

Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

“Our Healthier South East London”

(As agreed by the Joint Committee on 1st February 2016)

(Proposals for a five year commissioning strategy developed by 6 CCGs which aims to improve health, reduce health inequalities and ensure all health services in South East London meet safety and quality standards consistently and are sustainable in the longer term)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is constituted in accordance with the Local Authority Public Health, Health & Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny Regulations 2013 (the “Regulations”) and Department of Health Guidance to respond to substantial reconfiguration proposals covering more than one Council area from the Our Healthier South East London programme (“OHSEL”). OHSEL is a proposal devised by the 6 CCGs covering the London Boroughs of Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark. It proposes a five year commissioning strategy for the areas covered by the 6 London Boroughs represented on this joint overview and scrutiny committee. The CCGs state that the programme is developed to improve health, reduce health inequalities and ensure all health services in South East London meet safety and quality standards consistently and are sustainable in the longer term.

The Joint Committee’s terms of reference are:

1. To undertake all the functions of a statutory Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the Regulations and Department of Health Guidance. This includes, but is not limited to the following:-
 - (a) To consider and respond to the proposals from the OHSEL for the reconfiguration of Health Services in South East London.
 - (b) To scrutinise any consultation process conducted by the 6 CCGs in relation to OHSEL, but not to replicate any consultation process.
 - (c) This does not include the power to make any decision to make a referral to the Secretary of State in relation to the proposals from the CCGs for Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark. However, any individual borough may make a specific delegation to the JHOSC in relation to their own power to make such a referral on their behalf.

Membership

Membership of the Committee will be two named Members from each of the following local authorities:-

London Borough of Bexley;
London Borough of Bromley;
London Borough of Greenwich;
London Borough of Lambeth;
London Borough of Lewisham;
London Borough of Southwark.

Members must not be an Executive Member.

PROCEDURES

Chair and Vice-Chair

1. The Committee will appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair at its first meeting. The Chair and Vice-Chair should be members of different participating authorities.

Substitutions

2. Substitutes may attend Committee meetings in lieu of nominated members. Continuity of attendance throughout the review is strongly encouraged however.
3. It will be the responsibility of individual committee members and their local authorities to arrange substitutions and to ensure that the lead authority is informed of any changes prior to the meeting.
4. Where a substitute is attending the meeting, it will be the responsibility of the nominated member to brief them in advance of the meeting

Quorum

5. The quorum of the meeting of the Joint Committee will be 4 members, each of whom should be from a different participating authority.

Voting

6. It is hoped that the Committee will be able to reach their decisions by consensus. However, in the event that a vote is required each member present will have one vote. In the event of there being an equality of votes, the Chair of the meeting will have the casting vote.
7. On completion of the scrutiny review by the Joint Committee, it shall produce a single final report, reflecting the views of all the local authorities involved.

Meetings

8. Meetings of the Joint Committee will normally be held in public and will take place at venues within South East London. The normal access to information provisions applying to meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny committees will apply. However, there may be occasions on which the Joint Committee may need to make visits outside of the formal Committee meeting setting.
9. Meetings shall last for up to two hours from the time the meeting is due to commence. The Joint Committee may resolve, by a simple majority, before the expiry of 2 hours from the start of the meeting to continue the meeting for a maximum further period of up to 30 minutes.

Local Overview and Scrutiny Committees

10. The Joint Committee will encourage its Members to inform their local overview and scrutiny committees of the work of the Joint Committee and any proposals contained within the OHSEL programme.
11. The Joint Committee will invite its Members to represent to the Joint Committee the views of their local overview and scrutiny committees on the OHSEL programme and the Joint Committee's work.

Communication

12. The Joint Committee will establish clear lines of communication between the NHS, participating local authorities and itself. All formal correspondence between the Committee, local authorities and the NHS on this matter will be administered by (*named officer/borough to be determined*) or (*other*) until such officer is appointed.

Representations

13. The Joint Committee will identify and invite witnesses to address the committee and may wish to undertake consultation with a range of stakeholders.

Support

14. Administrative and research support will be provided by the scrutiny teams of the 6 boroughs working together.

Assumptions

15. The Joint Committee will be based on the following assumptions:-

- (a) That the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee is constituted to respond to the work of the OHSEL Programme including any proposals it puts forward and any consultation it may carry out, as well as comment on the public and patient involvement activity in which the NHS has engaged in relation to this matter.
- (b) That the OHSEL Programme will permit the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee access to the outcome of any public consultation phase prior to the formulation and submission of the Joint Committee's response to such public consultations.