



Scrutiny Bodies Project: health and care

April 2009
issue 2

information bulletin for staff in Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education, NHS Quality Improvement Scotland, Social Work Inspection Agency and the Care Commission

Introduction

This is our **second** information bulletin for staff affected by the creation of the new improvement and scrutiny bodies for healthcare and for social care and social work services.

The Scrutiny Bodies Project Team will circulate a bulletin every six weeks, to help keep staff informed of progress with the new bodies.

Names of the new bodies

The names of the new bodies have been agreed by both Adam Ingram, Minister for Children and Early Years and Shona Robison, Minister for Health and Public Sport.

Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) has been chosen as the name for the new healthcare body.

Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (SCSWIS) has been chosen as the name for the new care body.

The following strap lines have also been agreed:

HIS – 'improving the quality of healthcare and treatment in Scotland'

SCSWIS – 'improving the quality of social care and social work services in Scotland'

These names will be on the 'face' of the Public Services Reform Bill when it is introduced to Parliament on 28 May.

Public Services Reform Bill

Preparation of the draft Public Services Reform Bill, which includes the legislative provisions for the creation of the two new bodies, is making good progress. Almost two thirds of the sections of the Bill relate to the new improvement and scrutiny bodies. The rest is made up of provisions to establish Creative Scotland (a new organisation formed from Scottish Arts Council and Scottish Screen) and to simplify public bodies generally.

The lead Minister for the Bill will be John Swinney, the Minister for Finance and Sustainable Growth. The Minister for Parliament, Bruce Crawford, had his first formal meeting with Mr Swinney as part of the Bill management process at the end of March.

The legislative provisions for the new improvement and scrutiny bodies are still being prepared by solicitors and parliamentary counsel. It is planned that the draft Bill will have formal sign-off by the First Minister in late April so it can be introduced to Parliament on 28 May 2009. The Bill and its accompanying documents will be in the public domain the following day. We will give more details on the Bill and its accompanying documents, particularly the Financial Memorandum, in our next bulletin due out at the end of May.

What is a Financial Memorandum?

A Financial Memorandum is a document that accompanies the Bill when it is introduced. It is part of a set of papers including explanatory notes (which set out what the Bill does) and the Policy Memorandum (which sets out the policy intentions).

A Financial Memorandum estimates, for the benefit of Ministers and many other stakeholders of the expected costs and savings implementing the Bill is likely to achieve. It includes the timescales over which the financial aspects are expected to occur, how these could be met and describes the margin of uncertainty in the estimates given.

External Stakeholder bulletin/website goes live!

As well as our first staff bulletin in February, we issued a bulletin in March to a wide range of external stakeholders. Our external bulletin, like our staff bulletin will be issued every six weeks. You can download this from the Scrutiny Bodies Project website at www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/Scrutiny You are encouraged to direct any stakeholders to this site where they can subscribe to receive future copies.

We have given briefings and presentations to a number of groups including Community Care Providers Scotland, the Scottish Independent Hospital Association, the Accounts Commission, lead officers at COSLA and the Association of Social Work Directors in Scotland. A number of meetings with other stakeholders are planned in May to ensure we have engaged with as many, various stakeholders as possible.

Project Governance

As the legislative provisions approach sign-off the project team have been asked to present proposals to the programme board, which is overseeing the project, on how best to take forward the project over the next 12 months.

The proposals will look at how best to:

- engage effectively with the existing bodies chairs, chief executives, senior managers and staff;
- engage policy interests across Scottish Government; and
- engage with other stakeholders, including people who use services and their carers.

The programme board is being asked to discuss and agree the way forward. We will communicate, how the existing bodies will engage with the project, later this month.

Find out more

Your organisation's intranet will have links to the Ministerial announcement, project team contact details, the communications plan and any previous staff updates. There will also be updates at any staff conferences your organisation holds between now and start up in 2011.

The Scrutiny Bodies Project Team website www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/Scrutiny contains the latest information for the project, and includes a frequently asked questions section.

If you have any comments or suggestions on this bulletin, please send them to the generic mailbox for the Scrutiny Bodies Project Team at:

NSB2011@scotland.gsi.gov.uk



Trade Union Engagement

The second consultation meeting with the trade unions took place on 8 April 2009, with representatives from the FDA and PCS), UNISON and the Royal College of Nursing. Prospect, GMB, Royal College of Midwives, the British Medical Association, TGWU and AMICUS all sent apologies. We remain in contact with all the trade unions as the project goes forward.

The trade unions were given a project update on the forthcoming legislation, including the names of the new bodies. These names will be on the face of the Public Services Bill which will be introduced on 28 May 2009. There was also discussion about the proposed new project structure for the next 12 months and how trade unions should be represented within these structures. The Financial Memorandum which will accompany the Bill at Introduction to the Scottish Parliament was also discussed.

We know that all staff are not members of unions and we want to make sure that non union members are also kept well informed. The trade unions welcomed our six-weekly bulletins to staff and the launch of the new project website. It is important that we use these mechanisms to provide staff with regular and accurate messages.

If you have any questions about any of the changes, you can speak to your trade union representative and your line manager.

Mental Welfare Commission Scotland

Following the decision in February to step back at that time from taking the Mental Welfare Commission's functions into the new bodies, the Scottish Government's Mental Health Division has been working closely with the Commission and mental welfare stakeholders looking at how best to take the body forward within the public sector simplification programme.

It is anticipated that proposals will be available in the summer.

Organisations affected



www.hmie.gov.uk



www.nhshealthquality.org



www.swia.gov.uk



www.carecommission.com