COUNCIL MEETING - 14TH MAY 2014

Extract from the Minutes of the Constitution Committee Meeting on 1st May 2014

41 CHESHIRE/WIRRAL/MERSEYSIDE - JOINT SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS

The Committee considered the adoption of a protocol for setting up joint scrutiny arrangements across Cheshire, Wirral and Merseyside to consider proposed substantial developments or variations in health services.

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 and the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations had introduced new arrangements to require a joint scrutiny committee to be established for the purposes of considering consultations by a relevant NHS body or provider of NHS funded Services where such proposals impacted on more than one local authority area and where more than one authority agreed that the proposal was a substantial development or variation in service (SDV).

Knowsley Borough Council, as lead authority on behalf of the Merseyside authorities, had developed a draft protocol, attached as an Appendix to the report, which proposed a framework for the operation of joint scrutiny across Cheshire, Merseyside and Wirral. The protocol would put in place arrangements to convene a joint health overview and scrutiny committee to be made up of each of the constituent local authorities that deemed a proposal to be an SDV. Cheshire, and Merseyside authorities had been invited to consider and adopt the protocol in order for it to be in place in time for the formal consultation process regarding changes to the provision of cancer services at the Clatterbridge Centre in Wirral.

RESOLVED

That it be recommended to Council that

- 1. the draft joint scrutiny protocol as appended to the report be adopted; and
- nominations to any joint scrutiny committees established in accordance with the protocol be made by the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee (or successor body) in compliance with the proportionality requirements set out in the protocol.