

7 March 2024



Establishment of a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC)

Purpose of report: This report seeks to inform the Select Committee about the proposed establishment of a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC).

Introduction:

1. To establish a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, jointly with Hampshire County Council, and Bracknell-Forest Council to scrutinise the relocation of a new hospital for Frimley Park Hospital.
2. To approve the Draft Terms of Reference for the JHOSC.

Background:

3. Frimley Park Hospital needs to be replaced by 2030 because it was built in the 1970s using Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC), which makes up around 65 per cent of the current hospital.
4. Health Services are required to consult a local authority's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee about any proposals they have for a substantial development or variation in the provision of health services in their area under 'Regulation 30 (5) Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Well-being Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013.' When these substantial developments or variations affect a geographical area that covers more than one local authority (according to patient flow), the local authorities are required to appoint a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) for the purposes of the consultation.
5. Setting up a JHOSC will fulfil the legislative requirements for health scrutiny that covers more than one geographical area.

6. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

6.1 The JHOSC will operate formally as a statutory committee. The purpose of the JHOSC and its proposed operating procedures are outlined in [Appendix A](#) 'Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Frimley Park) Draft Terms of Reference.'

6.2 The underpinning legislation regarding health scrutiny is set out in guidance published in 2019 which guides our scrutiny arrangements currently [Overview and scrutiny: statutory guidance for councils and combined authorities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/overview-and-scrutiny-statutory-guidance-for-councils-and-combined-authorities)

6.3 In lieu of publication of statutory guidance being published by the Secretary of State in relation to new service configurations the Department of Health, Local Government Association and Centre for Public Scrutiny have published guidance which includes describing how Integrated Care Board, Integrated Care Partnerships and local authority Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) arrangements will work together and it is recommended we follow this guidance, particularly when entering into any Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC). [Health overview and scrutiny committee principles - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-overview-and-scrutiny-committee-principles)

6.4 Guidance on what constitutes a substantial variation to current service provision can be found in this document by NHS England. However, it should be noted there is no single, accepted definition of substantial service change, although it usually involves a change to the geographical location where services are delivered. [NHS England » Planning, assuring and delivering service change for patients](https://www.nhs.uk/planning-assuring-and-delivering-service-change-for-patients)

Conclusions:

7. Strategic Risk Management Issues

7.1 Not being part of the JHOSC means the Council will not fulfil its legislative requirements for health scrutiny that covers more than one geographical area.

7.2 Having representation on the JHOSC will mean Surrey County Council, Bracknell Forest Council and Hampshire County Council residents will have their views represented during the building of the new hospital.

Recommendations:

1. That the Select Committee review the Terms of Reference for the new JHOSC; and
2. Endorses the Terms of Reference prior to a Council decision on 19 March 2024

Next steps:

The Terms of Reference will go to Council for decision and the appointment of its membership on 19 March 2023.

Contact for further information

Sally-Rose Baker, Scrutiny Officer
SallyRose.Baker@surreycc.gov.uk
M) 07813440804

Sources/background papers

- a) [Appendix A](#) 'Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Frimley Park) Draft Terms of Reference.'
- b) [Overview and scrutiny: statutory guidance for councils and combined authorities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- c) [Health overview and scrutiny committee principles - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- d) [NHS England » Planning, assuring and delivering service change for patients](#)
- e) [Local authority health scrutiny - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

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