

# **SCRUTINY ASSEMBLY TERMS OF REFERENCE**

## **Membership**

1. The Scrutiny Assembly is the collective body of all those responsible for carrying out the scrutiny function of the Council.
2. The Scrutiny Assembly will include all non-Executive members i.e. all those except the Leader, Cabinet Members and the Mayor and all standing co-optees.
3. The Chair of the Scrutiny Management Board is automatically the Chair of the Scrutiny Assembly.
4. In the absence of the Chair of the Scrutiny Assembly, meetings will be Chaired by a Scrutiny Committee Chair
5. The quorum is 11 elected members (ie at least one quarter of the elected membership)

## **Functions**

6. The role of the Scrutiny Assembly is to scrutinise the work of the Council and its partners in accordance with national legislation and to hold decision makers to account.
7. Scrutiny Assembly members will carry out the scrutiny by taking part in scrutiny events, making suggestions for the scrutiny work programme, undertaking scrutiny reviews and making recommendations.
8. Scrutiny Assembly members may take part in any scrutiny review regardless of which Scrutiny Committee they sit on.

## **Meeting Arrangements and Proceedings**

9. The Committee procedure rules as set out in the Council's Constitution apply to this Committee.
10. The meetings will follow the principles of scrutiny ie no party whip will be applied and a constructive, evidence based approach will be used.
11. Scrutiny Assembly meetings will be held in public.
12. The meetings will be administered by Democratic and Scrutiny Services.
13. The Scrutiny Assembly will meet when agreed by the Scrutiny Management Board.

14. Other meetings of the Scrutiny Assembly may be convened to consider matters of significance to the Council.

15. Relevant Cabinet Members, Directors, Assistant Directors and Service Delivery Managers will attend the Committee at the request of the Chair.

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# **SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD TERMS OF REFERENCE**

## **Membership**

1. The Scrutiny Management Board will be made up of the Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees and other members as required to make the Board politically balanced.
2. Members of the Scrutiny Management Board will be appointed at Annual Council.
3. The quorum required for a meeting is 3 elected members.

## **Functions**

4. The Scrutiny Management Board will co-ordinate, oversee and monitor the delivery of the Scrutiny work programme and will receive regular progress reports from the Democratic & Scrutiny Services Team and Scrutiny Chairs.
5. The Scrutiny Management Board will oversee the allocation of Democratic & Scrutiny Services Team resources to the Scrutiny Committees, and will make decisions where there are competing demands for resources.
6. The Scrutiny Management Board will allocate Scrutiny suggestions to the relevant Scrutiny Committee and may make recommendations about priorities for the work programme and joint scrutiny of issues. A flexible approach will be taken so that the most appropriate Scrutiny Committee is identified depending on the nature of the issue. The Scrutiny Committees will not be aligned to specific service delivery areas. Issues which do not fall within the remit of another Scrutiny Committee may be included in the work programme of the Scrutiny Management Board.
7. The Scrutiny Management Board will be responsible for scrutiny in relation to Leader and Cabinet Executive decisions made but not implemented as set out in section 21(3) of the Local Government Act 2000 i.e. Call-in of decisions taken but not yet implemented. This will include Call-in of decisions made by the Local Enterprise Partnership Joint Executive Committee.
8. Scrutiny Management Board may invite Cabinet Members to attend the Board for 'Holding to Account' sessions.
9. The Scrutiny Management Board will receive requests from the Leader and Cabinet Executive or individual Members and/or the Full Council for reports from the Scrutiny Committee and to allocate them if appropriate to one or more Scrutiny Committees.
10. Subject to the provision of Part 3, paragraph 1.1 of the Council's Constitution, the Scrutiny Management Board may make changes to the scrutiny structure and processes after consulting with the Scrutiny Assembly. The Scrutiny

Handbook will be updated to reflect the changes. Changes will be reported back to the next Full Council meeting.

11. The Scrutiny Management Board may periodically review and make changes to the Policy for Co-opting Scrutiny Members.
12. The Scrutiny Management Board may consider any areas of key strategic importance for the Council that members wish.

