

AGENDA ITEM 8

Southend Health & Wellbeing Board 3rd September 2014

Health scrutiny at Southend

1. Function sits with People Scrutiny Committee. Fulfils the Council's responsibilities under 'The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013' to have health scrutiny provision.
2. Detailed Guidance published on 27th June 2014 by Department of Health.
3. Have power to:
 - review & scrutinise matters relating to planning, provision & operation of health service in the area;
 - require information to be provided;
 - require attendance at meeting;
 - make reports & recommendations & expect response;
 - set up Joint committees with other Upper tier Local Authorities;
 - refer substantial reconfiguration proposals to Secretary of State (on certain grounds).
4. Complimentary role to healthwatch – and Healthwatch Manager is a non-voting co-opted member on the Scrutiny Committee.
5. Main changes arising from new legislation:
 - Local Authorities within scope of legislation – “relevant health service providers” (Regulation 20 provides a definition)
 - Need mechanism in place to deal with referrals by healthwatch (Regulation 21) (covered in Scrutiny/Healthwatch protocol)
 - Need mechanism in place to respond to consultations and how members of Joint Committee will be appointed (covered in the Council's constitution)
 - Health scrutiny function conferred on Council – delegated to People Scrutiny (Regulation 28)
 - Mandatory Joint Committees with other areas (when considering substantial reconfiguration proposals) – can choose whether to delegate power of referral to mandatory Joint Committee (Regulation 30)
 - Clarification on what information is needed in any referral to Secretary of State (Regulation 22)
6. Protocols - being reviewed to check against this Guidance.
7. Programme of support for 14/15 to be delivered by Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) www.cfps.org.uk. Jointed funded by Department of Health, Public Health England and NHS England – will focus on service reconfiguration, integrated commissioning and reducing health inequalities.