

Potential joint health scrutiny committee for Norfolk and Waveney

Report by Maureen Orr, Democratic Support and Scrutiny Team Manager

The Committee is asked to approve terms of reference for a potential joint health scrutiny committee with Suffolk, on a task and finish basis, to cover the Norfolk and Waveney Sustainability Transformation Plan (N&W STP) footprint.

1. Norfolk and Waveney STP and health scrutiny

- 1.1 On 8 December 2016 Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (NHOSC) received a presentation from Dr Wendy Thomson, Managing Director of Norfolk County Council and Lead for N&W STP.
- 1.2 As the STP footprint includes Waveney, members of Suffolk Health Scrutiny Committee who represent the Waveney area were invited to attend the meeting and were given the opportunity to ask questions and make comments during the N&W STP item.
- 1.3 On that occasion the Suffolk Councillors were not joining with Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee members in the formal sense of establishing a joint health scrutiny committee and they did not have voting rights at the meeting. That was not felt to be necessary while the N&W STP was still a high level strategic plan and there were no specific proposals for substantial changes on the ground.
- 1.4 During the meeting it was acknowledged that consultation on any specific proposals for substantial change which emerge from the N&W STP would be received by an appropriate health scrutiny committee, depending on the geographic 'footprint' affected by the proposed changes.
- 1.5 There is already a standing joint health scrutiny committee for Great Yarmouth and Waveney, which reflects the Great Yarmouth and Waveney Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area. However, to receive consultation on proposals that span Waveney, Great Yarmouth Borough and other parts of Norfolk it would be necessary to establish a joint health scrutiny committee with wider representation.

2. **Proposal for a potential joint health scrutiny committee on a task and finish basis**
 - 2.1 Regulation 30 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 requires a joint committee to be established if Norfolk and Suffolk health scrutiny members wish to respond to a consultation that affects both counties. Only a joint committee may exercise health scrutiny powers in those circumstances.
 - 2.2 It is therefore proposed that NHOSC makes preparations with Suffolk Health Scrutiny Committee to establish a joint health scrutiny committee on a task and finish basis in the event that the N&W STP proposes substantial changes to services on a cross-border footprint which goes wider than the Great Yarmouth and Waveney area.
 - 2.3 Draft terms of reference for a potential joint health scrutiny committee are attached at **Appendix A**.
 - 2.4 Appointment of members to such a joint health scrutiny committee would take place at a later date.
 - 2.5 The intention would be that the Norfolk and Waveney Joint Health Scrutiny committee would meet on the same day as NHOSC.

3. **Action**

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to:-
 - (a) Agree the draft terms of reference at Appendix A.
 - (b) Authorise the draft terms of reference at Appendix A to be used, subject to the agreement of Suffolk Health Scrutiny Committee, to establish a joint health scrutiny committee with Suffolk County Council on a task and finish basis in the event of consultation on proposals for substantial changes to health and care services on a cross-border footprint which goes wider than the Great Yarmouth and Waveney area.



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