

Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4 November 2021

Subject:	Committee Terms of Reference
Director:	Surjit Tour Director of Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer
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1 Recommendation

That the Committee considers and confirms the Terms of Reference for the municipal year 2021-2022 for the joint scrutiny of matters affecting the Sandwell and West Birmingham area.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

Agreeing the Terms of Reference will enable the joint working arrangements with Birmingham City Council to continue, which in turn will enable the council to scrutinise health matters across the Sandwell and West Birmingham area.

3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	<p><i>People live well and age well</i> – Joint Health Scrutiny arrangements with Birmingham City Council will ensure that scrutiny of important health matters affecting the population of Sandwell and West Birmingham can continue at both the information (discretionary) level and a formal (mandatory) level.</p>
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4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 Under the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 local authorities may appoint a discretionary joint health scrutiny committee to look at issues that cross local authority boundaries. The Regulations also mandate local authorities to appoint joint committees where a relevant NHS body or health service provider consults more than one local authority's health scrutiny function about substantial reconfiguration proposals.
- 4.2 The respective health overview and scrutiny committees/boards re-established the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their first meetings of the 2021/22 municipal year. The terms of reference are now presented for consideration and confirmation. There have been no changes to the terms of reference since 2020/21.

5 The Current Position

Joint health scrutiny arrangements with Birmingham City Council have been established annually since 2004/05 (under previous and current legislation) and provide a mechanism for both informal and formal joint scrutiny of matters relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in the area affecting both local authorities.

6 Implications

Resources:	There are none.
Legal and Governance:	<p>The National Health Service Act 2006, as amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2012, confers health scrutiny functions to local authorities.</p> <p>The Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is established in accordance with the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013</p>



Risk:	Failure to have a joint committee arrangement would mean that health issues that cross local authority boundaries would not be considered.
Equality:	An equality impact assessment is not required.
Health and Wellbeing:	The overall aim of the joint committee is to improve the health and wellbeing of the population of Sandwell and West Birmingham.
Social Value	There are no direct social value implications arising from this report. The overall social value arising from the joint committee arrangements would be to improve the health and wellbeing of the population of Sandwell and West Birmingham.

7 Appendices

Appendix A – Terms of Reference 2021-22.

8 Background Papers

There are no background papers.

