



Full Council
18 November 2013

**Report from the Assistant Chief
Executive**

For Action

Wards Affected:
ALL

**North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny
Committee**

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 At the May 2012 annual meeting Council appointed representatives to the newly formed North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC). The committee was created specifically to consider and respond to the NHS North West London consultation on the “Shaping a Healthier Future” proposals for health service changes in North West London.
- 1.2 The original consultation process is complete and the JHOSC has served its original purpose. However, now that the consultation is complete, work has begun on the implementation of the “Shaping a Healthier Future” strategy in North West London. It has therefore been proposed that the JHOSC should continue to meet, with an updated remit to scrutinise the actual implementation of the “Shaping a Healthier Future” programme across North West London. This report outlines details of the plans for the JHOSC and its new remit.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Council appoints a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) along with Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham, Harrow, Hounslow, Kensington and Chelsea, Richmond and Westminster, in order to monitor the implementation of the “Shaping a Healthier Future” reconfiguration of health services across North West London.
- 2.2 That Council agrees to nominate one voting member to the JHOSC, plus one alternate member who will be able to vote.

- 2.3 That Council agrees to delegate to the JHOSC the scrutiny powers in relation to health services in North West London as set out in the draft Terms of Reference at Appendix 1
- 2.4 That Council agrees that none of the functions or powers of the Council either individually or jointly, under Regulation 23 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 be delegated to the JHOSC.
- 2.5 That Council will review its membership of the JHOSC on an annual basis at its annual meeting at which time it will also agree the Council's nominated member and alternate member of the JHOSC.
- 2.6 That the Council agrees that the Constitution be amended to reflect the appointment of the JHOSC'

3.0 Detail

Background

- 3.1 In 2012, NHS North West London undertook a public consultation on Shaping a Healthier Future, its strategy for reconfiguring health services in North West London.
- 3.2 At its annual meeting in May 2012 Council agreed to participate in the North West London Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider and respond to NHS North West London's proposals as part of this consultation.
- 3.3 The other members of this committee were: Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham, Harrow, Hounslow, Kensington and Chelsea, Richmond, Westminster, Camden and Wandsworth.
- 3.4 The JHOSC submitted a report to NHS North West London in October 2012. On 3rd September 2013 the JHOSC met to receive feedback from the NHS (now the North West London Collaboration of Clinical Commissioning Groups). This means that the JHOSC has now served its original purpose.

Continuing scrutiny

- 3.5 One of the recommendations in the JHOSC's report of October 2012 was that the JHOSC should provide continuing scrutiny of the development of Shaping a Healthier Future proposals. To this end, at a meeting on 3rd September 2013, the committee voted in favour of continuing to meet to scrutinise the Shaping a Healthier Future implementation plans.
- 3.6 Whereas the JHOSC's original purpose was to consider the Shaping a Healthier Future proposals and respond to the consultation, the primary purpose for the new role of the JHOSC, under its updated Terms of Reference, will be to scrutinise the actual implementation of the programme.

- 3.7 The JHOSC will be able to take a wider view of the Shaping a Healthier Future implementation proposals and plans across North West London as a whole, and look at their wider impact in a way that local scrutiny would not necessarily do.
- 3.8 Two participants in the original JHOSC (Camden and Wandsworth) have chosen not to continue as part of the committee from hereon in. These two boroughs are, geographically, on the outskirts of the area affected by Shaping a Healthier Future and felt that the impact on their boroughs was not enough to warrant continued involvement.
- 3.9 The other boroughs from the original JHOSC have all indicated that they intend to remain part of the extended JHOSC. These are: Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham, Harrow, Hounslow, Kensington and Chelsea, Richmond and Westminster.
- 3.10 The draft new Terms of Reference for the JHOSC are attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.11 Since the remit and scope of the extended JHOSC is beyond that approved for the original JHOSC, Council will need to formally approve continued participation in this committee arrangement.

Local scrutiny

- 3.12 While there are clear advantages to monitoring Shaping a Healthier Future on a wider geographical basis, there is also clearly a need to continue monitoring the Shaping a Healthier Future implementation locally. In particular:
- Each CCG in the North West London consortium has its own Out of Hospital Strategy, which underpins the Shaping a Healthier Future plans. The scrutiny of Brent CCG's Out of Hospital Strategy is clearly something that needs to be done at a local level.
 - There continue to be concerns over long term plans for services at Central Middlesex Hospital. Again this is an issue that the Council would want to scrutinise locally.
- 3.13 The council's own Health Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee will continue to scrutinise Shaping a Healthier Future and other health issues locally and membership of the JHOSC should not in any way preclude normal local scrutiny.

Duration of the JHOSC

- 3.14 It is anticipated that the JHOSC will continue until April 2018, to mirror the implementation schedule for the Shaping a Healthier Future programme.
- 3.15 Given the duration of the JHOSC, it would be prudent to review the council's membership periodically to assess how effective and relevant the committee is proving to be. The Council will therefore need to review its membership of

the JHOSC on a yearly basis at the annual meeting of the Council. The first review should therefore be at the annual meeting in 2014.

- 3.16 The nominated member and alternate member of the JHOSC, for the coming year, will also be agreed at the annual meeting; to align with other committee membership nominations.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 None

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 provide that two or more local authorities may appoint a joint committee of those authorities and arrange for relevant functions to be exercisable by the joint committee subject to such terms and conditions as the authorities may consider appropriate.

Regulation 23 provides that where two or more Councils are consulted on a substantial development or substantial variation of the health service in their area the Councils must appoint a joint committee for the purpose of that consultation and only that joint committee can provide feedback. Where the proposals and consultation only affects one local authority no such joint committee is required to be established. The Regulations also provide that where the power to refer to the Secretary of State has been delegated by a Council to a joint committee the Council cannot then discharge that function. In the proposed arrangements it is made apparent that none of the functions under Regulation 23, whether they be joint or individual, will be the remit of the JHOSC.

The JHOSC established in May 2012 was specifically for the purpose of those Councils being consulted upon and providing feedback on 'Shaping a Healthier Future' proposals. This is now completed and accordingly if joint working is to continue, new arrangements need to be made.

6.0 Diversity Implications

- 6.1 None

Background Papers: Appendix 1: Draft Terms of Reference

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