

# HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA

7.30 pm Thursday 13 October 2011 Havering Town Hall

Members 11: Quorum 4

**COUNCILLORS:** 

Conservative Group Residents' Group Labour Group Independent
(4) (2) (0) Residents' Group
(0)

Pam Light Brian Eagling (Vice-

(Chairman) Chair) Wendy Brice- Nic Dodin

Thompson

Frederick Osborne

Linda Trew

For information about the meeting please contact:
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# What is Overview & Scrutiny?

Each local authority is required by law to establish an overview and scrutiny function to support and scrutinise the Council's executive arrangements. Each overview and scrutiny committee has its own remit as set out in the terms of reference but they each meet to consider issues of local importance.

They have a number of key roles:

- 1. Providing a critical friend challenge to policy and decision makers.
- 2. Driving improvement in public services.
- 3. Holding key local partners to account.
- 4. Enabling the voice and concerns of the public to be heard.

The committees consider issues by receiving information from, and questioning, Cabinet Members, officers and external partners to develop an understanding of proposals, policy and practices. Meetings of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee are regularly attended by senior officers from local Health Trusts. The Committee can then develop recommendations that they believe will improve performance, or as a response to public consultations. The Committee also works on issues that cover a wider geographical area either on an Outer North East London or pan-London basis as appropriate.

Committees will often establish Topic Groups to examine specific areas in much greater detail. These groups typically consist of a number of Members and the review period can last for anything from a few weeks to a year or more to allow the Members to comprehensively examine an issue through interviewing expert witnesses, conducting research and site visits. Once the topic group has finished its work it will send a report to the Committee that created it and it will often suggest recommendations to the Council's Executive or to the local Health Trusts.

#### **Terms of Reference**

The areas scrutinised by the Committee are:

- Health
- Scrutiny of NHS Bodies under the Council's Health Scrutiny function.

# **AGENDA ITEMS**

#### 1 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Details of the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building's evacuation will be announced.

# 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

(if any) - receive.

#### 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are invited to declare any interests in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting. Members may still declare an interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.

# **4 MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June (attached) and to authorise the Chairman to sign them.

#### 5 HOSPITAL TRANSPORT

Presentation on hospital transport issues from Havering transport planning officers.

# 6 NHS OUTER NORTH EAST LONDON UPDATE

Discussion with Jacqui Himbury, Havering Borough Director, NHS Outer North East London.

# 7 QUEEN'S HOSPITAL A&E

Feedback on recent visit to Queen's Hospital A&E and discussion with BHRUT officers on A&E capacity issues at Queen's Hospital.

# **8 URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any other item in respect of which the Chairman is of the opinion, by reason of special circumstances which shall be specified in the minutes, that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

lan Buckmaster Committee Administration & Member Support Manager