

Scrutiny Management Board

Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 13 November 2024

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:
N/A;

Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee - Joint Health Scrutiny

Contact for further information:

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Brief Summary

A request from the Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee to agree 'in principle' the establishment of a potential joint health scrutiny committee with Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council to review proposals arising from the NHS Shaping Care Together Programme.

Recommendation

The Scrutiny Management Board is asked to:

- (i) Review the information provided.
- (ii) Consider the suggested next steps outlined in the report with a view to agreeing 'in principle' the establishment of a joint health scrutiny committee with Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council.

Background

Where a proposal is agreed between the 'commissioner' (NHS body or health service provider) and more than one local authority to be a substantial variation or development of services, this would trigger the requirement for those local authorities to establish a joint health scrutiny committee (see [The Local Authority \(Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny\) Regulations 2013](#) (legislation.gov.uk) for more detail).

Substantial variation or substantial development are not defined in legislation. The Lancashire County Council Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee has developed its own protocol to assist in determining whether proposals from responsible persons (NHS bodies or health service providers).



Detail

The Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee considered a report on the NHS Shaping Care Together Programme at the 18 September 2024 meeting. The report established that the programme aimed to improve the provision of health and care in Southport, Formby, and West Lancashire and highlighted that the next phase of the Programme was to review the urgent and emergency care provision. Proposals for service development or change are required to be presented to the relevant health scrutiny committees, which in this case is Lancashire County Council and Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council.

The information presented to the Committee signified the beginning of a more formal process to which the Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee was asked to confirm whether the Shaping Care Together Programme discussed could be viewed as a 'substantial variation' to services.

The Committee resolved that 'in considering the information presented, the Shaping Care Together Programme be agreed a substantial variation 'in principle', with a view to more detail on proposed options presented at a future meeting'. It has since been confirmed that a further report would be presented to the 13 December 2024 meeting of the Committee, with a view to confirming that the proposals meet the substantial variation of services criteria, which would require a joint committee to be convened in January 2025, should Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council also agree a substantial variation of services.

Further detail on the meeting including reports, presentation, minutes, and recording can be found via the link below:

[Council - Agenda for Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee on Wednesday, 18th September, 2024, 10.30 am \(lancashire.gov.uk\)](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/agenda/council-agenda-for-health-and-adult-services-scrutiny-committee-on-wednesday-18th-september-2024-10.30-am)

The Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee terms of reference places a requirement "To request the Scrutiny Management Board to establish, as necessary, joint working arrangements with district councils and other neighbouring authorities".

Suggested Next Steps

To facilitate the convening of a potential joint committee in January 2025, the Board is asked to consider and agree 'in principle' to the establishment of a joint health scrutiny committee with Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council. This is subject to the pending outcome of Sefton's meeting in December. The Scrutiny Management Board's next scheduled meeting will be held on 4 February 2025.

Should Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council's health scrutiny function determine that the proposals arising from the Shaping Care Together programme do not represent a substantial variation, then no joint committee will be established. Any further scrutiny of the proposals will be undertaken by the county council's Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee pending the outcome of its meeting on 13 December 2024.



Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Legal

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

Financial

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Risk management

There are no risks associated with this report.

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

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

