

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR  
OUTER NORTH EAST LONDON  
JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Establishment of the JHOSC**

1. The Outer North East London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (the JHOSC) is established by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees having health responsibilities of the London Borough Councils of Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Redbridge and Waltham Forest (“the borough OSCs”) in accordance with s.190-191 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and consequential amendments and the Local Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committees Healthy Scrutiny Functions) Regulations 2002.

**Membership**

2. The JHOSC will consist of three Members appointed of each of the Borough OSCs.
3. In accordance with section 21(9) of the Local Government Act 2000, Executive Members may not be members of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
4. The Essex County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee may nominate one full Member for the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Thurrock Borough Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee may nominate an observing Member of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Councils of the Borough of Brentwood and District of Epping Forest may also each nominate an observing Member.
5. Appointments made to the JHOSC by each participating London borough OSC will reflect the political balance of the borough Council, unless a participating borough OSC agrees to waive the requirement and this is approved by the JHOSC.

**Attendance of Substitute Members**

6. If a Member is unable to attend a particular meeting, he or she may arrange for another Member of the borough OSC to attend as substitute, provided that a Member having executive responsibilities may not act as a substitute. Notice of substitution shall be given to the clerk before the commencement of the meeting.

**Role and Function of the JHOSC**

7. The JHOSC shall have the remit to review and scrutinise any matter, including substantial variations, relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services that affect two or more boroughs in Outer North East London. The JHOSC will have the right to respond in its own right to all consultations on such matters, both formal and informal.

8. In fulfilling its defined role, as well as reviewing documentation, the JHOSC will have the right to do any or all of the following:

- a. Request information or to hold direct discussions with appropriate officers from each of the following organisations or their successor bodies:

Barking and Dagenham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)  
Havering CCG  
Redbridge CCG  
Waltham Forest CCG  
NHS England  
North East London Commissioning Support Unit  
Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust  
Barts Health NHS Trust  
North East London NHS Foundation Trust  
North East London Community Services  
London Ambulance Service NHS Trust

as well as any other NHS Trust or other body whose actions impact on the residents of two or more Outer North East London Boroughs;

- b. Co-operate with any other Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Committees established by two or more other local authorities, whether within or without the Greater London area;
- c. Make reports or recommendations to any of the NHS bodies listed above and expect full, written responses to these;
- d. Require an NHS or relevant officer to attend before it, under regulation 6 of the Regulations, to answer such questions as appear to it to be necessary for the discharge of its functions in connection with a consultation;
- e. Such other functions, ancillary to those listed in a to d above, as the JHOSC considers necessary and appropriate in order to fully perform its role.

Although efforts will be made to avoid duplication, any work undertaken by the JHOSC does not preclude any individual constituent borough Overview and Scrutiny Committee from undertaking work on the same or similar subjects

### **Co-optees**

9. The JHOSC shall be entitled to co-opt any non-voting person as it thinks fit or appropriate to assist in its debate on any relevant topic. Each borough Healthwatch organisation for Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Redbridge and Waltham Forest shall be entitled to nominate one co-opted (non-voting) member of the JHOSC. The power to co-opt shall also be available to any Working Groups formed by the JHOSC.

## **Formation of Working Groups**

10. The JHOSC may form such Working Groups of its membership as it may think fit to consider any aspect or aspects of its work. The role of such Groups will be to consider the matters referred to it in detail with a view to formulating recommendations on them for consideration by the JHOSC. The precise terms of reference and procedural rules of operation of any such Groups (including number of members, chairmanship, frequency of meetings, quorum etc) will be considered by the JHOSC at the time of the establishment of each such Group; these may differ in each case if the JHOSC considers it appropriate. The meetings of such Groups should be held in public except to the extent that the Group is considering any item of business from which the press and public could legitimately be excluded under the Access to Information legislation.

## **Meetings of the JHOSC**

11. The JHOSC shall meet formally at such times, at such places and on such dates as may be mutually agreed, provided that five clear days' notice is given of the meeting. The Committee may also meet informally as and when necessary for purposes including, but not limited to, visiting appropriate sites within the boroughs or elsewhere.
12. Meeting venues will normally rotate between the four Outer North East London boroughs.
13. Meetings shall be open to the public and press in accordance with the Access to Information requirements. No tape or video recorders, transmitters, microphones, cameras or any other video recording equipment shall be brought into or operated by any person at a meeting of the JHOSC unless the Chair of the meeting gives permission before the meeting (this exclusion will not apply to the taping of the proceedings by officers responsible for producing the minutes). When permission is given, a copy of any tape made must be supplied to the London Borough of Havering, in its role as Administrator.

## **Attendance at Meetings**

14. Where any NHS officer is required to attend the JHOSC, the officer shall be given reasonable notice in advance of the meeting at which he/she is required to attend. The notice will state the nature of the item on which he/she is required to attend to give account and whether any papers are required to be produced for the JHOSC. Where the account to be given to the JHOSC will require the production of a report, then the officer concerned will be given reasonable notice to allow for preparation of that documentation.
15. Where, in exceptional circumstances, the officer is unable to attend on the required date, and is unable to provide a substitute acceptable to the JHOSC, the JHOSC shall in consultation with the officer arrange an alternative date for attendance.

