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**Report to Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Board**

# **Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Northern Care Alliance - Terms of Reference**

**Portfolio Holder: Councillor Barbara Brownridge**

**Officer Contact:** Peter Thompson, Head of Democratic Services

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**28<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

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## **Reason for Decision**

The Scrutiny Board is asked to approve amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Northern Care Alliance (JHOSCNCA).

## **Executive Summary**

The role of the JHOSCNCA was to scrutinise the generic services provided by the Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust relating to the health of the population in Bury, Oldham Rochdale and Salford and contribute to the development of policy to improve health and reduce health inequalities in respect of services provided by the Trust.

Following a decision of Salford City Council not to participate in the JHOSCNCA the remaining members of the committee representing Oldham, Bury and Rochdale wish to continue the JHOSCNCA without Salford.

Revised Terms of Reference are presented which reflects Salford's withdrawal.

## **Recommendations**

The Scrutiny Board is asked to:

1. Approve the continued participation of Oldham Council in the JHOSCNCA.
2. Approve amendments to the Terms of Reference

## **Update on Actions from Council**

### **1 Background**

- 1.1 The Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Northern Care Alliance (JHOSCNCA) was established at the beginning of the 2024/25 municipal year. The purpose of the JHOSCNCA was to scrutinise the generic services provided by the Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust relating to the health of the population in Bury, Oldham, Rochdale and Salford and contribute to the development of policy to improve health and reduce health inequalities in respect of services provided by the Trust.
- 1.2 Salford City Council at its Full Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November resolved '*to not to support Salford's Membership of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to retain existing arrangements or explore alternative scrutiny mechanisms.*'
- 1.3 Following Salford's decision the meeting of the JHOSCNCA on the 19<sup>th</sup> December was cancelled and an informal meeting of Oldham, Bury and Rochdale members was held in its place to consider the future of the joint arrangement. Members agreed that the JHOSCNCA should continue with the remaining authorities and that the Terms of Reference be amended accordingly.

### **2 Current Position**

- 2.1 The revised Terms of Reference differs from the current Terms of Reference in the following ways.
  - Deletion of all references to Salford
  - Changes the size of committee from 12 members to 9.
  - Changes the current quorum of five with at least one member from at least three of the constituent authorities represented; to a quorum of four with at least one member from each of the three constituent authorities represented.
  - At the request of the Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust clarifies that the committee will also comply with DHSC local authority health scrutiny guidance.

### **3 Options/Alternatives**

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3.1 Option 1 - Revise the Terms of Reference and continue the JHOSCNCA without Salford's participation.

Option 2 - Consider Oldham Council's further participation in the JHOSCNCA..

#### 4 **Preferred Option**

4.1 Option1- Continuation of the JHOSCNCA with amended Terms of Reference was recommended by Oldham, Bury and Rochdale members of the JHOSCNCA as the way forward at an informal meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

#### 5 **Consultation**

5.1 An informal meeting of Oldham, Bury and Rochdale members on the JHOSCNCA was held on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024 to consider the way forward following Salford's decision not to take part.

#### 6 **Financial Implications**

6.1 N/A

#### 7 **Legal Implications**

7.1 The JHOSCNCA has power to undertake all the necessary functions of health scrutiny in accordance with part 4, Health Scrutiny by Local Authorities, of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013.

#### 8 **Equality Impact, including Implications for Children and Young People**

8.1 N/A

#### 9 **Key Decision**

9.1 No

#### 10 **Key Decision Reference**

10.1 N/A

#### 11 **Background Papers**

11.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

Salford City Council the Interim Head of Governance to Council on 20 November 2024 title: Membership of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Northern Care Alliance

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12     **Appendices**

- 12.1   Appendix 1 – Proposed Amended Terms of Reference of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Northern Care Alliance.