

NORTH CENTRAL LONDON JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	London Boroughs of Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington
REPORT TITLE Final Terms of Reference for the Committee	
REPORT OF Committee Chair, North Central London Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
FOR SUBMISSION TO NORTH CENTRAL LONDON JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	DATE 30 January 2026
SUMMARY OF REPORT <p>This paper provides the final terms of reference for the JHOSC and proposes that the administrative support for the JHOSC is rotated on an annual basis between the five boroughs in the following order:</p> <p>Appointed Chair's borough 2026/2027(Haringey to provide support for first 6 months of the municipal year to allow effective handover and continuity)</p> <p>Islington 2027/28 Enfield 2028/2029 Barnet 2029/2030 Camden 2030/2031</p> <p>Local Government Act 1972 – Access to Information</p> <p>No documents that require listing have been used in the preparation of this report.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Ayshe Simsek Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager Tel: 020 8489 2929 E-mail: ayshe.simsek@haringey.gov.uk</p>	

RECOMMENDATIONS

The North Central London Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- a) Agree the final terms of reference, for onward approval at the Overview and Scrutiny meetings of Haringey, Enfield, Barnet, Camden and Islington and onward ratification at their full Council meetings between March and July 2026.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 An updated terms of reference for the North Central London Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee is provided as **Appendix A**.
- 1.2 The Committee is asked to approve the final terms of reference and propose onward agreement by respective borough parent Scrutiny Committees. This will be followed by ratification at borough Council meetings between March and July 2026.
- 1.3 The update to the terms of reference put forward another option that has been consulted on with Democratic Services managers in the five boroughs. This is as follows:

The administrative support will be rotated on an annual basis, at the start of the municipal year, between the five boroughs and in the following order:

Appointed Chair's borough 2026/2027 (Haringey to provide support for first 6 months of the municipal year to allow effective handover and continuity)
Islington 2027/28
Enfield 2028/2029
Barnet 2029/2030
Camden 2030/2031

2. Background

- 2.1 Early in the 2024/25 municipal year, JHOSC Members noted that the existing terms of reference for the Committee were relatively brief and proposed that a new version should be written to better reflect its practices and procedures.
- 2.2 The Committee met in August 2024 to provide initial input and then again in September 2024 to discuss a first draft of the terms of reference. A second draft was produced shortly afterwards based on this feedback and there have been no

significant amendments subsequent to this. This version is published as **Appendix A**. This document outlines the purpose and powers of the Committee, its relationship with the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committees (HOSCs), the membership of the Committee and the protocol for meetings.

2.3 The final approval of the terms of reference has been delayed due to ongoing discussions about the future resourcing of the scrutiny support for the Committee. While the venues for the meetings of the Committee rotate between the five Boroughs, the London Borough of Haringey currently provides the administrative support to the Committee and the Haringey Members proposed that the financial resourcing could be shared across Boroughs in future. However, with all Boroughs currently experiencing financial pressures, it has not proved possible to resolve this issue. It was then further proposed in July 2025 that starting from the 2026/27 municipal year that the chairing of the meetings be done on an annual rotation basis and in borough alphabetical order. (Year 1 Barnet to chair the meetings) (Year 2 Camden to chair meetings) (Year 3 Enfield to chair meetings) (Year 4 Islington to chair meeting) then Haringey (year 1 2030 to chair meetings) and this option was not agreed with by the JHOSC meeting.

2.4 The Committee agreed in July for the Chair to write to Chief Executives of the five boroughs reiterating the need for financial support to manage and co-ordinate the JHOSC meetings and there were also further discussions with Enfield. Subsequently, the borough Democratic services managers have responded and apart from Camden, the other 3 boroughs are not able to provide the financial support needed to facilitate these meetings which includes:

- Compiling and publishing agendas and minutes for over 7 meetings a year,
- Co-ordinating agenda planning meetings,
- Annual scrutiny of the NHS Quality Accounts for North London Mental Health NHS Trust, Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust, Whittington Health NHS Trust and North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust
- Co-ordinating and supporting briefing meetings with the Chair and Chief Strategy & Population Health Officer at North Central London Integrated Care Board (NCL ICB), and other senior officers. This can be around one a month. These relate to actions arising from the meetings.
- Co-ordinating venues for meetings with Haringey predominantly hosting the meetings.
- Working on governance issues such as updates to the terms of reference.
- Following up on action tracker and information sharing prior to meetings to help with the background and understanding of issues prior to the JHOSC meetings.

2.5 The previous terms of reference in 2016 indicated that the borough hosting the meetings should provide administration, but this provision was not workable before due to need for continuity with support to the chair and to ensure follow up on

actions and agenda planning support. Therefore, given that monetary funding for this support cannot be provided and to maintain democratic accountability of this body, it is proposed that each borough provides democratic services officer support on an annual basis. Democratic Services managers have raised concerns about the number of meetings, the timing of the changes and whether this can be delayed until after the local elections.

3. Appendices

Appendix A – Draft terms of reference for NCL JHOSC