County Council

1 July 2021

Appointment to the Horton Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Recommendation

1. Background

- 1.1 The 'Horton JHOSC' was formed in 2018 following a recommendation from the Secretary of State. This is a joint committee of nine non-executive voting members and one co-opted non-voting member. Having due regard to the patient flow for the Horton General Hospital (HGH), the committee has eight members from Oxfordshire, one from Northamptonshire and one from Warwickshire. Members are appointed to the committee from the respective local authorities and are reflective of the political balance accordingly.
- 1.2 The Committee's initial remit was solely in relation to the issue of consultant-led obstetric services at the HGH. However, on completion of the work around obstetric services the JHOSC accepted that partners were working well to improve HGH and agreed that it would be beneficial if the JHOSC could continue to meet to hold Oxford University Hospitals and Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group and others to account in the development and implementation of the positive vision for the future of the HGH (through its masterplan).
- 1.3 At its meeting on 13 October 2020 Council was asked to amend the scope of the health scrutiny powers delegated to the JHOSC to allow scrutiny of the masterplan for the Horton General Hospital and pursuit of associated capital investment. In addition, Council was asked to agree its nomination to membership of the JHOSC. It was resolved that Councillor Wallace Redford, who was at that time the Chair of the WCC Adult Social Care and Health OSC should be nominated.

- 1.4 At the Council AGM on 25 May 2021 Councillor Wallace Redford was appointed by the Leader as Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning. As a consequence, Councillor Redford is no longer able to represent the Council on the JHOSC. Council must now nominate a new representative.
- 1.5 As noted above, the Council's appointee to this joint committee cannot be a member of the executive. Since the establishment of the Horton Joint Health OSC, the Council has appointed a member of its Adult Social Care and Health OSC as the most appropriate committee from which to draw representation to this joint committee. This approach remains appropriate given the overlap between the nature and remit of the respective committees. Historically, the Council's practice has been to appoint the sitting Chair of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to represent the Council on the Horton Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. Financial Implications

2.1 None

3. Environmental Implications

3.1 None

4. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

4.1 This decision can be implemented with immediate effect

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None

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The report was shared with Councillor Bell prior to publication.