### **Meeting Administration and Proceedings**

13. The Committee procedure rules as set out in the Council's Constitution apply to this Committee.
14. The meetings will follow the principles of scrutiny i.e. no party whip will be applied and a constructive, evidence based approach will be used.
15. If the Chair is unable to attend a meeting the members present will elect a Chair for the meeting.
16. Meetings of the Scrutiny Management Board will be held in public.
17. Meetings will be agreed by the Scrutiny Management Board as deemed necessary to carry out the work programme and to fulfil the responsibilities of the Board.
18. The meetings will be administered by Scrutiny Services and Democratic Services. Frequency of meetings will be agreed by Committee members as deemed necessary to carry out the work programme.
19. Relevant Cabinet Members, Directors, Assistant Directors and Service Delivery Managers will attend the Committee at the request of the Chair. Representatives from partner organisations may be invited to attend Scrutiny Management Board meetings.

### **Sensitive and Confidential Information**

20. Members may become privy to information of a sensitive or confidential nature, and if this happens members must maintain this confidence. Members are unable to request personal/confidential information from Officers about an individual or family.

### **Reporting Arrangements**

21. The Chair of will provide and present reports and recommendations of the Scrutiny Management Board to Cabinet, the Council or other organisations as appropriate, including the Annual Scrutiny Report.

# **CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

## **Membership**

1. The Committee will be made up of elected members from the Scrutiny Assembly, as appointed at Annual Council in line with the political balance of the Council, and co-opted scrutiny members.
2. The Committee may appoint co-opted scrutiny members but they must not exceed the number of elected members.
3. The Parent Governor and the Catholic and Anglican diocesan representatives will have statutory voting rights on education matters as set out on the Local Government Act 2000. Other co-optees will not have voting rights.
4. In addition to the standing co-optees, the Committee may appoint additional co-optees for one-off reviews to supplement the skills, knowledge and experience of the Committee on that particular issue. (Subject to the number of co-opted scrutiny members not exceeding the number of elected members.)
5. A Vice-Chair may be appointed by majority decision of the Committee.
6. The quorum required for a meeting is 3 elected members.
7. All Committee members should undergo the Corporate Parenting and Child Sexual Exploitation training offered by the Council (including any refresher training).
8. Members of Committee should act as champions for children and young people in the care of the authority and raise awareness of the issues facing children and young people in care with other elected members and members of the public.

## **Functions**

9. The Committee will be the main mechanism by which Scrutiny members will scrutinise and monitor the planning and performance of the Council's services to children and young people and the Council's Corporate Parenting role, including but not limited to the following key areas
  - Early years and child care
  - All aspects of education including schools and academies, school improvement, school/college transport, training and apprenticeships, behaviour and attendance, further education
  - Children's Centres
  - Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
  - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

- Positive activities for young people
- Safeguarding and child protection (including exploitation)
- Corporate Parenting
- Looked After Children and Care Leavers
- Fostering and adoption
- Teenage pregnancy
- Supported accommodation and lodgings
- Supported employment for young people
- Youth Services
- Youth Offending Service
- Youth unemployment, NEETs
- Family Support

10. The Committee will set its own work programme. The following points may be taken into consideration when considering the work programme each year:

- areas where significant change is proposed and the potential impacts
- performance in areas where significant change has been implemented;
- areas of financial overspend;
- areas receiving a high level of budgetary commitment;
- areas where there is a high level of user dissatisfaction;
- reports and action plans produced/agreed with external inspectors;
- areas that are key issues for the public or have become a public interest issue covered in the media.

11. The Committee will consider matters referred by the Scrutiny Management Board, and will exercise discretion as to whether a suggestion falls within the remit of the Committee to scrutinise.

### **Meeting Administration and Proceedings**

12. The Committee procedure rules as set out in the Council's Constitution apply to this Committee.

13. The meetings will follow the principles of scrutiny ie no party whip will be applied and a constructive, evidence based approach will be used.

14. If the Chair and Vice Chair (if appointed) are unable to attend a meeting the Members present will elect a Chair for the meeting.

