

Meeting: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
(HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE)

Date of Meeting: 1ST MARCH 2011

Title of Report: PROTOCOL FOR WORKING TOGETHER

Report of: S. J. Tunney
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This report contains	Yes	No
CONFIDENTIAL Information/		√
EXEMPT information by virtue of paragraph(s).....of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (If information <u>is</u> marked exempt, the Public Interest Test must be applied and favour the exclusion of the information from the press and public).		√
Is the decision on this report DELEGATED?	√	

Purpose of Report

To consider a formal protocol setting out an agreed approach for NHS Sefton and Sefton Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) to work together, based on current national regulations and local partnership agreements.

Recommendation

That the attached draft protocol be approved.

Corporate Objective Monitoring

<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1. Creating a Learning Community		√	
2. Creating Safe Communities		√	
3. Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4. Improving Health and Well-Being	√		
5. Environmental Sustainability		√	
6. Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
7. Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8. Children and Young People		√	

Financial Implications

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Departments consulted in the preparation of this Report

NHS Sefton;
Legal;
Social Care and Wellbeing.

List of background papers relied upon in the preparation of this Report

None.

BACKGROUND

1. In May 2010 the North West Friends of Homeopathy submitted a petition to this Committee calling for NHS Sefton to reinstate homeopathic services in Sefton, following the decision by NHS Sefton to withdraw funding for the service. The petition also urged this Committee to refer the matter to the Secretary of State for Health for consideration, on the grounds that NHS Sefton had not consulted adequately with service users or this Committee on the withdrawal. The Committee did agree to refer the matter to the Secretary of State.

2. On receipt of the referral, the Secretary of State sought initial advice from the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP), which, amongst other things, advised that:-

“NHS Sefton and Sefton OSC (Overview and Scrutiny Committee) should jointly review their procedures for bringing matters to the attention of the OSC. In particular, they should consider the need for a formal protocol for determining matters that were substantial service changes or variations”.

3. The Secretary of State confirmed his full support for the findings of the IRP.
4. Following this, officers from both NHS Sefton and Sefton Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Team worked jointly to produce a draft protocol.
5. The draft protocol was tabled at the last meeting of this Committee held on 25th January 2011. It was agreed that it would be considered fully at the next meeting and that Members should forward any observations to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Officer. At the time of drafting this report, no observations have been received from Members.
6. In the event that this Committee approves the protocol, it will be submitted to NHS Sefton’s Governance Committee and then to its Trust Board.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

The Committee is requested to consider the protocol, with a view to its implementation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the attached draft protocol be approved.