

**Report for: Health and Social Care
Scrutiny Sub-
Committee**

Date of Meeting:	22 February 2022
Subject:	Update from NW London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Responsible Officer:	Alex Dewsnap, Director of Strategy & Partnerships
Scrutiny Lead Member area:	Health: Policy Lead – Councillor Michael Borio Performance Lead – Councillor Dr Lesline Lewinson
Exempt:	No
Wards affected:	All
Enclosures:	None

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report provides an update on discussions held at the meeting of the NW London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) on 14 December 2021.

Recommendations:

The Sub Committee is asked to:

1. Consider the update and provide any comments / issues that are to be raised through the JHOSC by Harrow's representative.
2. Consider the issues raised at the last JHOSC meeting to inform its own consideration of the impact of Covid-19, the roll-out of the vaccination programme at a local level, and local service recovery.

Section 2 – Report

Background

The North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) comprises elected members drawn from the boroughs geographically covered by the NHS NW London Shaping a Healthier Future (SaHF) programme and was set up to consider the proposals and consultation process formally between the period of 2 July and 8 October 2012. The proposals set out the reconfiguration of the accident and emergency provision in North West London. This included changes to emergency maternity and paediatric care with clear implications for out-of-hospital care.

The JHOSC published its final report in October 2012, making recommendations on how the SaHF proposals could be developed and implemented, including the risks that needed to be explored. The JHOSC also recommended that the committee continue to meet beyond the original consultation period to provide ongoing strategic scrutiny of the development and implementation of Shaping a Healthier Future.

Harrow's ongoing participation in the JHOSC examining the implementation of the SaHF ensures that scrutiny of the issues is maintained at a regional level and that Harrow residents' perspectives are put forward to the NHS as it implements the SaHF programme. The Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub Committee receives regular update reports on the JHOSC so that it can pick up any local issues in its own work programme as well as feed into the JHOSC's agenda planning and deliberations. Harrow's member representative on the JHOSC for 2021/22 is Councillor Rekha Shah.

On 26 March 2019, the Secretary of State for Health announced the closing down of the Shaping a Healthier Future programme. In a letter dated 26 March 2019, the NW London Collaboration of CCGs confirmed the decision and stated:

“All parts of the NHS are now in agreement to draw the SaHF programme to a conclusion and bring our on-going efforts to improve health and care together in a new programme as part of our NHS Long Term Plan response. We will not be taking forward the plans as set out in SaHF for changes to Ealing and Charing Cross hospitals, but this does not mean that services across NW London will not change...We want to work with local people, communities and organisations to develop this new plan for NW London, which ensures high quality care for all our residents. We think it should include continuing our expansion of primary and community services and the development of more integrated care. We are also clear that services will need to be configured in such a way as to build a health system that is both clinically and financially sustainable. If we are to improve care and outcomes for local residents, we know that the status quo is not an option. This new plan for health and care in NW London will therefore still need to include changes, involving some difficult decisions and trade-offs, if we are to offer high quality, person-centred care sustainably. By realigning under the NHS Long Term Plan, updating our planning assumptions and enabling all of our staff, patients, partners and stakeholders to be involved in its development and delivery over time, we will have the best possible chance of success.”

The terms of reference for the JHOSC were revised to reflect the closure of the Shaping a Healthier Future programme.

JHOSC meeting 14 December 2021

The last JHOSC meeting was held on 14 December 2021 and hosted online by Harrow Council. Councillor Rekha Shah attended as Harrow’s representative. Discussion at the meeting focused on:

London Ambulance Service (LAS) update – the JHOSC discussed the LAS estates vision and the proposal to consolidate ambulance stations from 64 to 18. This intention has been paused due to high demand in the current climate and the proposal re-assessed. 18 stations are now deemed too low and could adversely affect response times, so new solutions are sought and a new plan will be consulted upon in the Spring.

Integrated Care System (ICS) update – updates were provided on the Covid-19 vaccination programme, NW London inequalities framework, financial challenges, acute care, Mount Vernon cancer services, and mental health. Assurances were given that emergency and urgent care and cancer treatments would still go ahead alongside the booster programme.

NW London Workforce – the update on NW London workforce programmes highlighted a major risk as the working capacity through winter, impacted by staff sickness, uptake of staff vaccination, staff turnover and leave. A ‘keeping well’ service has been launched for all staff on a referral basis.

Palliative care – consultation is underway in NW London seeking to improve the quality, equity and experience of community-based specialist palliative care and supporting residents and their families. Discussion included on

issues around health inequalities, use of demographics insight, cultural sensitivities and workforce challenges.

The next meeting of the JHOSC is on 9 March 2022 and will be hosted by Westminster Council. The agenda will include an update from the Integrated Care System and the Mental Health Strategy.

Ward Councillors' comments

Not applicable as report relates to all wards.

Financial Implications

There are no financial issues associated with this report.

Performance Issues

There are no performance issues associated with this report.

Environmental Impact

There is no environmental impact associated with this report.

Risk Management Implications

There are no risk management implications associated with this report.

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

An Equalities Impact Assessment has not been undertaken for this report as it summarises the activities of the JHOSC and does not propose any changes to service delivery.

Council Priorities

The work of the JHOSC relates most to the delivery of the council priority:

- Addressing health and social care inequality

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Not required for this report.

Mandatory Checks

Ward Councillors notified: No, as it impacts on all wards

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Nahreen Matlib, Joint Interim Head of Policy,
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Background Papers: None