

4 November 2013**Agenda Item: 7****REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****HEALTH SCRUTINY TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT****Purpose of the Report**

1. To invite Members to consider and agree on the provision of a Health Scrutiny training and development opportunity for both Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council elected Members.

Information and Advice

2. The Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) is a charity whose principal focus is on scrutiny, accountability and good governance, both in the public sector and amongst those people and organisations who deliver publicly-funded services. The Centre for Public Scrutiny's Expert Advisory Team provides training and development to elected Members in the complex area of Health Scrutiny.
3. Following discussion with the Chair and Vice Chair, the officer supporting this committee invited the CfPS to tender to provide a half day training session covering some of the essentials of Health Scrutiny. The sorts of issues likely to be covered are set out in the bullet points below.
 - The role of health scrutiny and how it interlocks with other things, such as, Healthwatch and the Health and Wellbeing Boards
 - NHS organisations/commissioning
 - Effective questioning/evidence gathering and the development of recommendations
 - How to deal with Substantial Variations and developments of service, and when to make a referral
 - The reputational risk associated with poor health scrutiny and the Francis Inquiry.
4. The cost of a half day training from an expert adviser is £1200 plus VAT and travel costs. This equates to two days of the expert adviser's time. In order to mitigate this cost, the officer supporting this committee has approached Nottingham City Council counterparts, and the City Council has agreed to bear half of the cost if the session is open to their Health Scrutiny Members (which, of course, includes the City membership of the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire).

5. The training and development would take place on a day to be agreed upon – subject to the availability of the expert adviser and agreement with the City Council Health Scrutiny Chair, Councillor Klein.

RECOMMENDATION

- i) That the Health Scrutiny Committee agrees the provision of a half day training and development session to be delivered by an expert adviser from the Centre for Public Scrutiny.

Councillor Kate Foale
Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Martin Gately – 0115 9772826

Background Papers

Nil.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected
All