

Health Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 5 November 2019

Electoral Division affected: (All Divisions);
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Report of the Health Scrutiny Committee Steering Group

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Executive Summary

Overview of matters presented and considered by the Health Scrutiny Steering Group at its meeting held on 16 October 2019.

Recommendation

The Health Scrutiny Committee is asked to receive the report of its Steering Group.

Background and Advice

The Steering Group is made up of the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Health Scrutiny Committee plus two additional members, one each nominated by the Conservative and Labour Groups.

The main purpose of the Steering Group is to manage the workload of the Committee more effectively in the light of increasing number of changes to health services which are considered to be substantial. The main functions of the Steering Group are listed below:

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1. To act as a preparatory body on behalf of the Committee to develop the following aspects in relation to planned topics/reviews scheduled on the Committee's work plan:
 - Reasons/focus, objectives and outcomes for scrutiny review;
 - Develop key lines of enquiry;
 - Request evidence, data and/or information for the report to the Committee;
 - Determine who to invite to the Committee
2. To act as the first point of contact between Scrutiny and the Health Service Trusts and Clinical Commissioning Groups;
3. To liaise, on behalf of the Committee, with Health Service Trusts and Clinical Commissioning Groups;

4. To make proposals to the Committee on whether they consider NHS service changes to be 'substantial' thereby instigating further consultation with scrutiny;
5. To act as mediator when agreement cannot be reached on NHS service changes by the Committee. The conclusions of any disagreements including referral to Secretary of State will rest with the Committee;
6. To invite any local Councillor(s) whose ward(s) as well as any County Councillor(s) whose division(s) are/will be affected to sit on the Group for the duration of the topic to be considered;
7. To develop and maintain its own work programme for the Committee to consider and allocate topics accordingly.

It is important to note that the Steering Group is not a formal decision making body and that it will report its activities and any aspect of its work to the Committee for consideration and agreement.

Meeting held on 16 October, 2019

❖ Draft Terms of Reference for the appointment of a Joint Health Scrutiny committee for the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System (ICS)

Gary Halsall, Senior Democratic Services Officer, presented draft terms of reference for the appointment of a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System (ICS). Comments on the draft had been received from Cumbria County Council and Blackpool Council. The People Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Blackburn with Darwen Council had reviewed the draft but had not submitted comments.

The submitted comments were discussed and the following suggestions were agreed:

Comments from Cumbria County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee:

- Increasing the quorum from three voting members from at least two of the affected upper tier local authorities to five voting members from at least three of the affected upper tier local authorities, would provide more robust scrutiny for the purposes of public accountability.
- It would be more appropriate for the membership of the ICS joint committee to be drawn from the respective Health Scrutiny Committees rather than the Council or County Council and the full individual committee names be included in the terms of reference.
- The calendar of meetings should be proposed and agreed before each authority had set their calendar of meetings for the municipal year.

- A work planning meeting with new joint committee and the ICS would inform the agendas for the forthcoming year.
- All the general comments regarding wording from Cumbria County Council's Legal and Democratic services as presented were accepted.

Comments from Blackpool Council's Health Scrutiny Committee:

- The scope of the committee would be made more specific by the inclusion of the commitment to formalise a work plan and agenda setting within the terms of reference. It was accepted that there would be area specific issues that would be discussed at both ICS and area level. It was confirmed that the terms of reference did not preclude individual Health Scrutiny Committees from exploring issues at a local level. In addition the joint committee would only consider those proposals from the Integrated Care System that would affect all four local authority areas.
- The remaining suggestions for change from Blackpool Council regarding wording and inclusion of members referring to their individual code of conduct of their authority, as listed in the report, were also agreed.

Comments at the meeting from Blackburn with Darwen Council's Health Scrutiny Committee:

- It was agreed that meetings of the ICS joint committee shall not be held during the notice of election period for 'all' elections (rather than just local authority elections).

It was suggested that the appointment of chair be rotated on an annual basis and the relevant council chairing that year should also administer the meetings. All present were in agreement that it was included in the terms of reference that it was intended that each council take turns to chair and administer the meetings.

Cumbria County Council stated that they did not have the staffing capacity to support the administration of the ICS joint committee meetings whilst they also supported the Cumbria and Lancashire Joint Health Scrutiny Committee. It was suggested that when it was Cumbria's year to administer the ICS joint committee, Lancashire County Council could take on the clerking function for the Cumbria and Lancashire Joint Health Scrutiny Committee. County Councillor Claire Driver would discuss this further with Cumbria County Council Democratic Services.

It was agreed that Lancashire County Council chair and administer the first year of meetings.

Resolved: That;

1. The above suggestions as agreed in the body of the minutes be incorporated into the final draft terms of reference for the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System (ICS).

2. The final draft would be circulated to the four local authorities for agreement via their respective governance procedures.

❖ **Review of Primary Care Networks and Neighbourhoods across Lancashire (and South Cumbria): scoping**

Gary Halsall, Senior Democratic Services Officer presented a report reiterating the discussions during the work programming exercise undertaken by the Steering Group at its meeting held in May this year, with regard to reviewing the impact of primary care networks/neighbourhoods at local level and the accessibility of healthcare services and the provision of local facilities (capital and estates strategy – opportunities and constraints).

It was suggested that this could be a potential theme for Steering Group to review at each meeting for the remainder of this municipal year. It was acknowledged that the Steering Group would require an initial high level overview from colleagues at the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System (ICS), followed by an update by neighbourhood representatives for subsequent meetings. In response to a suggestion it was clarified that primary care included GPs, pharmacists, dentists and opticians.

The Steering Group would establish key lines of enquiry and look to seek views of neighbourhoods reporting successes as well as those experiencing issues.

Resolved: That a themed review of Primary Care Networks and Neighbourhoods across Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System be included on the work plan for the Steering Group for the upcoming year.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

This report has no significant risk implications.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
N/A		