/16? (see Note 2 below)

The development of a Council Strategic Commissioning Plan, alongside an Outcomes Framework document will set the parameters around which Public Health expenditure should be set. This issue is currently being examined by County Council, who will consider the Strategic Commissioning Plan and Outcome Framework at their meeting in December. Following this, the Public Health Strategy (development of which is being overseen by both the Children's and Adults Social Care and Health Cabinet Committees), will prioritise areas for expenditure, in line with the overall outcomes identified by County Council.

Will the review support the achievement of "Facing the Challenge"? If yes, please identify aim(s) and give details:-

The review is not necessary for Public Health to support the achievement of Facing the Challenge.

How will the review contribute to corporate objectives and priorities?

As above

How will this review have an impact on KCC policy development and/or help to influence national policy?

KCC is already involved in national and Policy development through the Director of Public Health.

How will this review add value to the County Council and residents of Kent?

A review on these lines would add limited value to the County Council for the reason outlined above.

Does the review need to be completed within a specific timeframe? If yes, please give details:

Any review within the next 18 months would be looking at how resources were expended against a set of previous strategies and policies.

Any additional comments from the Portfolio Holder/Corporate Director:-

The need for this subject to be reviewed in this way isn't clear. The Cabinet Committees fulfil the function of monitoring the Public Health budget, and it would be within their remit to request additional information on this subject if they felt there was a need. The budget IMGs consider areas such as this, whilst all major Public Health commissioning is examined by the Cabinet Committees on at least two occasions, the first prior to the design of service specifications, and then to examine the outcome of the procurement process prior to contract award. All of these occasions allow members to assess whether

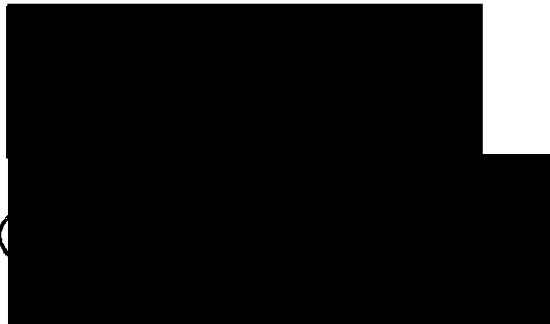
best value is being achieved, whilst performance monitoring allows the outcomes achieved by Public Health expenditure to be assessed.

In addition to this Member led oversight, the Public Health Department have been audited by Internal Audit who gave substantial assurance on the governance and commissioning arrangements.

In addition to the work of the Cabinet Committees, the Council is currently in the process of developing its Outcomes Framework which will then shape the Public Health Strategy, and give a clear direction for those parts of the budget "which could be considered optional". This is outlined in section 6.7 of the Facing the Challenge: Towards a Strategic Commissioning Authority report to County Council on 15th May –

"The Strategic Commissioning Plan should also better link resources, particularly financial resources, to the outcomes for our residents and service users, including any financial investment, constraints and disinvestment decisions needed to deliver those outcomes."

Portfolio Holder's Signature:-



Strategic Director's Signature:-

Contact Officer:-

Andrew Scott-Clare

Date:-

14 / 11 / 2014