

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### SCRUTINY OF HEALTH COMMITTEE

14 June 2013

#### Remit of the Committee and Main Current Areas of Work

##### Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to highlight the status and role of the Scrutiny of Health Committee (SoHC) and to review the work programme taking into account current areas of involvement and decisions taken in respect of earlier agenda items.

##### **Scrutiny of Health - Background**

2. Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 Overview and Scrutiny Committees in all upper tier (social services) local authorities were given powers to scrutinise health care services. The powers include:
  - reviewing and scrutinising any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in the local authority's area;
  - requiring NHS bodies to provide information within 28 days to and attend (through officers) before meetings of the committee to answer questions necessary for the discharge of health scrutiny functions;
  - making reports and recommendations to local NHS bodies and to the local authority on any health matters that they scrutinise;
  - requiring NHS bodies to respond within a fixed timescale to the health scrutiny reports or recommendations;
  - requiring NHS bodies to consult health scrutiny on proposals for substantial developments or variations to the local health service;
  - referring contested proposals to the Secretary of State for Health
3. Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 + Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 whilst the powers to scrutinise the NHS were retained, they were vested in the local authority. The legislation did, however, include provision for local authorities to delegate the function to a SoHC or establish other arrangements, including setting up a joint committee.
4. The County Council on 15 May 2013 resolved to retain a SoHC with the powers set out above.

##### Remit of the Committee

5. The role of the SoHC is to review any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in the County.

6. Broadly speaking the bulk of the Committee's work falls into the following categories:
- a) being consulted on the reconfiguration of healthcare and public health services locally;
  - b) contributing to the Department of Health's Quality Accounts initiative and the Care Quality Commission's process of registering NHS trusts;
  - c) carrying out detailed projects into a particular healthcare issue;
  - d) advising the County Council on developments in the NHS that will have an impact locally and on the work of the Council.

### **Scheduled Committee Dates**

7. The Committee meetings for the rest of 2013 and into 2014 are:

#### **2013**

- Friday, 14 June
- Friday, 6 September
- Friday, 8 November

#### **2014**

- Friday, 17 January
- Friday, 11 April

8. Meetings always start at 10.00am. All of the venues are yet to be confirmed.

### **On-Going and Emerging Areas of Work**

9. The Committee's current main areas of involvement are set out in APPENDIX 1.

#### **Recommendation**

10. That Members review the Committee's work programme, taking into account issues highlighted in this report, the outcome of discussions on previous agenda items and any other healthcare developments taking place across the County.

**Bryon Hunter**  
**Scrutiny Team Leader**  
**County Hall, NORTHALLERTON**  
**24 May 2013**

**Background Documents: None**

## **APPENDIX 1**

### Current and Emerging Issues (as at May 2013)

1. Children's and Maternity Services at the Friarage Hospital, Northallerton
2. National Review of Children's Cardiac Surgery
3. National Review of Adults Cardiac Surgery
4. Clinical Commissioning Groups (map attached) – Commissioning Plans
5. Hugo Mascie Taylor report (August 2011), KPMG report and the North Yorkshire and York Clinical Services Review (Autumn 2012)
6. Malton Minor Injuries Unit
7. Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust's complaints procedures (work arising out of the Trust's Quality Account for 2012/13)
8. Urgency Response in rural areas – including ambulance response times
9. GP out of Hours Service – remodelling and retendering of service.
10. Services for Older Peoples in Hambleton, Richmond and Whitby
11. Impact of GP Minimum Income Guarantee