

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Health Scrutiny Panel

DATE: 11th September 2018

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WARDS: All

PART I **FOR COMMENT & DECISION**

DISABILITY TASK AND FINISH GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 For the Health Scrutiny Panel to review and approve the final version of the terms of reference for the Disability Task and Finish Group.

2. Recommendations/Proposed Action

2.1 That the Panel:

- 1) review the proposed terms of reference for the Task and Finish Group; and
- 2) agree the final version of the terms of reference under which the Task and Finish Group will operate.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

3.1 Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy priorities

The proposed areas of activity for the Task & Finish Group will support the following priority:

- Increasing life expectancy by focusing on inequalities.

3.2 Five Year Plan Outcomes

By improving the provision of services for disabled people in Slough, the review will support the following outcome:

- Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs

4. **Other Implications**

a) **Financial**

The work to be undertaken by the Task & Finish Group will be covered within existing staff budgets. Any financial implications of the review's recommendations will be reported back in the final report to be taken by the Health Scrutiny Panel in 2019.

b) **Risk Management**

There are no corporate risks associated with the adoption of the Terms of Reference included as Appendix A. As above, any risks associated with the final recommendations will be reported to the Panel at the review's conclusion.

c) **Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications**

The work of the Task & Finish Group will be fully conversant with the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010 and similar legislation affecting the policy area.

d) **Equalities Impact Assessment**

The adoption of the recommendations does not require an Equalities Impact Assessment. Should the final recommendations necessitate such an exercise, it will be carried out as required.

5. **Supporting Information**

5.1 The Task and Finish Group was first raised as a possibility by members at the meeting of the Health Scrutiny Panel on 26th March 2018. At this meeting, the issue of disability was being raised as relevant to a number of agenda items; given the breadth of matters involved, it was decided that the most appropriate solution would be the establishment of a Task and Finish Group.

5.2 This was then discussed by Cabinet at its meeting on 16th April 2018. At this event, Cabinet gave its full support to efforts to improve the experience of disabled residents and visitors to Slough. As a result, the proposed members of the Task & Finish Group and officers met on 10th August 2018 to formulate its Terms of Reference for the review. These are presented as Appendix A.

5.3 The meeting on 10th August 2018 made a series of decisions and recommendations for the future of the Task & Finish Group. These are as follows:

Terms of Reference

5.4 It was decided that the review should focus on the following areas:

- Inclusion and equalities
- Transport and access

In addition, there would be an interest on the matters of improving opportunities and involvement & co-production of services. However, it was felt that to give equal priority to all 4 of these would lead to an overly wide and unmanageable review.

Membership

5.5 The Task & Finish Group will be chaired by Colin Pill (Healthwatch) and will also include the following Councillors:

- Cllr Ali
- Cllr Qaseem
- Cllr A Sandhu
- Cllr Smith
- Cllr Strutton

In addition, Liam Toner will represent the workforce at Slough Borough Council.

Timeframes and Work Programme

5.6 The final report with recommendations will be presented to the Health Scrutiny Panel on 25th March 2019; at this juncture, the Panel will be asked to approve and adopt the recommendations. Following this, the Panel will then assume responsibility for monitoring the progress of these recommendations. Officers will update the Panel on this as appropriate.

5.7 In order to compile its final report, the Task & Finish Group will meet with a variety of key bodies and organisations active in the field, including:

Inclusion and Equalities

- Slough Youth Parliament
- SBC disabilities forum
- Local business reps
- Leisure and culture services – including Everyone Active
- Autism Partnership Board
- Dementia Partnership Board
- Deaf club
- Berkshire Blind Society

Transport and Access

The following Teams of Slough Borough Council

- Transport
- Planning
- Enforcement
- Taxi Licensing

It will also work with the company who have recently been awarded the contract to provide the Disability Access Guide and organise a joint 'listening day' with Healthwatch to hear about the experiences of disabled service users in Slough.

6. **Comment of Other Committees**

The Cabinet's support for the work of this Task & Finish Group was recorded at its meeting on 16th April 2018. This is mentioned in Section 5.2.

7. **Conclusion**

This report is intended to provide the Panel with information and guidance on the work to be undertaken by the Task and Finish Group. There will be flexibility for the Task and Finish Group to arrange meetings to suit its work; however, its focus on the work it has been commissioned to complete will remain resolute.

7. **Appendices Attached**

'A' - Draft terms of reference for the Disability Task & Finish Group

8. **Background Papers**

Agenda papers and minutes of the Health Scrutiny Panel, 26th March 2018.

Agenda papers and minutes of Cabinet, 16th April 2018.