

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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**Date of meeting:** 20 January 2009  
**Report of:** Governance Lead Officer  
**Title:** Cooption

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### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide further information on cooption and seek the views of the Committee on whether to progress the matter further.

### **2.0 Decision Required**

- 2.1 The views of the Committee are invited on whether or not to progress the matter further at this time.

### **3.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs**

- 3.1 There are no implications for transition costs, except the funding of appropriate Member development in view of the new roles and responsibilities involved.

### **4.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond**

- 4.1 To be considered as part of the overall support to be provided to the Scrutiny function.

### **5.0 Information**

- 5.1 The Committee at its first meeting agreed to return to the matter of Cooption.
- 5.2 Subject to the views and the agreement of the Governance Committee, this Committee can coopt - in a non- voting capacity- any individual whose experience and views Members feel could be of benefit to them. On the other hand, there is no requirement to have a scheme of cooption. The existing County Committee has quite an extensive scheme with representation from each of the District Councils, Age Concern, Cheshire Disabilities Federation, Communities of Cheshire Partnership, Cheshire Association of Local Councils (though not all by any means attend regularly). Many other Health Scrutiny Committees do not have such schemes.

5.3 Some of the issues which this Committee will need to consider are:

- although liaison with other organisations is important, are there alternative means of achieving this without permanent cooption
- Members will need to be mindful of “balance” on the Committee
- if cooption is to be pursued, which sectors should be represented?
- term of office, appointment of substitutes
- how should potential conflicts of interest be handled

5.4 The views of the Committee are invited on whether or not to progress this matter at this time.

***For further information:***

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