

Notice of Meeting



Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 10 September 2026 at 10.00 am
Room 2&3 - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND

These proceedings are open to the public

If you wish to view proceedings, please click on this [Live Stream Link](#).
However, that will not allow you to participate in the meeting.

Membership

Chair: Councillor Jane Hanna OBE

Councillors: Ron Batstone Emma Garnett
Jenny Hannaby Paul-Austin Sargent
David Hingley Imade Edosomwan

District Councillors: Katharine Keats-Rohan Val Shaw David Rogers
Elizabeth Poskitt Louise Upton

Co-Optees: Sylvia Buckingham Barbara Shaw Dr Alan Cohen

Date of Next Meeting: 26 November 2026

For more information about this Committee please contact:

Committee Officer: *Scrutiny Team / Health Scrutiny Officer*
Email: *Email: scrutiny@oxfordshire.gov.uk / omid.nouri@oxfordshire.gov.uk*

Martin Reeves OBE
Chief Executive

September 2026

What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

- Any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in the area of its local authorities.
- Health issues, systems or economics, not just services provided, commissioned or managed by the NHS.

How can I have my say?

We welcome the views of the community on any issues in relation to the responsibilities of this Committee. Members of the public may ask to speak on any item on the agenda or may suggest matters which they would like the Committee to look at. **Requests to speak must be submitted to the Committee Officer no later than 9 am on the working day before the date of the meeting.**

About the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

The Joint Committee is made up of 15 members. Twelve of them are Councillors, seven from Oxfordshire County Council, and one from each of the District Councils – Cherwell, West Oxfordshire, Oxford City, Vale of White Horse, and South Oxfordshire. Three people can be co-opted to the Joint Committee to bring a community perspective. It is administered by the County Council. Unlike other local authority Scrutiny Committees, the work of the Health Scrutiny Committee involves looking 'outwards' and across agencies. Its focus is on health, and while its main interest is likely to be the NHS, it may also look at services provided by local councils which have an impact on health.

About Health Scrutiny

Health Scrutiny is about:

- Providing a challenge to the NHS and other organisations that provide health care
- Examining how well the NHS and other relevant organisations are performing
- Influencing the Cabinet on decisions that affect local people
- Representing the community in NHS decision making, including responding to formal consultations on NHS service changes
- Helping the NHS to develop arrangements for providing health care in Oxfordshire
- Promoting joined up working across organisations
- Looking at the bigger picture of health care, including the promotion of good health
- Ensuring that health care is provided to those who need it the most

Health Scrutiny is NOT about:

- Making day to day service decisions
- Investigating individual complaints.

What does this Committee do?

The Committee meets up to 5 times a year or more. It develops a work programme, which lists the issues it plans to investigate. These investigations can include whole committee investigations undertaken during the meeting, or reviews by a panel of members doing research and talking to lots of people outside of the meeting. Once an investigation is completed the Committee provides its advice to the relevant part of the Oxfordshire (or wider) NHS system and/or to the Cabinet, the full Councils or scrutiny committees of the relevant local authorities. Meetings are open to the public and all reports are available to the public unless exempt or confidential, when the items would be considered in closed session.

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting

A hearing loop is available at County Hall.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
2. **Declarations of Interest - see guidance note on the back page**
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting (Pages 11 - 30)**

To **APPROVE** the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2026 and to receive information arising from them.

4. **Speaking to or Petitioning the Committee**

Members of the public who wish to speak on an item on the agenda at this meeting, or present a petition, can attend the meeting in person or 'virtually' through an online connection.

Requests to present a petition must be submitted no later than 9am ten working days before the meeting,

Requests to speak must be submitted no later than 9am three working days before the meeting, i.e. Monday 7th September 2026

Requests should be submitted to the Scrutiny Officer at omid.nouri@oxfordshire.gov.uk AND scrutiny@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

If you are speaking 'virtually', you may submit a written statement of your presentation to ensure that if the technology fails, then your views can still be taken into account. A written copy of your statement can be provided no later than 9am on the day of the meeting. Written submissions should be no longer than 1 A4 sheet.

5. **Response to HOSC Recommendations (Pages 31 - 48)**

The Committee has received Acceptances and Responses to recommendations made as part of the following item(s):

1. Director of Public Health Annual Report.
2. All-Age Autism Strategy.
3. Adult/Older Adult Mental Health.

The Committee is recommended to **NOTE** the responses.

6. Chair's Update (Pages 49 - 122)

The Chair will provide a verbal update on relevant issues since the last meeting.

Two reports containing Recommendations from the Committee were sent on behalf of the JHOSC as part of the following areas/items:

1. Dentistry Services in Oxfordshire.
2. South Central Ambulance Service CQC Improvement Journey.

These reports are attached to the agenda papers for this item.

A letter was submitted on behalf of the Committee to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, where the Committee requested that Government:

- **Reconsider the proposed abolition of Healthwatch** and explore whether its objectives could instead be achieved through reform of the existing model.
- **Protect the principle of independence** within future patient voice arrangements, allowing local areas to retain or commission independent organisations where appropriate.
- **Provide maximum local flexibility** so that health and care systems can design arrangements that reflect local circumstances and community needs.