15. All Scrutiny Committee meetings will be held in public, unless exempt information is being considered or discussed. Scrutiny Committees may appoint sub-groups to carry out investigative work as part of a review and these sub-groups may hold informal meetings but will report back their findings to the Scrutiny Committee.

16. The meetings will be administered by Scrutiny Services and Democratic Services. Frequency of meetings will be agreed by the Committee as necessary to carry out the work programme.

17. The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Directors, Assistant Directors and Service Delivery Managers will attend the Committee at the request of the Chair. Representatives from other organisations may be invited to attend.

### **Sensitive and Confidential Information**

18. From time to time members may become privy to information of a confidential nature. If this happens, members must maintain this confidence. Members are unable to request personal/confidential information from Officers about an individual or family.

19. Information obtained as a result of membership of the Committee is sensitive and should be treated as being confidential by members.

### **Reporting Arrangements**

20. The Chair will provide regular updates to meetings of the Scrutiny Management Board to inform the other Scrutiny Chairs of performance and budget issues relating to the remit of their Committees.

21. The Chair of the Committee, or his/her representative, will provide and present reports and recommendations of the Committee to the Council's Cabinet, Full Council or other relevant organisations when necessary.

# HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

## Membership

1. The group will be made up of elected members of the Scrutiny Assembly, appointed at Annual Council in line with the political balance of the Council.
2. The Committee may include Co-opted scrutiny members but they must not exceed 50% of the number of elected members.
3. In addition to standing co-optees, the Committee may appoint additional co-optees for one-off reviews to supplement the skills, knowledge and experience of the Committee on that particular issue (subject to the rule on total number of co-optees above).
4. Vice-Chairs may be appointed by majority decision of the Committee.
5. The quorum required for a meeting is 3 elected members.
6. Three elected Members and 3 co-optees of this Committee will also be expected to take part in the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee set up with elected members and co-optees from Shropshire County Council to scrutinise substantial variations or developments in service that cut across both local authority areas. Separate terms of reference apply to the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee which have been agreed with Shropshire County Council.

## Functions

7. The Committee will be the main mechanism by which Scrutiny members will scrutinise and monitor the planning and performance of the Council's adult social care services and health services matters under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. Full Council has delegated the health scrutiny powers to this Committee.
8. The Committees takes the key role in:
  - a) Monitoring the performance of NHS Trusts whose services effect local people;
  - b) Acting as the statutory consultee on NHS proposals for substantial variation in service and responding to these NHS consultations.
  - c) Participating in a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee with elected members from Shropshire Council to scrutinise and respond to NHS proposals that apply to both areas;
  - d) Responding to referrals from Health Watch regarding health services;
  - e) Monitoring the Council's performance in relation to social care service for adults;
  - f) Responding to referrals from Healthwatch regarding Adult Care Services
  - g) Scrutinising proposals for the provision of adult care services and the impacts of any proposed changes to services;

- h) Scrutinising adult care services that are of concern to local people.
9. The Committee will set its own work programme. The main task of the Committee will be to scrutinise the planning, provision and operation of NHS health services and to scrutinise the performance of the Council's adult social care services that are provided to people in Telford & Wrekin. However, members can look at any other issues within these service areas. The following points should be taken into consideration when considering the work programme each year:
- areas where significant change is proposed and the potential impacts
  - performance in areas where significant change has been implemented;
  - areas of financial overspend;
  - areas receiving a high level of budgetary commitment;
  - areas where there is a high level of user dissatisfaction;
  - reports and action plans produced/agreed with external inspectors;
  - areas that are key issues for the public or have become a public interest issue covered in the media.
10. The Committee will consider matters referred by the Scrutiny Management Board, and will exercise discretion as to whether a suggestion falls within the remit of the Committee to scrutinise.
11. Following scrutiny of any proposals which constitute a substantial development or substantial variation in the provision of health services, to make recommendations to Full Council on the exercise of powers of referral to the Secretary of State.

