

## **Essex County Council - Health Scrutiny Committee**

### **Terms of Reference**

To discharge the functions conferred by the Health and Social Care Act 2001 (as updated by the Local Government Involvement in Health Act 2007), namely:

- to review and scrutinise the totality of local services planned and provided as part of the Council's wider responsibility to seek health improvements and reduce health inequalities;
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- to review and scrutinise the operation of the health service in the Council's area and to make reports and recommendations to NHS bodies;
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- to refer contested proposals for major service changes to the Secretary of State;
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- to scrutinise the social care services provided or commissioned by NHS bodies exercising local authority functions under section 31 of the Health Act 1999
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- To review or scrutinise health services commissioned or delivered in the Council's area within the framework set out below:
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  - arrangements made by local NHS bodies to secure hospital and community health services to the inhabitants of the authority's area;
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  - the provision of such services to those inhabitants;
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  - the provision of family health services, personal medical services, personal dental services, pharmacy and NHS ophthalmic services;
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- the public health arrangements in the area; e.g. arrangements by NHS bodies for the surveillance of, and response to, outbreaks of communicable disease or the provision of specialist health promotion services;
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- the planning of health services by NHS bodies, including plans made in co-operation with local authorities setting out:
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  - a strategy for improving both the health of the local population and the provision of health care to that population; and
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  - the arrangements made by NHS bodies for consulting and involving patients and the public:
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    - to review and scrutinise the totality of local services e.g. social services, planned and provided as part of the Council's wider responsibilities to seek health improvements and reduce health inequalities;
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    - to act as consultee to an NHS body within the Council's area on substantial developments of the health service in the Council's area and any proposals to make any substantial variation to the provision of such services.

NB EFDC has one representative on the Committee.