



Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee Newsletter

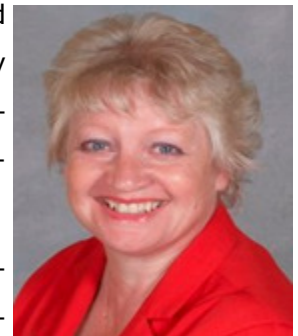
ISSUE 3

JULY 2013

Introducing the Committee

Hello,

I am Councillor Susan Barnett and I Chair the Birmingham Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee. With nine other City Councillors on the Committee, we have the very important task of examining the support for vulnerable adults and the provision of health services for all in Birmingham.



The Committee does not make decisions, but we do make recommendations and influence policy. Together we aim to build positive relationships with all and create an environment for open and honest conversation. The Committee's most important task is to act as a critical friend, representing the views of local people, championing good practice and challenging policy when it is appropriate to do so.

This is the third edition of our quarterly newsletter. We hope this newsletter will bring you up to date with some of our most recent work and help us to start thinking about the Committee's work going forward.

Falls Prevention Inquiry



In our March newsletter, we informed you that the Committee had been presented with some evidence on falls prevention from various organisations. This evidence formed part of our report titled, 'Let's keep moving', which went before the full Council meeting on 9th July 2013. The report is available to download from the Scrutiny webpage.

I am pleased to say that all fifteen recommendations from that report were approved by the City Council. These recommendations will be tracked for the first time by the Committee in January 2014.

Policy Review Work



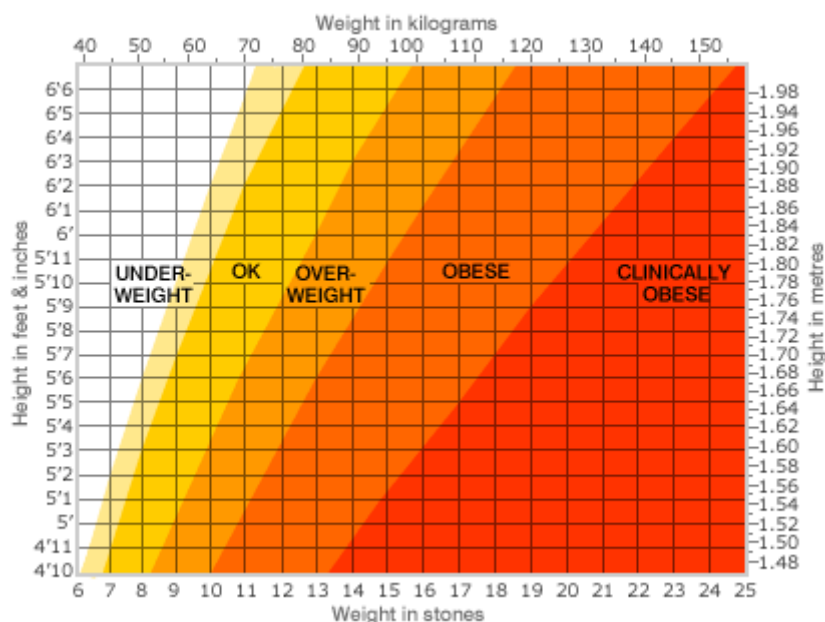
The Government's programme to cut public spending has meant a severe reduction in local authority funding. As a result of this the Executive have released a series of 'Green Papers' - discussion papers looking closely at different council services to see if services can be delivered more effectively.

The second paper looks at the area of 'Adults and Communities' and asks broad questions about changes the Council might make to the service.

In September of this year, the Committee is planning to look into this area in more detail, by way of an all day Inquiry. The Committee are very keen to hear from you if you are interested in making a contribution to this.

Childhood Obesity

One of the other areas the Committee will be looking at this year is Childhood. Most recent data shows a rise in obesity at both Reception and Year 6 with a growing gap between Birmingham and the national average. Preventing the next generation of adults from becoming obese is an important priority for the economic and physical health of Birmingham.



SOURCE: BBC.CO.UK (NEWS HEALTH)

The Committee will be holding an Inquiry on this topic in December 2013. If you are interested in making contributions to the inquiry, please contact us.

HOSC Members

I join Councillors Sue Anderson, Sam Burden, Lyn Collin, Mohammed Idrees and Karen McCarthy in welcoming the following new members to this Committee; Councillors Mick Brown, Barbara Dring, Narinder Kooner and Margaret Waddington.

I am sure that they will help to continue the good work this Committee has done over the past year.

We would also like to thank Councillors Mick Finnegan, Dorothy Hargreaves, Zafar Iqbal and Anne Underwood for their contributions last year and wish them well in their new appointments.

Staying in Touch

You are very welcome to come along to our Committee meetings and inquiry sessions which are usually held in the Council House in Victoria Square, Birmingham B1 1BB.

Dates for the diary (Please note, meeting dates, times and agendas are sometimes subject to change, please check the Democracy in Birmingham website).

Time	Date	Agenda Items
10.00am	Weds 31 July 2013	Health watch Tracking of the 'TB in Birmingham' Inquiry Tracking of the 'Adults with Autism & the Criminal Justice System' Inquiry Cabinet Member update Birmingham Women's Hospital update Update on work placement pilot project & NDTI report finding
10.00am	Weds 25 Sept 2013	Service Review, Green Paper: Adults & Communities Inquiry—full day
10.00am	Weds 30 Oct 2013	Peace of Mind Action Plan Telecare Urgent Care update Status update of first half of Primary Care Audit
10.00am	Weds 27 Nov 2013	The Frail Elderly Board—Service Action Plan/Mapping Delayed Transfers of Care update/Dementia New Birmingham Dental Hospital Sexual Health in Birmingham
10.00am	Weds 18 Dec 2013	Childhood Obesity: Inquiry—full day

Staying in touch

All agendas, meeting papers and the latest Committee Work Programme are available to download, five working days before the meeting, from the Democracy in Birmingham website:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/democracy/Pages/Index.aspx

To access papers, select 'Scrutiny (Current)' from the 'Meeting Body Type' drop down list, 'Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee' from the 'Meeting Body' drop down list and then click on **GO**. Meeting minutes are also available from the Democracy in Birmingham website when their accuracy has been agreed.

For more information about Scrutiny work, meeting dates and reports written by the Committee, please go to our Scrutiny webpage at:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/scrutiny

Alternatively you may wish to check out our Twitter feed **[@bhamscrutiny](https://twitter.com/bhamscrutiny)**

or contact Rose Kiely – Group Overview and Scrutiny Manager:

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We aim to stay in touch with you, but if you would like your details removed from the newsletter distribution list please email:

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If you would like to contribute to a future newsletter we would like to hear from you.