

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Council
Date: 18 September 2013
Report for: Decision
Report of: Director of Legal and Democratic Services

Report Title

ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WITH MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

Summary

On 19 September 2012, Council agreed the establishment of a statutory Joint Health Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) comprising of Members from Trafford and the City of Manchester Councils in order to respond to the consultation relating to the New Health Deal for Trafford.

In February this year, that Committee made a referral to the Secretary of State for Health and on 11 July 2013, the Secretary of State responded to that referral. The referral was considered by the JHOSC on 1 August 2013.

In his letter to the Committee, the Secretary of State for Health, the Rt. Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, made reference to the role of the JHOSC in overseeing the implementation of the New Health Deal for Trafford. As the role of the statutory JHOSC has ended, it is necessary for both Trafford and the City of Manchester Council's to agree to the establishment of a JHOSC to undertake this role.

If the Council agrees to the establishment of the JHOSC it is also necessary for Council to agree a revised terms of reference which clearly sets out the Committee's remit.

Recommendation(s)

1. That Council note the report;
2. That Council agrees to the establishment of a JHOSC;
3. That Council agrees the revised terms of reference to be proposed to the JHOSC;
4. That, Council agrees to suspend political balance requirements in relation to the JHOSC.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Helen Mitchell
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Background Papers: None

Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities	All
Financial	None directly associated with this report
Legal Implications:	Both statutory provision and the Council's Constitution allows for the establishment of a JHOSC.
Equality/Diversity Implications	None associated with this report
Sustainability Implications	None associated with this report
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	None directly associated with this report
Risk Management Implications	None associated with this report
Health and Safety Implications	None associated with this report

Background:

Since the acquisition of the former Trafford Healthcare NHS Trust by Central Manchester University Hospitals Foundation Trust (CMFT) in April 2012, commissioners and clinicians were involved in re-designing local health services.

Following a period of pre-engagement work, led by the former NHS Greater Manchester, an option for the redesign of services had been arrived at for public consultation. This consultation on changes to health services within the Borough, known locally as the New Health Deal for Trafford, commenced on 26 July 2012 and concluded on 31 October 2012.

In order to fulfil its statutory duties, the Council established a JHOSC with Manchester City Council to respond to the consultation. Since this time, the Committee responded to the consultation and made a referral to the Secretary of State for Health as the Committee resolved that the proposals were not in the interests of the health service or its users.

The Joint Committee received the outcome of the referral on 1 August 2013 which agreed that the proposals should be progressed subject to meeting the conditions made by the Strategic Programme Board and the Secretary of State. Additionally, the Secretary of State made explicit reference to an on-going role for the JHOSC, principally in relation to overseeing the implementation of the agreed proposals.

At their meeting on 1 August, in which the Chairman and Vice Chairman were appointed, Members recognised that there could be a role for the Joint Committee in relation to securing the assurances identified by the Secretary of State. In addition, Members further recognised that the Committee's terms of reference would require amendment in order to reflect its potential, future role. As a result, a revised terms of reference is attached to this report as Appendix A.