



Scrutiny Bodies Project: health and care

May 2009
issue 3

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

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

Public Services Reform Bill

A key milestone was reached when the **Public Services Reform Bill** was introduced to Parliament on 28 May. **The Bill, in summary**, helps deliver:

- reductions in the number of national public bodies
- improved support for the arts and culture
- more effective arrangements for improvement and scrutiny for the public and independent sector.

Among the provisions, it establishes Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (SCSWIS) and Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS). SCSWIS will carry out the functions of the Care Commission, the Social Work Inspection Agency and part of HM Inspectorate of Education. HIS will carry out the independent healthcare regulation function of the Care Commission and NHS Quality Improvement Scotland's functions in respect of the NHS in Scotland. The Bill is published on the **Scottish Parliament website**.

The **Public Sector Simplification Programme Update** sets out more of the context for the Bill and the simplification agenda.

We have answered some of the **more general questions** below, but we are planning to provide all staff with a detailed Q & A briefing, separately.

What is the overall timescale for the Bill?

With the introduction of the Bill to the Scottish Parliament there now follows a process of Parliamentary scrutiny and debate by MSPs. We expect the Bill to have completed its passage through Parliament by the middle of 2010 when, subject to Parliamentary approval, it will become an Act of the Scottish Parliament. The intention is for Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland and Healthcare Improvement Scotland to be operational from April 2011.

The detailed timeline for the Bill's expected passage is set out below:

- Introduction - 28 May 2009 (lead Scottish Parliament Committee puts out call for stakeholder evidence before recess)
- Stage 1 - Committee takes evidence from Scottish Government and stakeholders - September to November 2009

- Stage 1 - Debate - December 2009
- Stage 2 (detailed scrutiny and amendment of the Bill by the Committee) begins January 2010
- Stage 3 (debate by Scottish Parliament on the Bill) – February/March 2010
- Royal Assent (Bill becomes Act of the Scottish Parliament) - by June 2010
- **Shadow arrangements - first half of 2010**
- **New bodies start up - April 2011**

Further information on the legislative process can be found in this [diagram](#)

What other documents accompany the Bill at introduction to Parliament?

A number of documents accompany the Bill:

Explanatory notes which sets out what the Bill does.

Financial Memorandum (which is part of the Explanatory notes) and estimates the expected costs and savings implementing the Bill is likely to generate and the timescales for delivering them.

Policy Memorandum which sets out the policy intentions.

Delegated Power Memorandum which describes the provisions in the Bill which give powers to make secondary legislation and that the Parliament's Subordinate Legislation Committee may want to consider.

(All the above documents, along with the Public Services Reform Bill, will be available at the [Scottish Parliament website](#)).

Equality Impact Assessment which assess our policies to ensure that we do not inadvertently create a negative impact for equality groups.

Regulatory Impact Assessment which ensures that government chooses the best option to achieve its policy goals by thinking through the consequences of proposals upon business, charities or the voluntary sector.

What role does the Bill outline for the two new Scrutiny Bodies?

SCSWIS

Responsibility for leading on the inspection of services to protect children and developing a model of inspection for integrated children's services will transfer to SCSWIS from HMIE, along with the existing responsibilities of the Care Commission and SWIA.

HIS

Responsibility for the regulation of independent healthcare which is currently carried out by the Care Commission, along with the existing responsibilities of NHS QIS will transfer to HIS.

What happens next?

Work to develop structures and operational procedures will begin in the Autumn once the task teams, being set up to work on specific themes, have reported. The project structure section, in this bulletin, gives more background on the "themed task teams". Over the next few months we will take forward work on a range of issues.

We will continue to update you on progress in the information bulletin and on our website. In the meantime we are planning to provide the more detailed Q&A briefing for staff which will be added to, as work progresses. We would encourage anyone who has questions to raise them with their line manager. Alternatively, you can contact the Project Team direct at

NSB2011@scotland.gsi.gov.uk



Project Structure

Now that the Public Services Reform Bill has been introduced to Parliament, the focus widens to allow preparations for the successful launch of the new bodies in April 2011. Our **project structure diagram** shows the agreed plan for delivering the project over the coming months. With this project structure we will ensure that stakeholders have the opportunity to have their say on shaping how scrutiny and improvement will be delivered by the new bodies from April 2011.

Quick Guide to Key Parts of the Project Structure

The Scrutiny Bodies Programme Board comprises senior people from the Scottish Government and your organisation and meets quarterly to oversee the whole project.

The Change Delivery Group (CDG) comprises Scottish Government officials and your organisation's Chief Executive (or Senior Chief Inspector, in the case of HMIE).

The CDG held its first monthly meeting on 21 May and agreed the remit and membership of the "themed task teams" which will drive forward the legislative and business change over the next few months.

The project director chairs the change delivery group and is supported by **the project team**, which manages the project day-to-day.

Key external stakeholders will be engaged in the project through a formal **reference group**, an **electronic reference group** and through our conference in June for **service users and equality organisations**. Scottish Government colleagues who need to be aware of the implications of the changes will be part of a **policy interest group**.

Trades union liaison will continue. Trade Unions will take seats on both the CDG and the Programme Board and will be involved in the 'themed task teams'.

"Themed Task Teams"

As part of the project structure, tasks teams, comprising members of staff from your organisations and other interested stakeholders, have been set briefs by the CDG for the next couple of months to help answer some of the issues surrounding the changes. The task teams will work around the following broad themes:

- managing and implementing legislative change
- working collaboratively
- linking scrutiny and improvement
- implementing scrutiny improvement
- commissioning new scrutiny/managing scrutiny bodies' workloads
- standards and outcomes.

The Themed Task Teams will produce an interim written report for the CDG, followed by a final written report for consideration by the CDG and Programme Board. We expect them to produce their reports in the Autumn.

There is also a Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Group, with members from each of the existing bodies, working together to do the long term planning for:

- Awareness raising/information campaigns
- User group and equality consultations and involvement
- Media relations
- Branding, corporate identity and signage
- Design and publications, websites and intranets

Further details of the new structures, overall project plan for this work and the Themed Task Teams, can be found in our Project Initiation Document. The themed task team briefs are currently being finalised and will be available on our project website shortly.

Trade Union Engagement

Our third consultation meeting with the trades unions took place on 12 May 2009. We met with representatives from:

- UNISON
- Prospect
- PCS
- The Royal College of Nursing
- GMB

The following bodies sent apologies:

- Royal College of Midwives
- British Medical Association,
- TGWU
- AMICUS
- FDA

We remain in contact with all the unions as the project goes forward. The Trades Unions will have representation in the new project structure, with seats on the Programme Board and the Change Delivery Group as well as involvement in the themed task teams driving legislative and business change.

We know that not all staff are union members and it is important that they too are kept well informed. If you have any questions about any of the changes you can of course speak to your line manager as well as your trade union representative.

Minutes from the meeting with the Trade Union representatives are available on [our website](#).

Find out more

Your organisation's intranet will have links to the November ministerial announcement about the creation of the new scrutiny bodies, the scrutiny bodies project team contact details, and any previous staff updates issued by them. In addition to the website and these information bulletins, there will also be updates at any staff conferences your organisation holds between now and start up in 2011.

The [website](#) contains the latest information for the project and includes a frequently asked questions section. If you have any comments or suggestions on this bulletin or for the website, please send them to the project team at NSB2011@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

