



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMISSION

MINUTES of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Commission held on Thursday 16 October 2025 at 7.00 pm at 160, Tooley Street, SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Suzanne Abachor (Chair)
Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Sandra Rhule

OTHER MEMBERS

PRESENT:

OFFICER SUPPORT: Julie Timbrell, Project Manager, scrutiny

1. APOLOGIES

There were apologies from Councillor Charlie Smith, Councillor Esme Dobson, and Councillor Naima Ali.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on held on 2 July 2025 were agreed as an accurate record.

5. CANCER PREVENTION AND EARLY DIAGNOSIS

The chair drew members attention to the headline scrutiny review report enclosed with the papers and invited members to comment.

Members commented that the evidence received supported a recommendation on FGM trauma informed cervical cancer screening.

The project manager reported that health colleagues have provided more up to date data on work to improve early diagnosis.

6. CABINET RESPONSE TO THE NURSING CARE HOME DELIVERY SCRUTINY REVIEW REPORT

The chair drew members attention to the cabinet report circulated with the agenda.

The chair then explained that the commission has a role in ensuring good governance, accountability and the long term interests of Southwark residents. She was pleased to acknowledge the cabinet's response to the commission concerns, regarding the delivery of the Asylum Road Care Home. The commission noted that at the cabinet meeting three additional amendments were made, and these were welcomed:

i) noted that further feedback from the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Commission meeting, scheduled for Thursday 16 October 2025, would be taken into account during the lease negotiation stage with Andover

ii) noted that Planning and Growth would explore options for appointing the Dementia Services Development Centre (DSDC) at the University of Stirling, as sector specialists, to comment on the proposed design, at the appropriate time.

iii) noted that, with reference to paragraph 23 of the open report, the Andover

Nursing Home has now been rated 'Good' by the CQC (4 September 2025).

The chair then invited the scrutiny project manager explain how the item will be dealt with. The project manager advised that this item be deferred until after the call-in period as expired, on the advice of the monitoring officer. This was agreed.

7. NURSING CARE HOME SPACE STANDARDS

The documentation circulated was noted. Stirling University and officers will be invited to present at a future meeting.

8. WORK PROGRAMME

The work programme was noted.