

Report for: Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 11 March 2026

Item number:

Title: North London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) – Amended Terms of Reference

Report authorised by : Ayshe Simsek Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

Lead Officer: Fola Irikefe – Principal Scrutiny Officer

Ward(s) affected: N/A

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

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1. Haringey is currently a member of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) for North Central London. The other boroughs that are members are Barnet, Camden, Enfield and Islington. However, from the 1st of April 2026 the NCL and NWL ICB will merge and will become West and North London ICB . The JHOSC will continue to focus on the services provided by the previous NCL ICB until further governance arrangements are established.
- 1.2. The Committee revised its terms of reference following member feedback in 2024, but final approval has been delayed due to unresolved issues around resourcing scrutiny support. Boroughs face financial pressures and cannot all share the monetary cost of the scrutiny Officer support, leading to proposals for rotating support annually among the 5 boroughs as set out in the attached report, though concerns remain about feasibility and timing. This proposed way forward was agreed by the Committee at their meeting on the 30th of January 2026.
- 1.3. Under the terms of the Constitution, joint arrangements with other local authorities require the approval of full Council and therefore any changes to the terms of reference will need to be agreed by it.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Committee recommend to Council that the amended terms of reference for the JHOSC be approved, to allow decision making on the resourcing of this Committee.
- 3.2 To note that further details on the governance arrangements for the JHOSC are yet to be established, following the merger of North Central London ICB and North West London ICB and therefore the terms of reference will also be subject to further review later in the year when further details are known.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 Under the terms of the Constitution, the amended terms of reference for the JHOSC require approval by full Council.

5. Alternative options considered

N/A

6. Background information

- 6.1 The JHOSC has been operating since 2013 and provides an opportunity for Councils in the north central London area to use their health scrutiny resources more effectively by collaborating where there are matters that affect all participating boroughs. Collaboration can also increase the influence of health scrutiny by enabling boroughs to speak with one voice on relevant health issues. In addition, the JHOSC can also enable more effective use of NHS resources by enabling engagement by NHS health services with Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees (HOSCs) on relevant issues to be undertaken jointly rather than separately.

7. Revised Terms of Reference

- 7.2 The revised terms of reference, was agreed by the JHOSC at its meeting on 30 January 2026, and details are set out in the attached report.

8. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 9.1 The work of the JHOSC relates to closely to Priority 2: Outstanding for all: Enable all adults to live healthy, long and fulfilling lives

9. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

Finance and Procurement

- 10.1 The JHOSC as a committee will not incur costs. Only those costs for which provision can be found from within existing budgets can be agreed to by this authority.

Legal

- 10.2 The Director of Legal and Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report, and makes the following comments.

- 10.3 Overview and Scrutiny Committee (the Committee) has the Constitutional power to make recommendations to Full Council in connection with the discharge of any functions.
- 10.4 In addition, the Committee also has the Constitutional power to review and scrutinise matters relating to the health service and all NHS funded services within the Borough. Accordingly, the Committee has the power to adopt the recommendation contained in this report.

Equality

- 10.6 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.
- 10.7 The work of the JHOSC should address the above mentioned duties by considering them within its work plan and 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;
 - Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people, are being realised.

10. Use of Appendices

JHOSC cover report
Updated Terms of reference

11. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985