

**Report for:** Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025

**Title:** Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Panels - Membership and Terms of Reference

**Report authorised by:** Ayshe Simsek, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

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**Ward(s) affected:** N/A

**Report for Key/  
Non Key Decision:** N/A

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1 On 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee was asked to establish the Scrutiny Panels and agree their memberships. This was agreed subject to an amendment to the remit of the Adults & Health Scrutiny Panel, the details of which would be developed following the meeting.
- 1.2 Draft amendments have subsequently been made to the Scrutiny Protocol and the remit of the Adults & Health Scrutiny Panel.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
  - (a) Note the existing Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules (**Appendix A**) and;
  - (b) Approve the revised Scrutiny Protocol (**Appendix B**) and the revised remits and membership for each Scrutiny Panel for 2025/26 (**Appendix C**);

**3. Reasons for decision**

- 3.1 The terms of reference and membership of the scrutiny panels above need to be confirmed at the first meeting of each municipal year which took place this year on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025.
- 3.2 As noted in paragraph 1.1, it was agreed by the Committee that the remit for the Adults & Health Scrutiny Panel should be amended. The purpose of this was to clarify the Panel's role in scrutinising health issues and NHS bodies.
- 3.3 Following discussions with the Chair of the Adults & Health Scrutiny Panel, the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Democratic Services & Scrutiny

Manager, it was agreed that the appropriate way to clarify the approach to health scrutiny would be to make amendments to both the Scrutiny Protocol and the 2025/26 remit for the Adults & Health Scrutiny Panel.

- 3.4 The revised Scrutiny Protocol is attached as **(Appendix B)**. A new draft section (Section 10 - Health Scrutiny) has been added. This sets out the formal role of Overview & Scrutiny in the scrutiny of local health services as specified in legislation and Department of Health & Social Care guidance. It also describes the powers to establish a joint health and scrutiny committee with other local authorities. All of the text in Section 10 is newly added and there are no amendments to any other sections of the document.
- 3.5 The revised Overview & Scrutiny Remits and Membership 2025/26 document is attached as **(Appendix C)**. Two additional bullet points have been added to the remit for the Adults & Health Scrutiny Panel as below. There are no amendments to any of the other remits.
- Planning, provision and operation of health services (including the scrutiny of local relevant NHS bodies and health service providers under powers defined by Section 10 of Scrutiny Protocol)
  - Integration of health, public health and adult social care, including joint commissioning.

#### **4. Statutory Officers Comments**

- 4.1 All Statutory Officer comments remain unchanged from the previous report on the Overview & Scrutiny Committee Membership and Terms of Reference provided to the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025. This were as follows:

##### **Finance and Procurement**

- 4.2 The Chief Finance Officer has confirmed the Haringey representatives on the JHOSC are not entitled to any remuneration. As a result, there are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report.
- 4.3 Should any of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny generate recommendations with financial implications then these will be highlighted at that time.

##### **Legal**

- 4.4 The Assistant Director for Corporate Governance has been consulted on the contents of this report.
- 4.5 Under Section 21 (6) of the Local Government Act 2000, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the power to appoint one or more sub-committee to discharge any

of its functions. The establishment of Scrutiny Panels by the Committee falls within this power and is in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Constitution.

- 4.6 Scrutiny Panels are non-decision-making bodies and the work programme and any subsequent reports and recommendations that each scrutiny panel produces must be approved by the OSC. Such reports can then be referred to Cabinet or Council under agreed protocols.
- 4.7 The OSC can appoint two representatives to the North Central London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This is in accordance with the decision made by full Council on 22 March 2010 that the making of nominations to the Joint Health Committee be delegated to the Committee.

### **Equality**

- 4.8 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:
- Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
  - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
  - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 4.9 The proposals outlined in this report relate to the membership and terms of reference for the OSC and carry no direct implications for the Council's general equality duty. However, the Committee should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them within its work programme and those of its panels, as well as individual pieces of work. This should include considering and clearly stating;
- How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share the nine protected characteristics;
  - Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate;
  - Whether there is equality of access to services and fair representation of all groups within Haringey;
  - Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people, are being realised.
- 4.10 The Committee should ensure that equalities comments are based on evidence. Wherever possible this should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service-users views gathered through consultation.

## **5. Use of Appendices**

Appendix A - Part Four (Section G) of the Constitution of the London Borough of Haringey.

Appendix B - Scrutiny Protocol

Appendix C - Overview & Scrutiny Remits and Membership 2025/26