Progress Report

Southampton City Council Audit 2008/09 & Audit 2009/10 September 2009





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Status of our reports

The Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies issued by the Audit Commission explains the respective responsibilities of auditors and of the audited body. Reports prepared by appointed auditors are addressed to non-executive directors/ members or officers. They are prepared for the sole use of the audited body. Auditors accept no responsibility to:

- any director/member or officer in their individual capacity; or
- any third party.

Progress with 2008/09 audit and inspection

Report	AC key contact	Authority contact	Expected report	Reported to Audit Committee	Comment
Audit plan 2008/09	Mike Bowers	Audit Committee	March 2008	28 March 2008 24 June 2009	Plan finalised and issued. Supplementary fee plan issued and finalised.
Financial statements					
Interim audit memorandum (If appropriate)	Mike Bowers	Carolyn Williamson	May 2009	N/A	There was nothing that we needed to bring to the attention of the Audit Committee We confirm that Internal Audit do comply with the Cipfa Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government (2006)

Report	AC key contact	Authority contact	Expected report	Reported to Audit Committee	Comment
Annual Governance Report (ISA260)	Kate Handy	Standards and Governance Committee	September 2009	23 September 2009	Included on the agenda for discussion at the Audit Committee on 23 September 2009
Accounts opinion	Kate Handy	Standards and Governance Committee	September 2009	23 September 2009	As above
Final Accounts memorandum (If appropriate)	Mike Bowers	Carolyn Williamson	October 2009	N/A	There are no issues that we need to raise outside of the Annual Governance Report
Use of Resources		·	·		
Use of Resources	Kate Handy	Brad Roynon	December 2008	19 March 2009	The report has been agreed, finalised and issued.
Data Quality	ata Quality Mike Bowers		March 2009	19 March 2009	The report has been agreed, finalised and issued.
Review of SSP Implementation	Jane Burns	Carolyn Williamson	December 2008	15 Dec. 2008	This report has been agreed, finalised and issued.

Report	AC key contact	Authority contact	Expected report	Reported to Audit Committee	Comment
Housing management performance	Sara Kulay	Nick Murphy	September 2008	24 Sept. 2008	The findings were presented to the Audit Committee on 24 September 2008.
Review of Southampton health and wellbeing community planning	Angela Blowman	Joy Wilmot - Palmer	December 2008	23 Sept. 2009	A one page summary report and action plan has been sent to the Chief Executive of the City Council, the PCT and Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust (SUHT) and is attached at Appendix 1 for your information. The audit and the process for agreeing the report and action plan was a new approach for both auditors and the audited bodies involved, which has included a number of learning points.

Report	AC key contact	Authority contact	Expected report	Reported to Audit Committee	Comment
Direction of Travel Report	Direction of Travel Report Linda Krywald		March 2009	19 March 2009	The DoT statement was reported within the 2007/08 Annual Audit & Inspection Letter.
Annual Audit and Inspection Letter	Kate Handy /Linda Krywald	Audit Committee	December 2009		

Progress with 2009/10 audit and assessment

Report	AC key contact	Authority contact	Expected report	Reported to Audit Committee	Comment					
Audit plan 2009/10	Kate Handy	Audit Committee	March 2009	24 June 2009	The initial fee letter for 2009/10 was presented to the Audit Committee at its 24 June 2009 meeting. A more detailed opinion plan will be prepared and discussed					
Area	Linda	Audit	March	24 June 2009	with officers when the audit for 2008/09 as been completed. The letter setting out the approach and fee for the					
Assessment Plan	Krywald	Committee	2009		Organisational Assessment and Area Assessment was reported to the Audit Committee at its meeting on 24 June 2009.					
Use of Resources										
Highways Partnership Project	Tim Thomas	Nick Johnson	Updates as necessary	23 September 2009	An initial update report was discussed with key officers in August 2009. This report will be presented to the next meeting of the Audit Committee.					

The Audit Commission

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As a force for improvement, we work in partnership to assess local public services and make practical recommendations for promoting a better quality of life for local people.

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Appendix 1 – Southampton Health and Wellbeing Community Planning

Management summary

- 1 During 2008/09, we carried out a review of how well Southampton City Council, Southampton City Primary Care Trust and Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust (the three partners) are working in partnership to plan and commission services to improve the health and well being outcomes for local people. In particular, we were looking at how the local understanding of health needs is used to commission services and how proposed improvements are supported by associated business and resourcing plans. To help us with this, we selected, in consultation with chief officers, alcohol harm as a tracer, given that this is a key LSP priority issue.
- 2 We have discussed our findings and conclusions with the three partners and have agreed the following action plan, detailing the key recommendations made. Overall, we concluded that the partners have clear strategic ambitions to address the problem of alcohol harm, and through the Safe City Partnership, are working to develop a framework to deliver these. However, there is a need to ensure that all partners are appropriately engaged in both the development and delivery of need based improvement priorities, which are supported by fully resourced delivery plans. To maximise the successful delivery of these and to promote value for money, it is important that partnership initiatives are clearly linked to partners' own organisational plans, as well as the plans of other LSP working groups and that the monitoring and management arrangements are clear and effective.
- 3 Our detailed work focused on arrangements between the three partners for addressing alcohol harm. We did not assess whether the conclusions made also applied to partnership working with other organisations involved with the alcohol harm agenda, such as the police, the fire and rescue service or Hampshire Partnership Trust. Additionally, we did not directly assess whether the issues raised also reflect arrangements across other LSP partnerships. However, we do feel that our recommendations may be useful in helping to maximise the efficiency and effectiveness of local partnership working generally. As such, we would encourage the LSP and the

