

Meeting:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 January 2009
Subject:	Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee to Review Acute Stroke and Major Trauma Services in London – Healthcare for London Stage 2
Responsible Officer:	Tom Whiting, Assistant Chief Executive
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	None

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the proposed mode of operation and draft terms of reference for a pan-London Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee to respond to the second stage of Healthcare for London consultation on acute stroke services and major trauma care.

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the proposals for a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the second stage of Healthcare for London consultation.
- b) Consider how Harrow scrutiny will input into the work of the JOSC, including consideration of reconvening the scrutiny working group and the suggested terms of reference for this.
- c) Give consideration to the other related issues detailed so Harrow's conclusions can be fed back to the London Scrutiny Network and/or formal JOSC as appropriate. These issues are:
 - I. Harrow hosting a future meeting of JOSC
 - II. A pan-London standing committee (JOSC) for Healthcare for London issues
 - III. Contributing to the costs of a pan-London health scrutiny officer for JOSC work

Reason: (For recommendation)

To inform Harrow's participation in the forthcoming pan-London JOSC for Healthcare for London.

Section 2 – Report

Background and current situation

The first stage of consultation on *Healthcare for London: A Framework for Action* ('The Darzi Review') on the principles for change and models of healthcare in London was considered by a pan-London Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) which completed its deliberations in May 2008¹. A second stage of consultation by Healthcare for London (through each of London's individual Primary Care Trusts) on two specific clinical areas is planned for early 2009. These areas are:

- a) acute stroke services
- b) major trauma care

Healthcare for London asked all PCTs in London to ask themselves: "Could the implementation of the models of care and delivery proposed for acute stroke and major trauma services amount to a substantial variation or development for all or part of the population served by my PCT?". The answer in the case of all 31 PCTs was 'yes' and therefore the PCTs have formed a Joint Committee of PCTs (JCPCT). As these new proposals will be a 'substantial variation or development' to local healthcare services, again a public consultation by the PCTs will statutorily require the corresponding Overview and Scrutiny Committees to form a pan-London JOSC to consider the implications of proposals and the consultation process from a scrutiny perspective.

Informal JOSC meeting – 17 December 2008

An informal JOSC meeting was held on 17 December 2008 in preparation for the formal JOSC Stage 2. For this meeting, Councillor Mithani sent her apologies and Councillor Davine attended in her place. Given below are the main issues that were discussed at the meeting.

Mode of operation

The favoured mode of operation is a pan-London JOSC looking at both acute stroke and major trauma care proposals, to work in the same way to the pan-London JOSC which responded to Stage 1 of the consultation on the models of healthcare.

Terms of reference

Members attending the informal meeting were in general agreement of the draft terms of reference for the JOSC:

1. Consider and respond to proposals set out in the 'Healthcare for London' consultation document 'improving Stroke and Major Trauma Services in London' (**)², with reference to any related impact assessments or other

¹ All papers from the JOSC Stage 1 including the original Healthcare for London report, minutes of JOSC meetings and the final JOSC report can be found on Harrow's scrutiny webpages:
http://www.harrow.gov.uk/site/scripts/documents_info.php?documentID=958&pageNumber=3

² (**) or whatever is the exact title of the awaited 'Healthcare for London' consultation document.

documents issued by or on behalf of 'Healthcare for London' in connection with the consultation;

2. Consider whether the 'Healthcare for London' proposals affecting stroke and major trauma are in the interests of the health of local people and will deliver better healthcare for the people of London and people travelling across the GLA boundary, having due regard to cross-border issues;

3. Consider the 'Healthcare for London' consultation arrangements - including the formulation of options for change, and whether the formal consultation process is inclusive and comprehensive.

Consultation – acute stroke and major trauma services

a) Adult services for acute stroke care

Including the provision of hyperacute stroke unit (HASU) services, stroke unit (SU) services and transient ischaemic attack (TIA) services. The consultation will contain details of the specific hospital sites proposed to provide these services in London.

All London NHS acute providers were invited to bid for all aspects of the service. 18 bids were received for HASU, 29 bids for SU and 27 bids for TIA services. Bids were assessed against designation criteria that formed the service specification supplied to bidders.

Northwick Park Hospital was judged to have met the specified requirements for all of the stroke services – alongside 11 other HASU successful bids, 18 SU successful bids and 20 TIA services successful bids³.

b) Adult services for acute trauma care

Including major trauma networks for the whole of London, comprising a major trauma centre linked with a number of trauma centres. The consultation will propose specific identified hospitals.

In bidding to become designated as a major trauma centre, coordinating networks for an area of London, three London hospital trusts have demonstrated that they can meet the clinical quality standards required by 2010. These are Barts and The London NHS Trust (The Royal London), Kings College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, and St Georges Healthcare NHS Trust. There are currently areas in North and West London which are not linked in with a Major Trauma Network and this will need to be addressed before consultation can commence. Options could include expanding capacity in the Major Trauma Centres that submitted successful bids or to assess if, how and when, another hospital could reach the levels of clinical excellence required for being a Major Trauma Centre.

