

## **Bexley and Kent Urgent Care Review Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC)**

### **(a) Terms of Reference**

- (1) To consider information and make comments on proposals for a substantial variation to urgent care services in Kent which are also accessed by and may have an impact on Bexley residents, and which are under consideration by NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group.
- (2) To exercise the right to make comments under regulations 23(4) and 30(5) of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 (the 2013 Regulations) on behalf of LB Bexley and Kent County Council on proposals relating to urgent care services in Kent which are also accessed by and may have an impact on Bexley residents. These proposals are under consideration by NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group and have been deemed a substantial variation of service by the relevant Committees of both authorities.
- (3) To make recommendations to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committees of LB Bexley and Kent County Council as to any further actions these Committees may choose to take. These actions may, if deemed appropriate, include referral to the Secretary of State under regulation 23(9) of the 2013 Regulations in line with their respective Constitutions. The relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committees of LB Bexley and Kent County Council shall receive any recommendations made by the JHOSC but shall not be bound by them.
- (4) The exercise of the power to make a referral to the Secretary of State has not been delegated to the JHOSC.

### **(b) Rules**

- (1) Regulation 30 of the 2013 Regulations states that where a relevant NHS body or a relevant health service provider consults more than one local authority on any proposal which they have under consideration for a substantial development of, or variation to, the provision of a health service in the local authorities' areas, those local authorities must appoint a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) for the purposes of the review and only that Committee may make comments.
- (2) There will be a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, for the Urgent Care Review, comprising of:
  - 2 Members of Bexley Council
  - 4 Members of Kent County Council
- (3) The quorum of the Bexley and Kent Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is 3 Members with at least one Member from each constituent Authority present.

- (4) The JHOSC will appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair at its first meeting in each municipal year. (It is expected that the Chair and Vice-Chair will be appointed from among the Bexley and Kent Members on an annually rotating basis). Where a review is unfinished at the end of a municipal year, the Committee may agree that the previous year's Chair (if still a member of the Committee) may continue to preside over consideration of matters relating to that review.
- (5) The formal response of the JHOSC will be reached as far as is reasonably practicable by consensus and decided by a majority vote if necessary. Notwithstanding the formal response of the JHOSC, the key points of the meeting of the JHOSC shall be communicated to the NHS as soon as practicable to ensure the views of all Members are represented.