

Meeting:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	31 January 2005
Subject:	Joint (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee on the Re-development of Northwick Park Hospital
Responsible Officer:	Director of Legal Services
Contact Officer:	Claire Vincent
Portfolio Holder:	Strategy and External Affairs
Key Decision:	No
Status:	Part I

Section 1: Summary

Decision Required

1. To note that a Joint (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee will be established to consider the proposals for the re-development of Northwick Park Hospital; and
2. to agree the process for appointing Harrow's representatives on the Committee, as set out in paragraph 2.2.1 of this report.

Reason for report

To inform the Committee of the need to establish a Joint (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee to consider the proposals for the re-development of Northwick Park Hospital, and to determine the process for appointing Harrow's representatives on the Committee.

Benefits

To facilitate the formulation of a joint inter-Borough response to the consultation process on this health service proposal.

Cost of Proposals

The costs associated with supporting the Joint Committee will be contained within existing budgets.

Risks

There are no identifiable risks associated with this proposal.

Implications if recommendations rejected

Harrow would not be in compliance with the statutory provisions for effecting a joint response on behalf of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees of the relevant Local Authorities.

Section 2: Report

2.1 Brief History

2.1.1 North West London Hospitals NHS Trust is proposing to re-develop Northwick Park Hospital. The Trust informed the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee about the proposed re-development process in June 2004. The Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee also received a presentation on the re-development at its meeting in September 2004.

2.1.2 Under the Local Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committees Health Scrutiny Functions) Regulations 2002, NHS bodies have a duty to consult an overview and scrutiny committee on:

- any proposals it may have under consideration for any substantial development of the health service in its area; or
- any proposal to make a substantive variation in the provision of such services

2.1.3 A Joint (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee comprising members of Harrow and Brent Health Scrutiny Committees is therefore suggested in order to comply with these Regulations. In addition, it is possible that other Councils may wish to be represented on the Committee. Given that formal consultation on the proposals will take place from April until the end of July, the Committee needs to be established as soon as possible.

2.1.4 LB Brent is proposing that there be two members from each Council on the Committee.

2.2 Process for appointing Harrow representatives

2.2.1 The suggested process for appointing Harrow's representatives on the Joint (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee is as follows:-

- the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee holds a Special meeting in early February to receive a report on this matter and to nominate two of its Members to serve as Harrow's representatives on the Joint Committee;
- the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee makes a recommendation directly to Council (not via the Overview and Scrutiny Committee) that the two Members be appointed;
- Council appoints Harrow's representatives on the joint Committee at its meeting on 24 February 2005.

2.3 Consultation

2.3.1 Preliminary consultation has been undertaken with LB Brent as the lead Council. The re-development of Northwick Park Hospital has been the subject of previous reports/information provided to the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

2.4 Financial Implications

2.4.1 There are no direct financial implications.

2.5 Legal Implications

2.5.1 Included in the report.

2.6 Equalities Impact

2.6.1 The proposal to establish the Joint Committee will intrinsically address equalities issues.

Section 3: Supporting Information/Background Documents

Background Documents: None.