

Internal Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Friday, 17 January 2020

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

The appointment of a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System (ICS)

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

A request to appoint a proposed Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for the purpose of reviewing proposals for the reconfiguration of services proposed by the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System that will affect the whole population of the Lancashire and South Cumbria area. The proposed terms of reference for the joint committee is set out at Appendix 'A'.

Recommendation

The Internal Scrutiny Committee is asked to agree the proposed Joint Health Scrutiny Committee and its terms of reference.

Background and Advice

In February 2019, the Health Scrutiny Committee agreed in principle to the appointment of a joint health scrutiny committee for the purpose of considering referrals from the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System and requested that the Health Scrutiny Steering Group developed and finalised the terms of reference for the joint committee in collaboration with the other relevant authorities for submission to the Internal Scrutiny Committee.

In 2016, NHS organisations and local councils came together to form 44 sustainability and transformation partnerships (STPs) covering the whole of England, and set out their proposals to improve health and care for patients.

In some areas, including Lancashire and South Cumbria these partnerships evolved to form an integrated care system (ICS), where NHS organisations, in partnership with local councils and others, took collective responsibility for managing resources, delivering NHS standards, and improving the health of the population they served. The Lancashire and South Cumbria ICS area spans the administrative boundaries of Blackpool Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council, Cumbria County Council (part)

and Lancashire County Council. Local authority boundaries are not coterminous with NHS boundaries and as such consideration of proposals for service reconfigurations that affect more than one local authority area must be carried out by a joint committee appointed by those authorities affected.

Regulation 30 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013, provides the power to establish joint health scrutiny committees with other local authorities, subject to the responsible person¹ consulting more than one local authority pursuant to Regulation 23 (Consultation by responsible persons).

Most importantly, the regulations provide that, where a health service proposal covers more than one local authority area, the local authorities must form a joint committee to consider it. As the ICS boundaries are not coterminous with the local authority boundaries, any proposal covering the whole ICS area will need to be considered by a joint committee of all four local authorities whose areas are affected.

It's important to note that this joint committee is not a committee of Lancashire County Council, but a joint committee between each of the constituent bodies that will make up the joint committee. Consequently the county council cannot dictate or have full control over the appointment and the development of the terms of reference. The draft terms of reference have therefore been drawn up and agreed in collaboration with the other local authorities and are set out at appendix A.

It is also important to note that it is not envisaged that the joint committee will only meet when it is required to do so, and will not set out a calendar of meetings but will determine timescales for proposals to form the basis of an annual work plan.

The Internal Scrutiny Committee is asked to agree the proposed Joint Health Scrutiny Committee and its terms of reference.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

There is a legal requirement to establish a joint health scrutiny committee in certain circumstances as outlined in the report.

¹ "a responsible person" means a relevant NHS body or a relevant health service provider

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

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