

Draft Terms of Reference

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Responsibility:

To review and scrutinise:

1. Issues around education services provided by the council including those education functions of a Children's Services authority
2. Children and young people's services including the statutory powers of a scrutiny committee as they relate to the NHS.

Membership:

16 county councillors, 5 voting co-optees, (comprising three Church representatives and two parent governor representatives) who shall have voting rights in relation to any education functions which are the responsibility of the Executive, and one non-voting co-optee representing the Youth Council.

Terms of Reference:

1. To scrutinise matters relating to education delivered by the authority and other relevant partners.
2. To fulfil all the statutory functions of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee as they relate to education functions of a Children's Services Authority.
3. To scrutinise matters relating to services for Children and Young People delivered by the authority and other relevant partners.

The following provisions relating to scrutiny of health and social care relate to services for children and young people:

4. To review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the area and make reports and recommendations to NHS bodies as appropriate
5. In reviewing any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the area, to invite interested parties to comment on the matter and take account of relevant information available, particularly that provided by the Local Healthwatch
6. To review and scrutinise any local services planned or provided by other agencies which contribute towards the health improvement and the reduction of health inequalities in Lancashire and to make recommendations to those agencies, as appropriate
7. In the case of contested NHS proposals for substantial service changes, to take steps to reach agreement with the NHS body
8. In the case of contested NHS proposals for substantial service changes where agreement cannot be reached with the NHS, to refer the matter to the relevant Secretary of State.
9. To refer to the relevant Secretary of State any NHS proposal which the Committee feels has been the subject of inadequate consultation.

10. To scrutinise the social care services provided or commissioned by NHS bodies exercising local authority functions under Section 31 of the Health Act 1999.
11. To draw up a forward programme of health scrutiny in consultation with other local authorities, NHS partners, the Local Healthwatch and other key stakeholders.
12. To acknowledge within 20 working days to referrals on relevant matters from the Local Healthwatch or Local Healthwatch contractor, and to keep the referrer informed of any action taken in relation to the matter
13. To require the Chief Executives of local NHS bodies to attend before the Committee to answer questions, and to invite the chairs and nonexecutive directors of local NHS bodies to appear before the Committee to give evidence.
14. To invite any officer of any NHS body to attend before the Committee to answer questions or give evidence.