

Health Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on 28 February 2017

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| Electoral Divisions affected: None |
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Report of the Health Scrutiny Committee Steering Group

Contact for further information:

Gary Halsall, 01772 536989, Democratic Services,

gary.halsall@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

Proposed mechanism for receiving future information from the Steering Group in response to the Health Scrutiny Committee's resolution from its meeting held on 22 November 2016.

Recommendation:

The Health Scrutiny Committee is asked to agree the proposed mechanism to receive agendas and minutes of all future Steering Group meetings by email.

Background and Advice

At the Committee's meeting held on 22 November 2016, it was resolved that a review of how information from the Steering Group is provided to future Health Scrutiny Committee meetings be undertaken.

A review has now been undertaken in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Committee. It is proposed that all future agendas and minutes published for the Steering Group be issued to the full membership of the Health Scrutiny Committee by automated email. Each email will contain a link to the specific agenda and minutes on the County Council's website. It is worth noting that Steering Group meetings are not held in public. Therefore, each County Councillor will be required to use their standard County Council login credentials issued to them. For all Co-Opted members their login credential would be their district council email address (or preferred email address they have registered with the County Council in becoming a member of this Committee) and a temporary password that will be issued to them through separate correspondence from Democratic Services.

It is also worth noting that the work plan for the Health Scrutiny Committee already provides a brief outline on the activities of the Steering Group.

For information, the Scrutiny Committee approved the appointment of a Health Scrutiny Steering Group on 11 June 2010 following the restructure of Overview and Scrutiny approved by Full Council on 20 May 2010. 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 Liberal Democrat Groups.

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

- To act as the first point of contact between Scrutiny and the Health Service Trusts;
- To make proposals to the main Committee on whether they consider NHS service changes to be 'substantial' thereby instigating further consultation with scrutiny;
- To liaise, on behalf of the Committee, with Health Service Trusts;
- To develop a work programme for the Committee to consider.

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 full Committee for consideration and agreement.

Consultations

The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Health Scrutiny Committee have been consulted on this matter.

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/Directorate/Tel |
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N/A.

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A.