Timescales

It was originally intended that Healthcare for London would run the consultation around acute stroke and major trauma proposals from 5 January to 6 April 2009. At the informal JOSC meeting, Healthcare for London informed members that this would now be delayed to 30 January 2009, as more work is needed around ensuring the proposed services/sites meet clinical standards and provide a long term solution for London. With this in

³ Specific details of bidders are contained in the report to Harrow PCT Board's 9 December 2008 meeting entitled 'Stroke and Trauma Consultation Update' (agenda item 2.5).

mind, a meeting of the JOSC (Stage 2) has been arranged for Wednesday 4 February 2009.

Harrow scrutiny's response to Healthcare for London consultation

Running in parallel to the first-stage JOSC, a working group of scrutiny councillors in Harrow was established to consider the local implications of the Healthcare for London proposals and receive updates on JOSC deliberations. This working group produced Harrow's submission to the JOSC.

Members are asked to consider reconvening the scrutiny working group to inform Harrow's participation in JOSC (Stage 2). It is suggested that the terms of reference for the first working group that were agreed (at Overview and Scrutiny Committee 13 November 2007) can in general be applied for the work relating to Healthcare for London second-stage consultation. These could therefore be:

- Consider the proposals for change as set out in the PCT consultation document relating to Healthcare for London's Improving Stroke and Major Trauma Services in London consultation.
- Consider whether the Healthcare for London proposals are in the interests of the health of local people and will deliver better healthcare for Harrow residents.
- Consider the PCT consultation arrangements and whether this is inclusive and comprehensive for local people.
- Develop a Harrow perspective on the Healthcare for London proposals and consultation process and their impact on Harrow residents.
- To support Harrow's representative on the JOSC in feeding in Harrow's experiences, needs and concerns into JOSC deliberations.

Other issues for consideration

At the informal JOSC meeting, members raised a number of issues that although not directly related to JOSC Stage 2 work, may nevertheless be worthy of note and discussion at a local level:

1. Various authorities have offered venues within their civic site to host the JOSC meetings in the first stage. Harrow could consider doing so for the second stage. Costs/resources would involve room hire, catering and committee administration (agenda dispatch, clerking and production of minutes). In the past this has been estimated at about £800.
2. It has been suggested by some authorities that a pan-London standing committee (JOSC) for Healthcare for London be established – this will be discussed at the next London Scrutiny Network on 11 February. In advance of these discussions, all authorities have been asked to seek legal advice about the local ramifications of such an arrangement (see comments from the Director of Legal and Governance Services further in the report). This issue however should not impact upon decisions around the operation of the JOSC for Stage 2 as it is a separate issue and a more long-term consideration around London health scrutiny in general.
3. The Centre for Public Scrutiny has undertaken some work around the support and resourcing required for JOSC around the country. The first stage JOSC operated largely on local authority goodwill for its officer support team. The CfPS has estimated that if the boroughs of London were to employ a pan-London health scrutiny support officer for JOSC work between the 33 authorities, this would equate to about £1400 per authority per year.

Why a change is needed

The JOSC for Stage 1 has completed its work and the second stage of Healthcare for London consultation is likely to commence in late January / early February and therefore a new JOSC must be established in readiness for this. A JOSC meeting date of 4 February 2009 has been arranged.

The Harrow member on the JOSC (Stage 1) was Councillor Mithani, with Councillor Davine as the reserve member. Full Council in February will appoint Harrow's member and reserve member(s) for the JOSC (Stage 2).

Main options

Not appropriate to this report.

Other options considered

Not appropriate to this report.

Implications of the Recommendation

Resources, costs and risks

Issues relating to the resourcing of the JOSC are addressed in the main body of the report. Resources for the JOSC (Stage 2) will continue to be provided by each of the boroughs involved in the JOSC, as per the first-stage JOSC. Other possible specific costs outlined, for example possible commitments to hosting a JOSC meeting and contributing to a pan-London health scrutiny officer, will need to be met from the existing scrutiny budget.

Staffing/workforce

There are no immediate staffing and workforce considerations specific to this report.

Equalities impact

The provision of and access to services that meet high standards in terms of equality and that recognise diversity within London's boroughs will be central to the Healthcare for London proposals. Consideration of health inequalities relating to the acute stroke services and major trauma care proposals will form part of the JOSC's work.

Legal comments

If a pan-London standing committee were established to consider Healthcare for London issues, some functions would have to be delegated from Harrow to that group to make it effective, which might restrict the scope of the Harrow Overview and Scrutiny Committee in future.

Community safety

There are no particular community safety considerations specific to this report.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. Any costs associated to Harrow Overview and Scrutiny Committee's discussions relating to the pan-London JOSC will be contained within the current scrutiny budget.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Not required for scrutiny reports.

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact:

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Background Papers:

Papers from first stage of JOSC are posted on Harrow's website:

http://www.harrow.gov.uk/site/scripts/documents_info.php?documentID=958&pageNumber=3

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

1.	Consultation	YES / NO
2.	Corporate Priorities	YES / NO