

County and Unitary Councils' Officer Overview and Scrutiny Network

Friday 11th March 2022 Starting at 11.00 am

This will be a virtual meeting using Microsoft Teams ([LINK HERE](#))

Chair: John Cade

Secretary: Paul Thistlewood - Isle of Wight Council

Minutes: Megan Tuckwell - Isle of Wight Council

Agenda

- 1. Introduction by the Chairman and housekeeping for the meeting**
- 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2021**
- 3. Centre for Governance and Scrutiny Update**

As the network will know Andy Fry has been appointed as the Chief Executive of the Centre. He will be attending the meeting to introduce himself and share some early thoughts on the work of the Centre.

4. Health and Care Bill

To discuss the latest progress with the Bill and issues being encountered by authorities in the development of integrated care partnerships.

Given that the waiting list for pre-planned NHS treatment is at an all time high the NHS will be looking at transforming the way elective care is provided. This may involve significant variations in service delivery being experienced across the country. Although these may be considered temporary arrangements there will be a need for health scrutiny to be fully involved at an early stage.

It would be useful to ascertain how transparent and accountable current Integrated Care Partnership Boards are and if health scrutiny committees are able to access agendas and observe meetings.

The future role of Health and Wellbeing Boards may also require further clarification to prevent any duplication of effort by all partners and provide a clear accountable structure.

The network will have seen Ed Hammond's update on the CfGS on the continued work being done with the DHSC on transitional guidance may be necessary on scrutiny under these new arrangements. This meeting will provide an opportunity for the network to feed into this process.

5. Working arrangements with other scrutiny networks

At the last meeting there was a short discussion on how the evolution to virtual meetings had assisted with working arrangements for network meetings. Is there a need to draw together a list of these, with contact details, so that steps can be taken to look at ways of co-ordinating activities and sharing key information?

From an initial glance there are several regional networks and some of these are at both an officer and member level. There also appears to be a few health scrutiny networks.

6. Policy development and review

The pandemic has resulted in many services having to adapt to new ways of working. Has this been reflected in scrutiny workplans with more items dealing with the development or review of policies to ensure effective service delivery in a changed landscape?

A starting point is whether your authority actually has a list of all its key policies and strategies. The thoughts and experiences of members of the network is sought.

7. Ask the Network

An opportunity to seek the thoughts of other network members to help overcome that small niggling problem that you may be experiencing.

8. Future meetings

The dates for meetings during the rest of this year are 24 June 2022; 9 September 2022 and 2 December 2022.

We are looking at the logistics of making the September meeting a hybrid one.