16. The JHOSC and any Working Group formed by the JHOSC may invite other people (including expert witnesses) to address it, to discuss issues of local concern and/or to answer questions. It may for example wish to hear from residents, stakeholders and members and officers in other parts of the public sector and shall invite such people to attend.
17. The JHOSC shall permit a representative of any other authority or organisation to attend meetings as an observer.

### **Quorum**

18. The quorum for the JHOSC shall be four, provided there is present at least one Member from at least three of the London borough OSCs. For meetings involving the writing or agreeing of a final report of the Committee, the quorum shall comprise at least one representative from each of the four London borough OSCs.

### **Chair and Vice Chair**

19. Each meeting will be chaired by a Member from the host borough on that occasion.

### **Agenda items**

20. Any member of the JHOSC shall be entitled to give notice to the Clerk of the Joint Committee that he/she wishes an item relevant to the functions of the JHOSC to be included on the agenda for the next available meeting. On receipt of such a request (which shall be made not less than five clear working days before the date for despatch of the agenda) the relevant officer will ensure that it is included on the next available agenda.

### **Notice and Summons to Meetings**

21. The Clerk of the Joint Committee will give notice of meetings to all members. At least five clear working days before a meeting the relevant officer will send an agenda to every member specifying the date, time and place of each meeting and the business to be transacted, and this will be accompanied by such reports as are available.
22. Any such notice may be given validity by e-mail.
23. The proper officer of each Council shall ensure that public notice of the meeting is displayed in accordance with the customary arrangements of that Council for giving notice of Committee etc. meetings.

### **Reports from the JHOSC**

24. Once it has formed recommendations the JHOSC will prepare a formal report and submit it to the relevant bodies. In accordance with the Department of Health Guidance on the Overview and Scrutiny of Health dated July 2003, the JHOSC should aim to produce a report representing a consensus of the views of its members. If consensus is not reached within the JHOSC, minority views will be included in the report.

25. In undertaking its role the JHOSC should do this from the perspective of all those affected or potentially affected by any particular proposal, plan, decision or other action under consideration.

### **Formal Consultations and Referrals to Secretary of State**

26. Under guidance on Local Authority Health Scrutiny issued by the Department of Health in June 2014, only the JHOSC may respond to a formal consultation on substantial variation proposals covering health services in more than one constituent Council area. This power also extends to the provision of information or the requirement of relevant NHS officers to attend before the JHOSC in connection with the consultation.
27. The JHOSC may only refer matters directly to the Secretary of State on behalf of Councils who have formally agreed to delegate this power to it.

### **Procedure at JHOSC meetings**

28. The JHOSC shall consider the following items of business:
  - (a) minutes of the last meeting;
  - (b) matters arising;
  - (c) declarations of interest;
  - (d) any urgent item of business which is not included on an agenda but the Chair, after consultation with the relevant officer, agrees should be raised;
  - (e) the business otherwise set out on the agenda for the meeting.

### **Conduct of Meetings**

29. The conduct of JHOSC meetings shall be regulated by the Chair (or other person chairing the meeting) in accordance with the general principles and conventions which apply to the conduct of local authority committee meetings.
30. In particular, however, where any person other than a full or co-opted member of the JHOSC has been allowed or invited to address the meeting the Chair (or other person chairing the meeting) may specify a time limit for their contribution, in advance of its commencement which shall not be less than five minutes. If someone making such a contribution exceeds the time limit given the Chair (or other person chairing the meeting) may stop him or her.
31. The Chair (or other person chairing the meeting) may also structure a discussion and limit the time allowed for questioning by members of the JHOSC.

## **Officer Administration of the JHOSC**

32. The London Borough of Havering will be the Lead Authority for clerking and administering the JHOSC. The Clerk of the Committee will be the Principal Committee Officer, London Borough of Havering. Costs of supporting the JHOSC will be shared, in proportion to their representation on the Committee, by the London Boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Havering, Redbridge, Waltham Forest and by Essex County Council, in cash or in kind.

## **Voting**

33. Members may request a formal vote on any agenda item by informing the Clerk of the Joint Committee at least five working days before a meeting. If it is not possible to give this notice, Members have the right to request a vote at a meeting itself, provided they explain to the meeting why it has not been possible to give the standard notice of this request. The decision on whether to allow a vote, if the standard notice has not been given, will rest with the Chairman of that meeting.
34. Any matter will be decided by a simple majority of those members voting and present in the room at the time the motion was put. This will be by a show of hands or if no dissent, by the affirmation of the meeting. If there are equal votes for and against, the Chair or other person chairing the meeting will have a second or casting vote. There will be no restriction on how the Chair chooses to exercise a casting vote. Co-opted members will not have a vote.

## **Public and Press**

35. All meetings of the JHOSC shall be open to the public and press unless an appropriate resolution is passed in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 17 of the National Health Service Act 2006.
36. All agendas and papers considered by the JHOSC shall be made available for inspection at all the constituent authority offices, libraries and web sites.

## **Code of Conduct**

37. Members of the JHOSC must comply with the Code of Conduct or equivalent applicable to Councillors of each constituent Local Authority.

## **General**

38. These terms of reference incorporate and supersede all previous terms of reference pertaining to the JHOSC.