



**Havering**  
LONDON BOROUGH



Essex County Council

# Item 9

## REPORT

# Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

22 July 2014

**Subject Heading:**

Committee's Work Programme

**Report Author and contact details:**

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**Policy context:**

To agree the Committee's work  
programme for the 2014/15 municipal  
year.

**Financial summary:**

The work of the Joint Overview and  
Scrutiny Committee will be covered by the  
previously agreed charging scheme  
between the boroughs.

### SUMMARY

At this stage of the municipal year the Committee needs, so far as is practicable, to agree its work programme for the forthcoming year. This applies to both the work plan for the Committee as a whole and to the subject of any panel or topic group run under the Committee's auspices.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the Committee agree its work programme for the 2014/15 municipal year.
2. That the Committee agree a draft programme of visits that it wishes to undertake during 2014/15.

**REPORT DETAIL**

- 2.1 Shown in appendix 1 is a draft work programme for the Committee's remaining meetings during the municipal year. This has been drawn up by officers following initial discussions with the borough health scrutiny Chairmen.
- 2.2 Members will be aware that the agenda for this (first) meeting of the Joint Committee includes presentations from BHRUT and by the Commissioning Support Unit on the cancer and cardiovascular service change proposals and Members may wish to add items to the work programme in light of the input from these officers. The work programme also accommodates an annual update from Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust as this was a recommendation of the group of Committee Members who visited the hospital earlier this year.
- 2.3 Members will note that a significant proportion of the workplan has been left blank at this stage. This is to reflect the fact that Members may well wish to select further issues for scrutiny in light of the briefings they are given by Health Trust officers during the year. In addition, previous experience has shown that it is beneficial to leave some excess capacity for scrutiny in order to allow the Committee to respond fully to any consultations or other urgent issues that may arise during the year.
- 2.4 Additionally, the Committee has the power to select an issue for more in depth scrutiny as part of a scrutiny panel or topic group review. It is recommended that, in view of limited resources, only one such topic group is run at any one time. The Committee is therefore requested to consider at this stage, again with the support of officers, if it wishes to undertake a topic group review and what its subject should be.
- 2.5 The Committee has previously found visits to sites of health services covering two or more of the constituent boroughs to be an extremely effective way of scrutinising services as they actually operate 'on the ground'. The Committee is also therefore asked to consider what, if any site visits it wishes to undertake during the municipal year.

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- 2.6 It should be noted that the Committee also has the power to request written information from local Health bodies on any subjects within its remit. This power can continue to be used by the Committee at any time and is not therefore considered within this report.

### **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

#### **Financial implications and risks:**

None – it is anticipated that the work of the Committee will continue to be funded via the existing charging scheme between the Councils.

#### **Legal implications and risks:**

None.

#### **Human Resources implications and risks:**

None.

#### **Equalities implications and risks:**

None although one outcome of effective health scrutiny will be to reduce health inequalities for Outer North East London residents.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

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**Appendix 1: Draft Work Programme for Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

<b>14/10/2014 Havering</b>	<b>13/01/15 Redbridge</b>	<b>14/04/15 Waltham Forest</b>
GP contract arrangements and list sizes.	Essex pharmacy arrangements with GPs	
CCGs – Prime Minister’s challenge fund work	Moorfields update	
NELFT update	Maternity services	