

Item No. 5	Classification: Open	Date: 8 February 2016	Meeting Name: Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Report title:		Establishment of a statutory joint health scrutiny committee to consider South London & Maudsley NHS Trust proposal for a centralised place of safety	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Head of Overview & Scrutiny	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 That Southwark enters into a joint committee arrangement with Croydon, Lambeth, and Lewisham Councils to consider proposals from the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust

1.2 That the terms of reference of the joint committee are to scrutinize the proposals and to adopt procedure rules appropriate for this purpose

1.3 That Overview & Scrutiny Committee agrees to appoint Southwark members to the joint committee

1.4 That Overview & Scrutiny Committee agrees to appoint three Labour members in accordance with the rules relating to political proportionality

1.5 That the chair of the Healthy Communities Scrutiny Sub-Committee reports back to Overview & Scrutiny on the work of the joint committee

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 This proposal relates to people who are brought to hospital under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act. This is a power that police officers can use if someone is in a public place and the police have concerns about them. Across the Trust there are currently four Place of Safety or 136 Suites, where people can be brought, assessed and cared for. Following an assessment in one of these suites by a doctor and an interview with an Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP), the person can either be discharged with or without referral for further mental health support, or admitted for further treatment.

2.2 The proposal under consideration is for a centralised suite at the Maudsley site in Southwark.

3. KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Southwark's constitution empowers Overview & Scrutiny Committee to enter into a joint committee and provide for the council's scrutiny function to be carried out by that joint committee. In this case, the chair of healthy communities scrutiny sub-committee has been briefed and considers that this

proposal may constitute a substantial variation. The sub-committee is being formally presented with the proposals at its meeting on 10th February and will take a view on behalf of Southwark Council.

4. Community impact statement

4.1 The role of the joint committee is to examine the emerging proposals and scrutinize the consultation arrangements to ensure that all affected communities have the opportunity to participate

5. Resource implications

5.1 All the boroughs involved have extremely tight resources for supporting scrutiny. It is not yet clear how many meetings will be required. It may be necessary to prioritise this over non-statutory scrutiny work. We will negotiate sharing the workload with all the boroughs involved

6. Consultation

6.1 This report is only concerned with establishing the constitutional and administrative arrangements for the joint committee. No consultation has taken place on these matters.

7. Reasons for lateness and urgency

7.1 The formal paperwork on this proposal has only just arrived with Southwark scrutiny. OSC is not scheduled to meet again until 2nd April and any joint committee is likely to need to meet during March

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

8. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Healthy Communities Sub-Committee Agenda papers	www.southwark.gov.uk	Julie Timbrell 02075250514

9. AUDIT TRAIL

This section must be included in all reports.

Lead Officer	Shelley Burke	
	Shelley Burke	
Version	Final	
Dated	5 February 2016	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Director of Legal Services	no	no

Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services	No	No
List other officers here		
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team/Community Council/Scrutiny Team	5 February 5, 2016	