individual partners to use the learning from this review to help them assess the effectiveness of other partnerships that are currently in place or are being planned.

4 We would like to thank Southampton City Council, Southampton City PCT, and Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust for their input and co-operation with this review. We are pleased that they have accepted the recommendations made in this action plan and that steps are being taken to address the key issues raised.

Recommendation	Priority	Link to evidence	Link to relevant standards	Positive outcome expected (savings, reduced risks, better value for money)		Cost of recommendation (where significant)	Date reported to the Board / Committee	Officer responsible	Implemen by when
The Council, PCT and Trus	t should	work together t	o:		•			•	
R1 Consider other LSP partnership arrangements to ensure that there is adequate strategic engagement from both health and wellbeing commissioning and provider organisations and that the needs assessment, commissioning and resourcing plans are sufficient to deliver improvements in agreed LAA targets and outcomes.		It is possible that issues we have identified in alcohol harm are reflected in other joint planning for health and wellbeing.		Improved: - value for money, - performance management and - outcomes for all partnership targets.	Poor value for money; poor performance management; potentially poor patient/user experience and outcome.	Not significant	SUHT 23rd March 2009 SCPCT 22 Sept 2009 SCC 23 Sept. 2009	Joy Wilmot- Palmer Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy), SCC.	Ongoing with first review completed by January 2010

Appendix 1 – Southampton Health and Wellbeing Community Planning

Recommendation	Priority	Link to evidence	Link to relevant standards	Positive outcome expected (savings, reduced risks, better value for money)	Consequences of failing to implement recommendation	recommendation (where	Date reported to the Board / Committee	Officer responsible	Implement by when
R2 Ensure that the arrangements for joined-up commissioning of alcohol services by the PCT and Council are driven by shared priorities, have agreed and achievable resource plans, identify and implement shared care pathways and are informed by provider experience and expertise, to properly meet the needs of the Southampton population. This needs to be reflected into the individual partners' budgets.		for alcohol services by the	SfBH C6, C18 and C21 ALE KLoE 5.1 Strategic planning 5.2 Patient experience UoR KLoE 1.2 Costs / Efficiencies 2.1 Commission ing 2.2 Use of information	Improved: - value for money, - performance management and - outcomes for the alcohol harm reduction target.	Poor value for money; poor performance management; potentially poor patient/user experience and outcome.		SUHT 23rd March 2009 SCPCT 22 Sept. 2009 SCC 23 Sept.2009	Jane Brentor, Head of Health & Community Care, SCC Andrew Mortimore, Public Health Director Gemma Tindell, Head of Planning, SUHT	April 2010

NB: ALE= Auditors Local Evaluation. SfBH = Standards for Better Health

Recommendation	Priority	evidence	Link to relevant standards	Positive outcome expected (savings, reduced risks, better value for money)	Consequences of failing to implement recommendation	Cost of recommendation (where significant)	Date reported to the Board / Committee	Officer responsible	Implement by when
 R3 Improve partnership and individual organisations' operational plans to reduce alcohol harm so that: plans are aligned with each other, outcomefocused, measurable and adequately resourced; robust performance monitoring and management arrangements are in place, including measures to ensure sound data quality; and adequate links are made between partnership groups to cover the whole alcohol harm agenda to improve access to the agreed pathways of care wherever people come into contact with services. 		plans of e.g. the Safe City Partnership are not sufficiently outcome focussed or measurable. Performance management and data quality are inadequate. Delivery plans are not reflected in Council, PCT or Trust operational plans. Action plans to address alcohol harm are not fully resourced.	ALE KLoE 5.1 Strategic planning	Improved: - value for money, - performance management and - outcomes for the alcohol harm reduction target.	Poor value for money; poor performance management; potentially poor patient / user experience and outcome.	Not significant	SUHT 23rd March 2009 SCPCT 22 Sept. 2009 SCC 23 Sept. 2009	Joy Wilmot- Palmer, Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy), SCC. Suki Sitaram, Head of Policy and Improvement, SCC Andrew Mortimore, Public Health Director Caspar Ridley. Director of Strategy and Business, SUHT	April 2010

NB: ALE= Auditors Local Evaluation. SfBH = Standards for Better Health