### **Meeting Administration and Proceedings**

12. The Committee procedure rules as set out in the Council's Constitution apply to this Committee.
13. The meetings will follow the principles of scrutiny ie no party whip will be applied and a constructive, evidence based approach will be used.
14. If the Chair and Vice Chair (if appointed) are unable to attend a meeting the members present will elect a Chair for the meeting.
15. The meetings will be administered by Scrutiny Services and Democratic Services. Frequency of meetings will be agreed by Committee members as deemed necessary to carry out the work programme.
16. Scrutiny Committee meetings will be held in public, unless matters exempt under legislation is being discussed, or the Scrutiny Committee is meeting with vulnerable groups to hear their views and it is not appropriate for these meetings to be open to the public. The Scrutiny Committees may appoint sub-groups to carry out investigative work as part of a review, and these may be held as informal meetings, but evidence gathered in this way will be brought

back to the overseeing Committee in a public forum. In case of dispute, the Monitoring Officer will advise on the rules of exemption.

17. Relevant Cabinet Members, Corporate Directors, Assistant Directors and Service Delivery Managers and representatives from NHS commissioners and providers will attend the Committee at the request of the Chair. Representatives from partner organisations may be invited to attend.

### **Sensitive and Confidential Information**

18. From time to time members, as part of the work of the Committee, may become privy to information of a sensitive or confidential nature, if this happens members must maintain this confidence. Members are unable to request personal/confidential information from Officers about an individual or family.

### **Reporting Arrangements**

19. The Chair will provide regular updates to meetings of the Scrutiny Management Board to inform the other Scrutiny Chairs of performance and budget issues relating to the remit of their Committees
20. The Chair of the Committee, or his/her representative, will provide and present reports and recommendations of the Committee to the Council's Cabinet, Full Council or other partner organisation when necessary.

# **BUSINESS & FINANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

## **Membership**

1. The group will be made up of elected members of the Scrutiny Assembly, as appointed at Annual Council in line with the political balance of the Council.
2. The Committee may include Co-opted scrutiny members but they must not exceed 50% of the number of elected members.
3. In addition to standing co-optees, the Committee may appoint additional co-optees for one-off reviews to supplement the skills, knowledge and experience of members of the Committee on that particular issue (subject to the rule on total number of co-optees above).
4. A Vice-Chair may be appointed by majority decision of the Committee.
5. The quorum for a meeting is 3 elected members.

## **Functions**

6. The Committee will be the main mechanism by which Scrutiny members will scrutinise and monitor issues relating to the following key areas:
  - Service & Financial Planning including Budget and Income Generation, Property Investment Portfolio, Property Management and Revenues
  - Commercial Projects
  - Economic development projects including broadband
  - Skills and employability
  - Support to business and growth sectors
  - Business investment
  - Attracting funding for Telford & Wrekin
  - Partnerships
  - West Midlands Combined Authority
  - Local Enterprise Partnership
  - Visitor Economy including tourism operation and development
  - Pride Programme
  - Workforce issues
  - HCA Land Deal
7. The Committee will set its own work programme. The following points may be taken into consideration when considering the work programme each year:
  - areas where significant change is proposed and the potential impacts
  - performance in areas where significant change has been implemented;
  - areas of financial overspend;
  - areas receiving a high level of budgetary commitment;

- areas where there is a high level of user dissatisfaction;
  - reports and action plans produced/agreed with external partners;
  - areas that are key issues for the public or have become a public interest issue covered in the media.
8. The Committee will consider matters referred by the Scrutiny Management Board, and will exercise discretion as to whether a suggestion falls within the remit of the Committee to scrutinise.

### **Meeting Administration and Proceedings**

9. The Committee procedure rules as set out in the Council's Constitution apply to this Committee.
10. The meetings will follow the principles of scrutiny - ie no party whip will be applied and a constructive, evidence based approach will be used.
11. If the Chair and Vice Chair (if appointed) are unable to attend a meeting the members present will elect a Chair for the meeting.
12. All Scrutiny Committee meetings will be held in public, unless exempt information is being considered or discussed. Scrutiny Committees may appoint sub-groups to carry out investigative work as part of a review and these sub-groups may hold informal meetings but will report back their findings to the Scrutiny Committee.
13. The meetings will be administered by Scrutiny Services and Democratic Services. Meetings will be held regularly and dates will be agreed by the members of the Committee at the start of each municipal year. Members of the Committee may call additional meetings as required to follow up concerns identified in their scheduled meetings or sub-sets of members may form working groups that meet outside the scheduled meetings to investigate specific issues.
14. Relevant Cabinet Members, Corporate Directors, Assistant Directors and Service Delivery Managers will attend the Committee at the request of the Chair. Representatives from partner organisations may be invited to attend.

