

# Overview and Scrutiny Scoping Document

<b>Title of review:</b>	Access to health services – GPs and Dentistry
<b>Date scope agreed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee:</b>	24 June 2022 <i>(subject to approval)</i> .
<b>Members:</b>	<p>All non-Executive members of the Council have been offered the opportunity to participate in the Task and Finish Group.</p> <p>Members confirmed to date:</p> <p>Cllr Carni McCarron-Holmes</p> <p>Cllr Malcolm Grainger</p> <p>Cllr John Cook</p> <p>Cllr Iain Greaney</p> <p>Cllr Alan Smith</p> <p>Cllr Michael Heaslip</p> <p>Cllr Peter Kendall</p>
<b>Chair:</b>	To be determined (OSC member)
<p><b>Reasons for and purpose of review:</b></p> <p>(key issues and/or reason for doing the review)</p>	<p>Whilst Allerdale Borough Council is not directly involved in Health Care, it does have a duty to support wellbeing and the Scrutiny Committee has a role to look into issues of concern to its residents.</p> <p>There is a growing amount of anecdotal evidence being reported by residents of Workington in particular to suggest that accessing GP and dental services is becoming increasingly difficult in the town.</p> <p>The NHS recognises the pressures on NHS dentistry and have stated that in 2019-20 approximately 95% of the total commissioned capacity in North Cumbria had been utilised.</p> <p>In May and June 2022 NHS patients at one Workington Dental Practice were written to ending their relationship with the Practice unless they wished to subscribe to a private dental plan.</p> <p>With the abolition of Allerdale Borough Council on 31 March 2023, any recommendations arising from this review will also be sent to the new shadow</p>

	authority for Cumberland Council which will take over on 1 April 2023.
<b>Aims and objectives of the review:</b>	<p>The review is intended to focus on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To consider the delivery of GP and Dentistry services with particular regard to services in Workington.</li> <li>• To scrutinise the plans of the NHS for these services.</li> <li>• To work with County Health Scrutiny, Health Watch and Patient Participation Groups to understand the needs of the community in these services.</li> </ul>
<b>Links to Council Strategy:</b>	<p>The review is about health services provision which relates particularly to the following priority themes set out in the Council Strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilient Communities. This aims to promote healthy, active lifestyles; engage with our communities, and our town and parish councils and address inequalities.</li> </ul>
<b>Potential barriers/risks/issues:</b>	<p>Allerdale Borough Council will be replaced by Cumberland Council on 1 April 2023. This means that there will be limited opportunity for Allerdale BC to implement any recommendations from this review, but as stated above the review recommendations would stand as a reference for the new unitary authority.</p> <p>The main Health Scrutiny function sits with the County Council until 31 March 2023 and will then pass to Cumberland Council on 1 April 2023.</p>
<p><b>Timescales for review:</b> (including indicative milestones)</p> <p><b>Committee meeting:</b></p> <p><b>Executive/Council meeting:</b></p>	June - August
<b>Methodology/approach:</b> (what types of enquiry will be used to gather evidence and why)	<p>At their meeting on 27 May 2022 OSC members were supportive of the establishment of a task and finish group to consider this review topic.</p> <p>The proposed approach is that the TFG use the following methods to gather evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports and presentations to Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence from the NHS Commissioners at The North East and North Cumbria (NENC) Integrated Care System (ICS);</li> <li>• Evidence from Cumbria Health Watch</li> <li>• Evidence from Patient Participation Groups</li> <li>• Input from local members, Cumbria County Council, Cumberland Shadow Authority members, and other stakeholders.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Possible witnesses/participants:</b> (for written and oral evidence)</p> <p>- subject to review as evidence becomes available</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local elected members (Allerdale BC)</li> <li>• The North East and North Cumbria (NENC) Integrated Care System (ICS);</li> <li>• Members and Officers of other local authorities (including specifically Cumberland Shadow Authority)</li> <li>• Health Scrutiny at Cumbria County Council</li> <li>• Cumbria Healthwatch</li> </ul>
<p><b>Possible sources of documentary information:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation and guidance on NHS service standards</li> <li>• Reports and materials from other local authorities and organisations such as the Local Government Association and OSC reports from other councils on similar issues</li> </ul>
<p><b>Potential site visits:</b></p>	<p>To be determined by the TFG.</p>
<p><b>Officer support:</b> (including roles)</p>	<p>Scrutiny support for TFG activity will be provided by the Policy and Performance team</p>
<p><b>Resource requirements:</b> (Budget)</p>	<p>No additional budget resource identified – any expenses can be met from existing budgets.</p>
<p><b>Publicity requirements (if applicable):</b></p>	<p>Not at the scoping stage.</p>