

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Council Meeting

10 February 2016

Report of the Director of Legal Services

**Sheffield NHS – Joint Health Scrutiny Committee
(Strategic Policy and Budget Cabinet Portfolio)**

1. Purpose of the Report

To inform the Council of a request from the Sheffield NHS Working Together Programme Directors to local authorities in South Yorkshire, North Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire to form a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee and to appoint a representative to the Joint Committee.

2. Information and Analysis

The NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) providing services in the South Yorkshire, North Derbyshire and North West Nottinghamshire areas have requested the local authorities with responsibility for scrutinising health services to form a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for the purpose of overseeing the NHS “Working Together” programme.

“Working Together” is a collaborative programme of eight CCGs and NHS England across South and Mid Yorkshire, Bassetlaw and North Derbyshire. They include North Derbyshire CCG and Hardwick CCG which both commission health services for Derbyshire communities.

Under “Working Together” the CCGs are looking at all services - from GP practices to community, mental health and acute hospital services – and are working with a range of organisations to plan and deliver the best possible services within the resources available.

Over the next few years, the CCGs will be developing proposals to reconfigure services and are required to inform and consult with the appropriate local councils’ Health Scrutiny Committees. Many of the proposed service changes will impact on smaller, specific areas and, as such, will be the responsibility of the single Health Scrutiny Committee of the relevant council. However, where the proposed changes are substantial and affect more than one local authority area, councils are required to form a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the proposals and ensure that consultation with local communities is effective.

The Health Scrutiny Committee Chairs and officers of the local authorities were invited to an initial meeting in October 2015 to discuss the establishment of a Joint Committee. The NHS CCGs were advised to send a formal request to each council's Chief Executive so that a Joint Committee can be formally established.

Following receipt of the formal request, the Scrutiny Officers of the relevant Councils (Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Wakefield, Doncaster, Rotherham, Sheffield and Barnsley) met to facilitate the establishment of a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee through the democratic process of each council. The councils will need to agree Terms of Reference for the new Joint Committee and appoint a Member (the Chair of the local Health Scrutiny Committee or their nominee) to serve on the Joint Committee.

The Terms of Reference are still being drafted and Council is invited to delegate the agreement of the Terms of Reference to the Health Scrutiny Committee.

3. Health Considerations

The representation of Derbyshire County Council on the Sheffield NHS Joint Health Scrutiny Committee will provide the opportunity to protect and promote the interests of communities in North Derbyshire which are served by Health providers from the Sheffield and North Derbyshire area.

4. Legal Considerations

The Health Scrutiny Regulations (Regulation 30) 2013 require local authorities to appoint a joint committee where health organisations have to consult with more than one local authority scrutiny committee on substantial reconfiguration proposals. These are referred to as mandatory joint health scrutiny committees.

5. Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, property and transport considerations.

6. Background Papers

Letter from NHS England and North Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group, November 2015.

7. OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council is requested to agree to;

- (a) The participation in the establishment of a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for the South Yorkshire NHS area and the appointment of Councillor Sean Bambrick or his nominee as the Council's representative on the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee;
- (b) Delegate the agreement of the Terms of Reference of the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee to the Health Scrutiny Committee.

John McElvaney
Director of Legal Services