
To
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

Date: 4th February 2009

Subject
Scrutiny Chairs' Progress Reports - Scrutiny Board 4

1. Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the work of Scrutiny Board 4 during the period June 2008 to October 2008, together with the recommendations and other outcomes of this work.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note the information contained in this briefing note and to consider any further action.

3. Information/Background

3.1 Activity

3.1.1 The Board held three public meetings during this period, considering the following issues:-

- response to consultation on library opening times
- Cabinet Member (Community Services) portfolio priorities - question and answer session
- review of Allesley Park Walled Garden - progress report
- 2007/2008 annual performance letter from the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI)
- proposals for consultation on increasing charges for non-residential adult social care services
- neighbourhood wardens review and operational changes
- future provision of drug and alcohol treatment services
- review of Allesley Park Walled Garden - findings and recommendations
- question and answer session with NHS senior officers

3.2 Recommendations

The Board agreed recommendations relating to the following issues:

- Library opening hours (six recommendations to the Cabinet)
- neighbourhood wardens review and operational changes (two recommendations to the Cabinet)
- review of Allesley Park Walled Garden (two recommendations to the Cabinet Member (Culture, Leisure and Libraries))

3.3. **Outcomes**

The following outcomes can be identified from the Board's work:

- in relation to library opening hours, the Cabinet took account of the recommendations made by the Board, noting that those connected with ICT would be addressed separately by officers and reported back to the Board at a later date
- in relation to the neighbourhood wardens review and operational changes, the Cabinet decided not to adopt the Board's recommendation that it should not implement the proposed changes to this service
- in relation to the review of Allesley Park Walled Garden, the Cabinet Member agreed the Board's recommendations relating to the Council's procedures and adopted one of the four options identified by the Board relating to the future use of the Walled Garden
- in relation to the CSCI report, the Board decided to monitor the key areas for improvement identified in the associated action plan
- the Board will give detailed consideration at its February meeting to the proposals for increasing charges for non-residential adult social care services
- a number of issues were raised with senior NHS officers which will require further scrutiny, including the commissioning of local ambulance services and the arrangements for support to residents of the Chace Hostel in Willenhall.

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