### **Sensitive and Confidential Information**

15. From time to time members may become privy to information of a confidential nature. If this happens, members must maintain this confidence. Members are unable to request personal/confidential information from Officers about an individual or family.
16. Information obtained as a result of membership of the Committee is sensitive and should be treated as being confidential by members.

# COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

## Membership

1. The Committee will be made up of elected members from the Scrutiny Assembly, appointed at Annual Council in line with the political balance of the Council, and co-opted scrutiny members.
2. The number of co-opted members must not exceed 50% of the number of elected members.
3. In addition to standing co-optees, the Committee may appoint additional co-optees for one-off reviews to supplement the skills, knowledge and experience of members of the Committee on that particular issue (subject to the rule on total number of co-optees above)..
4. A Vice-Chair may be appointed by majority decision of the Committee.
5. The quorum for a meeting is 3 elected members.

## Functions

6. The Committee will be the main mechanism by which Scrutiny members will scrutinise and monitor issues relating to the following key areas:
  - Customer Experience
  - Voluntary sector and community groups
  - Community engagement and development
  - Community hubs and centres
  - Library services and archives
  - Heritage Services
  - Preventing and reducing crime
  - Tackling domestic abuse
  - Reducing anti-social behaviour
  - Fire and rescue and emergency response
  - Public Protection
  - Enforcement
  - Civil resilience and emergency planning
  - Road safety
  - Registration, celebratory and coroner's services
  - Benefits and welfare reform
  - Sport, leisure, entertainment and culture facilities
  - Diversity and Equality
  - Armed Services and Veterans
  - Interfaith Issues
  - Housing – including affordable housing, HMOs, homelessness and housing needs
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7. The Community Scrutiny Committee will be the designated body for scrutiny of the Safer, Stronger Communities Partnership as set out in section 19 of the Police & Justice Act (2006). The work programme will make provision for scrutiny of this item.
8. The Committee will consider matters referred by the Scrutiny Management Board, and will exercise discretion as to whether a suggestion falls within the remit of the Committee to scrutinise.
9. The Committee will set its own work programme in accordance with the areas set out above and may look at any issue deemed by the Committee to fall within its remit.

### **Meeting Administration and Proceedings**

10. The Committee procedure rules as set out in the Council's Constitution apply to this Committee.
11. The meetings will follow the principles of scrutiny ie no party whip will be applied and a constructive, evidence based approach will be used.
12. If the Chair or Vice-Chair (if appointed) are unable to attend a meeting the Members present will elect a Chair for the meeting.
13. All Scrutiny Committee meetings will be held in public, unless exempt information is being considered or discussed. Scrutiny Committees may appoint sub-groups to carry out investigative work as part of a review and these sub-groups may hold informal meetings but will report back their findings to the Scrutiny Committee.
14. The meetings will be administered by Scrutiny Services and Democratic Services. Frequency of meetings will be agreed by the Committee as necessary to carry out the work programme.
15. Relevant Cabinet Members, Directors, Assistant Directors and Service Delivery Managers will attend the Committee at the request of the Chair. Representatives from other organisations may be invited to attend.

### **Sensitive and Confidential Information**

16. From time to time members may become privy to information of a confidential nature. If this happens, members must maintain this confidence. Members are unable to request personal/confidential information from Officers about an individual or family.

### **Reporting Arrangements**

17. The Chair will provide regular updates to meetings of the Scrutiny Management Board to inform the other Scrutiny Chairs of performance and budget issues relating to the remit of their Committees.

- 18.** The Chair of the Committee, or his/her representative, will provide and present reports and recommendations of the Committee to the Council's Cabinet, Fully Council or other relevant organisations when necessary.

