

REPORT TITLE: Memorandum of Understanding

Meeting:	West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	25 February 2025
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	N/A
Key Decision Eligible for Call In	Not applicable
Purpose of Report	
<p>To consider the adoption of a Memorandum of Understanding between the West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board.</p>	
Recommendations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee consider the Memorandum of Understanding and determine if any further inclusion or deletion to the document is required and to adopt if appropriate. That should the Memorandum of Understanding be adopted, a review of it take place in February 2026. 	
Reasons for Recommendations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue the close working relationship between the West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board and to ensure that the Committee receives all the relevant information required to scrutinise proposals by the Integrated Care Board. 	
Resource Implications:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None Specifically 	
Date signed off by <u>Executive Director</u> & name	Give name and date for Cabinet / Scrutiny reports Not applicable
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Give name and date for Cabinet reports Not applicable
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer)?	Give name and date for Cabinet reports Not applicable

Electoral wards affected: Not applicable

Ward councillors consulted: Not applicable

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes. The report does not include any personal data that identifies an individual.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (WYJHOSC) is a collaborative body that brings together representatives from various local authorities within West Yorkshire. As Bradford District and Craven Partnership also covers Craven, which is located within the North Yorkshire Council area, North Yorkshire Council join the WY JHOSC as an interested party.
- 1.2 Its primary purpose is to provide an overview and undertake scrutiny of the commissioning of services by the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (WYICB).
- 1.3 Meetings of the committee are open to the public and are streamed live (webcast), allowing for transparency and public engagement. The WYJHOSC welcomes members of the public to submit questions, relating to the remit at 1.1 above, in advance of its meetings.
- 1.4 The MoU, which can be found at Appendix 1, is a formal, but non-legally binding agreement between the WYJHOSC and the WYICB which establishes a clear understanding of the roles of each organisation and highlights the commitment to build strong local relationships.

2. Information required to take a decision

- 2.1 On 31 January 2024, changes were made to allow the Secretary of State for Health the power to intervene in NHS reconfigurations. These are referred to as the Secretary of State's 'call-in' powers.
- 2.2 The Government guidance in relation to local authority scrutiny, suggested that local authorities may choose to appoint a discretionary joint health overview and scrutiny committee to carry out all or specified health scrutiny functions - for example, health scrutiny in relation to health issues where local authority and ICB boundaries do not align.
- 2.3 It is agreed by the WY local authorities, that there are occasions on which a discretionary joint committee is the best way of considering how the needs of a local population, which happens to cross council boundaries, are being met.
- 2.4 Establishing a joint committee of this kind does not prevent local authorities from separately scrutinising health issues, and these arrangements for informal joint working across boundaries can be stepped up into formal arrangements as required.
- 2.5 At an informal meeting of the WYJHOSC, Members of the Committee requested that the MoU be considered by each local authorities place scrutiny panel, and to be sent, for approval to the West Yorkshire LA Chief Legal Officers (WYLAW) Board.
- 2.6 This work has now been completed, and other than one amendment to section 16 of the MoU to provide clarification on the areas involved, no further comments from the place scrutiny panels.
- 2.7 At its meeting on 29 November 2024, WYLAW Board confirmed it was content with the Joint Arrangement.

3. Implications for the Council

Not applicable.

3.1 Council Plan

Not applicable.

3.2 Financial Implications

Not applicable.

3.3 Legal Implications

Whilst the document is non-legally binding, WYLAW Board met on 29 November 2024 and confirmed that it was content with the MoU joint arrangement.

3.4 Other (e.g. Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)

Not applicable.

4. Consultation

Not applicable.

5. Engagement

Not applicable.

6. Options

Not applicable.

6.1 Options considered

Not applicable.

6.2 Reasons for recommended option

To continue the close working relationship between the West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board and to ensure that the Committee receives all the relevant information required to scrutinise proposals by the Integrated Care Board.

7. Next steps and timelines

It is recommended that the MoU be reviewed in 12 months' time.

8. Contact officer

Yolande Myers – Principal Governance Officer
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9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Not applicable.

10. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Memorandum of Understanding

11. Service Director responsible

Samantha Lawton, Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Kirklees Council)