The Committee received a response Letter from the Department of Health and Social Care. Both the letter submitted on behalf the JHOSC as well as the DHSC's response are attached to the agenda papers for this item.

The Committee received a Letter from the Thames Valley ICB with an update on delayed payments to Adult Social Care Providers. This Letter is attached to the agenda papers for this item.

The Committee is recommended to **NOTE** the Chair's update having raised any relevant questions.

7. **Report of the Primary Care Access & Estates Working Group** (Pages 123 - 222)

The purpose of this item is to receive the final report of the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview Scrutiny Committee's Primary Care Access & Estates Working Group.

The Committee is **RECOMMENDED** to:

- a) **RECEIVE** and **ENDORSE** the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) primary care and estates working group report found in Annex 1.
- b) **AGREE** to the recommendations outlined in the working group report and for these to be issued to the Thames Valley Integrated Care Board.
- c) **AGREE** to share this report and its findings with the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care.
- d) **AGREE** to share this report and its findings with the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board.
- e) **AGREE** to **DELEGATE** to the Health Scrutiny Officer to arrange for this report to be graphically finalised, and for a graphical and accessible version of this report to be published in the November JHOSC public meeting.
- f) **NOTE** the formal closure of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee primary care and estates working group.

8. **Urgent Emergency Care/System Pressures** (Pages 223 - 256)

Lily O' Connor (Programme Director, Urgent & Emergency Care, Oxfordshire) has been invited to present a report on Urgent Emergency Care/System Pressures.

PLEASE NOTE: There are TWO reports attached to this item:

- 1. A General Urgent Emergency Care Update for HOSC (answering some specific themes raised by the Committee when commissioning this item).
- 2. Oxfordshire's Urgent Emergency Care Winter Plan.

The Committee is invited to consider the two reports, raise any questions and **AGREE** any recommendations arising it may wish to make.

9. Independent Patient Voice Update (Pages 257 - 266)

Ansaf Azhar (Director of Public Health, Oxfordshire County Council) and Carole Stow (Engagement & Consultation Manager, Oxfordshire County Council) have been invited to present an update on the ongoing work to explore the future of Independent Patient and Resident Voice in Oxfordshire. This is in light of government's plans to abolish the Healthwatch function.

The JHOSC will receive an update on the engagement work commissioned by the Health and Wellbeing Board's Patient Voice Working Group to explore what residents feel about the role and significance of an Independent Patient and Resident Voice.

The Committee is invited to consider the report, raise any questions and **AGREE** any recommendations arising it may wish to make.

10. Healthwatch Oxfordshire Update (Pages 267 - 276)

Veronica Barry (Executive Director of Healthwatch Oxfordshire) has been invited to present the Healthwatch Oxfordshire Update Report.

The Committee is invited to consider the Healthwatch Oxfordshire update and **NOTE** it having raised any questions arising.

11. Horton General Hospital Update (Pages 277 - 288)

Olivia Clymer (Director of Strategy & Partnerships, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust) has been invited to present a report with an update on the Horton General Hospital.

This item constitutes the first of two public meeting items that will be held on the Horton General Hospital (the second being scheduled for the JHOSC's November public meeting). This particular item will focus on the following themes:

- Strategic Role of the Hospital.
- Current Services delivered at the Horton.
- Access to Care and Patient Flows.
- Estate and Infrastructure.
- An update on the condition, capacity and utilisation of the Horton estate.
- The current estate constraints affecting service delivery.
- Quality Safety and Regulatory Assurance.

The Committee is invited to consider the report, raise any questions and **AGREE** any recommendations arising it may wish to make.

12. Forward Work Plan (Pages 289 - 292)

The Committee is recommended to **AGREE** to the proposed work programme for its upcoming meetings.

13. **Actions and Recommendations Tracker** (Pages 293 - 302)

The Committee is recommended to **NOTE** the progress made against agreed actions and recommendations having raised any questions.

Councillors declaring interests

General duty

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed 'Declarations of Interest' or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your employment; sponsorship (i.e. payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licenses for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.

Declaring an interest

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest. If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Members' Code of Conduct and public perception

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member 'must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself' and that 'you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned'.

Members Code – Other registrable interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to the financial interest or wellbeing of one of your other registerable interests then you must declare an interest. You must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and you must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Wellbeing can be described as a condition of contentedness, healthiness and happiness; anything that could be said to affect a person's quality of life, either positively or negatively, is likely to affect their wellbeing.

Other registrable interests include:

- a) Any unpaid directorships
- b) Any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority.

- c) Any body (i) exercising functions of a public nature (ii) directed to charitable purposes or (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management.

Members Code – Non-registrable interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to your financial interest or wellbeing (and does not fall under disclosable pecuniary interests), or the financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate, you must declare the interest.

Where a matter arises at a meeting which affects your own financial interest or wellbeing, a financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate or a financial interest or wellbeing of a body included under other registrable interests, then you must declare the interest.

In order to determine whether you can remain in the meeting after disclosing your interest the following test should be applied:

Where a matter affects the financial interest or well-being:

- a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and;
- b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest.

You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.