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# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

## Membership

1. The Committee will be made up of elected members from the Scrutiny Assembly, appointed at Annual Council in line with the political balance of the Council, and co-opted scrutiny members.
2. The number of co-opted members must not exceed 50% of the number of elected members.
3. In addition to standing co-optees, the Committee may appoint additional co-optees for one-off reviews to supplement the skills, knowledge and experience of members of the Committee on that particular issue (subject to the rule on total number of co-optees above).
4. A Vice-Chair may be appointed by majority decision of the Committee.
5. The quorum for a meeting is 3 elected members.

## Functions

6. The Committee will be the main mechanism by which Scrutiny members will scrutinise and monitor issues relating to the following key areas:
  - Environment and ecology
  - The natural and built environment
  - Sustainable planning
  - Building conservation and heritage
  - Ultra-Low Emissions Strategy
  - Plastic Free Telford & Wrekin
  - Waste management, including waste recovery and recycling
  - Environmental maintenance
  - All aspects of infrastructure (transport, communication, drainage and sewage, water, lighting, bridges and structures)
  - Public Transport (bus and rail)
  - Rights of Way
  - Highways network including highways improvements, cycleways and car parking
  - Local Nature Reserves, parks and green spaces, including the Green guarantee
  - Local Plan
7. The Committee will consider matters referred by the Scrutiny Management Board, and will exercise discretion as to whether a suggestion falls within the remit of the Committee to scrutinise.
8. The Environment Scrutiny Committee will be the designated body for scrutiny of Flood and Water Management as set out in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (associated regulations in the Flood Risk

Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee (England) Regulations 2011 expired on 6 April 2018). The work programme will make provision for scrutiny of this item.

9. The Committee will set its own work programme in accordance with the areas set out above and may look at any issue deemed by the Committee to fall within its remit.

### **Meeting Administration and Proceedings**

10. The Committee procedure rules as set out in the Council's Constitution apply to this Committee.
11. The meetings will follow the principles of scrutiny ie no party whip will be applied and a constructive, evidence based approach will be used.
12. If the Chair or Vice-Chair (if appointed) are unable to attend a meeting the Members present will elect a Chair for the meeting.
13. All Scrutiny Committee meetings will be held in public, unless exempt information is being considered or discussed. Scrutiny Committees may appoint sub-groups to carry out investigative work as part of a review and these sub-groups may hold informal meetings but will report back their findings to the Scrutiny Committee.
14. The meetings will be administered by Scrutiny Services and Democratic Services. Frequency of meetings will be agreed by the Committee as necessary to carry out the work programme.
15. Relevant Cabinet Members, Directors, Assistant Directors and Service Delivery Managers will attend the Committee at the request of the Chair. Representatives from other organisations may be invited to attend.

### **Sensitive and Confidential Information**

16. From time to time members may become privy to information of a confidential nature. If this happens, members must maintain this confidence. Members are unable to request personal/confidential information from Officers about an individual or family.

### **Reporting Arrangements**

17. The Chair will provide regular updates to meetings of the Scrutiny Management Board to inform the other Scrutiny Chairs of performance and budget issues relating to the remit of their Committees.
18. The Chair of the Committee, or his/her representative, will provide and present reports and recommendations of the Committee to the Council's Cabinet, Fully Council or other relevant organisations when necessary.

# **SHROPSHIRE AND TELFORD & WREKIN JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

## **Purpose**

To act as a discretionary Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Joint HOSC) to consider and scrutinise where necessary, all Health and Healthcare related topics which affect the areas of Telford and Wrekin Council and Shropshire Council including matters referred by Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire Healthwatch.

To meet when proposed changes to services are identified to confirm if the Committee will undertake the role of the Committee as a mandatory Joint HOSC and statutory consultee in relation to NHS proposals for a substantial variation or development in service.

To actively research any statutory consultation and respond in line with Health Scrutiny Regulations and the Department of Health Guidance on Health Scrutiny (2014) .

