

REPORT TO THE HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

DATE OF MEETING: 24 SEPTEMBER 2015

SUBJECT OF REPORT: MEMBERSHIP OF THE QUALITY ACCOUNTS SUB-COMMITTEE, THE JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, AND THE JOINT AMBULANCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

TOWN OR PARISH: N/A

OFFICER/MEMBER PRESENTING: COUNCILLOR ROZ WILLIS, CHAIRMAN

KEY DECISION: NO

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) To agree the membership of the Panel's Quality Accounts Sub-Committee for 2015/16 (5 Members);
- (2) to nominate three Members to represent the Panel on the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2015/16; and
- (3) to nominate three Members to represent the Panel on the Joint Ambulance Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2015/16.

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

1.1 The Quality Accounts Sub-Committee considers and comments on the annual draft Quality Accounts provided by healthcare NHS trusts and organisations providing services to North Somerset residents. The Committee is politically balanced (4:1) and comprises five Members whom are appointed annually by and from the Panel.

1.2 The Panel annually nominates three Members as representatives to the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This joint committee comprises representatives from health overview and scrutiny Panels of Bristol City Council, Bath & North Somerset Council, South Gloucestershire Council and North Somerset Council. The Joint Committee considers proposed substantial changes to health care services that have cross-boundary impacts.

1.3 The Panel annually nominates three Members as representatives to the Joint Ambulance Trust which scrutinises the performance of South Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust. The joint committee comprises representatives from Health Overview and Scrutiny Panels from the following local authorities: Gloucestershire County Council, Bristol City Council, South Gloucestershire Council, Bath & North Somerset Council, North Somerset, Wiltshire Council, and North Somerset Council.

2. POLICY

N/A

3. DETAILS

3.1 **The Quality Accounts Sub-Committee** is a standing sub-committee of the Panel and was established to consider annual draft Quality Accounts (QAs) produced by NHS healthcare providers in North Somerset.

QAs are annual reports from providers of NHS healthcare services about the quality of the service they provide. The purpose of QAs is for providers to assess quality across all of the healthcare services it offers by reporting information on performance across the year and identifying priorities for improvement.

Under National Health Service (Quality Accounts) Regulations, NHS healthcare providers are required to consult the Panel on their draft QAs and to publish the Panel's comments in the finalised version. In establishing the Sub-Committee, the Panel delegated to it its authority to formally respond to each draft QA.

The Sub-Committee comprises 5 Members and must be politically balanced (4:1). Members are invited put themselves forward for, and agree the Membership of, this Sub-Committee.

3.2 **The Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee** - In cases where a proposed change to healthcare services affects more than one Local Authority area and where more than one of the affected Health Overview and Scrutiny Panels determines that proposal to be a "substantial variation", the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 require that a Joint overview and scrutiny committee be convened to respond to the proposals. In such cases, only the joint committee (as opposed to the individual joint authorities responding separately) may respond to the health services provider's consultation in respect of the substantial reconfiguration proposals or exercise the powers to require the provision of information/attendance.

On 12th November 2003, the Panel agreed to join a Joint Overview and Scrutiny committee with Bristol City Council, Bath and North East Somerset Council and South Gloucester Council for the purposes of exercising these functions. It was agreed that the Panel would nominate 3 members to represent it on the joint Committee.

3.3 **The South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee** comprises representatives from Health Overview and Scrutiny Panels from the following local authorities: Gloucestershire County Council, Bristol City Council, South Gloucestershire Council, Bath & North Somerset Council, North Somerset, Wiltshire Council, and North Somerset Council.

As the ambulance trust's operations cover the entire south west of England, it was felt that a joint committee would support more effective scrutiny through the sharing of experience. The joint committee was therefore established in 2013 and it was agreed that each constituent Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel would nominate 3 representatives.

4. CONSULTATION

N/A

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

N/A

7. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

AUTHOR

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