

Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Co-opted Member Job Description

BACKGROUND:

The Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) consists of twelve councillors from the County, District and City Councils and up to three co-opted members. Its purpose is to transparently review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in Oxfordshire. This includes financial considerations in relation to the delivery or change of service. It also looks at the actions and performance of commissioners and providers of local health services. This includes the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Oxford University Hospitals Trust, Oxford Health Foundation Trust, South Central Ambulance Service and NHS England regarding specialist healthcare commissioning in Oxfordshire.

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

Co-opted members are appointed to HOSC to assist it in its work. Such members may be appointed because of their experience or expertise, and/or to represent specific health-related interests. Their role is non-party political and advisory, and they are invited to actively contribute to the discussion of the committee, but do not have voting rights.

Co-opted members usually serve for a 2 year period. The HOSC sits five or six times a year, however extra meetings take place as and when required.

Person specification

Co-opted members of the public should be able to demonstrate:

Essential:

- A good knowledge of the Oxfordshire health system,
- An awareness of health issues in the local Oxfordshire community and the challenges they currently face,
- The ability to take a view on how health services affect the whole of Oxfordshire, not just your own community,
- An understanding of the role of scrutiny in the work of local government,
- Time to be fully involved in the work of the Committee.

Desirable:

- Experience of working in a health-related environment,
- Good verbal communication skills,
- Good analytical skills and the ability to challenge constructively,
- A knowledge of the legal requirements of local authority health scrutiny,
- A commitment to reducing health inequality in Oxfordshire.