## **Powers of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee exercises the powers of both a discretionary and a mandatory Joint HOSC, as set out in the Health and Social Care Act (2001) consolidated in the NHS Act (2006) and amended by the Localism Act 2011 and the Health and Social Care Act 2012, to review any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services across the local authority areas. Both Telford and Wrekin Local Authority and Shropshire Council Local Authority have delegated the health scrutiny power to the Joint HOSC for pan Shropshire health matters. When the NHS make a proposals for a substantial variation or development of service the Joint HOSC will be the only Scrutiny Committee which will:

- Respond to the consultation
- Exercise the power to require the provision of information by relevant NHS body or health service provider
- Require members or employees of relevant NHS bodies or health service provider to attend before it to answer questions in connection with the consultation.

However, both local authorities have retained the power of referral as set out in the Councils' Constitutions. Any referral of proposed substantial change or variation in service to the Secretary of State will be made in line with Health Scrutiny Regulations and the Department of Health Guidance.

The roles and responsibilities of the Joint HOSC, commissioners and providers of NHS and Local Authority public health services is set out in the Department of Health Guidance, Guidance to support Local Authorities and their partners to deliver effective health scrutiny ( 2014)

## **Membership of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

There will be three elected members from each local authority.

There will be three co-opted members from each local authority area who are independent of the relevant Council.

The Co-opted Members of the Committee have voting rights as determined by full council at both authorities. Copies of the voting schedules are attached. Executive Members for Health and Social Care and Health and Wellbeing Board Chairs issues may attend the meeting at the Chair's discretion in a non voting capacity.

## **Chairing Arrangements**

Meetings alternate between the Council areas. The appropriate Chair will take the lead for meetings in their Local Authority Area.

## **Chairs' Casting Vote**

The Chair will not use their casting vote due to the alternating venue.

## **Political Balance**

Political balance applies to this Committee. The political balance applies to each participating authority.

## **Administration**

In line with the Department of Health Guidance the support for the Joint HOSC will be made available by the local health and social care system to enable the powers and duties associated with the function to be exercised appropriately.. Meetings will alternate between local authorities. Each council will take the lead in arranging venues and co-ordinating agendas with organisations and individuals invited to present reports or papers or give evidence, for the meetings taking place in their Local Authority Area.

The agenda will be agreed by both Health Scrutiny Chairs. Papers and presentations will be considered during this meeting to establish running order and specific instructions to those attending.

Pre-meetings will be at the Chair's discretion, to be attended either by the Chairs' alone or for members of the whole joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

## **Additional Support**

Each local authority will identify an agreed resource which it can provide to support the work of the Joint Committee. This may be officer time and/or a financial contribution to cover the costs of any specialist advice.

## **Frequency of Meetings**

To be detailed in the Joint Committee Work Programme.

## **Quorum**

One third of the membership of the Committee. At least 2 elected members must be present including 1 from each authority. There must be 2 representatives from each authority including co-optees.

## **Ways of Working**

Under the Department of Health Guidance (2014) the Joint Health Scrutiny committee must:

Strengthen the voice of local people, ensuring that their needs and experienced are considered as an integral part of the commissioning and delivery of health services and that those services are safe and effective.

Operate in a way that will lead to rigorous and objective scrutiny of the issues under review and carried out in a transparent manner that will boost the confidence of local people in health scrutiny.

In considering substantial reconfiguration proposals health scrutiny needs to recognise the resource envelope within which the NHS operate and should therefore take into account the effect of the proposals on sustainability of services as well as their quality and safety.

The Joint Committee will hold formal meetings, and will undertake visits – which as far as possible will involve representatives from both authorities. Each authority will be able to lead and undertake individual pieces of work. The Joint Committee may also hold meetings with relevant representatives and officers outside of the main scrutiny forum such as focus groups, public meetings and consultation with relevant patient/service user groups.

## **Reports**

Wherever possible all reports will present joint evidence based conclusions and recommendations. However, where differences exist reports will be able to include sections setting out evidence based conclusions and recommendations reflecting the different views within the joint committee.

## **Review of Terms of Reference**

Annually or as required when issues arise for joint scrutiny.

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