

# Become a co-opted member of the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

## Do you want to help shape the future of local health services in Oxfordshire?

The Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) is looking for an Oxfordshire resident who has an interest in local health issues to join the committee as a co-opted member.

HOSC works to strengthen the voice of local people and improve the health of Oxfordshire residents by ensuring their needs and experiences are considered as an integral part of the purchase, delivery and development of health services. It does this by examining and scrutinising proposals that change how local NHS services are run. As part of this the committee consults a variety of external bodies.

The committee consists of twelve Councillors from the County, District and City Councils. In addition there are up to three members of the public co-opted onto the committee, usually for a two-year term, to bring expertise and experience from the community and/or to represent specific health-related interests. Their role is non-party political and advisory, and they are invited to actively contribute in the committee's discussion, but do not have voting rights.

The HOSC meets approximately 5 times a year for about half a day with extra meetings as and when required. Co-opted members are entitled to receive expenses for travel and subsistence.

If you would like to apply to be a co-opted member, you must be able to demonstrate that you have:

- A good knowledge of the Oxfordshire health system
- An awareness of health issues in the local Oxfordshire community and the challenges they currently face
- The ability to take a view on how health services affect the whole of Oxfordshire, not just your own community
- An understanding of the role of scrutiny and its role in local government and local health services
- Time to be fully involved in the work of the Committee

### **How to apply**

You should provide a short covering letter setting out why you wish to be a member of the HOSC, your suitability for the role and the contribution you could make to the Committee (please see the included job description below). If shortlisted, you will be invited to attend a short interview with a small group of HOSC members.

If you want more information or to discuss the role, please contact Martin Dyson on 07393 001252 or Julie Dean on 07393 001089

Please send your covering letter to:

Martin Dyson  
Policy Team  
Oxfordshire County Council  
Chief Executive's Office  
County Hall  
New Road  
Oxford OX1 1ND

or email [Martin.dyson@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Martin.dyson@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

The closing date for applications is **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

## Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

### Co-opted Member Job Description

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) consists of twelve councillors from the County, District and City Councils and up to three co-opted members. Its purpose is to transparently review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in Oxfordshire. This includes financial considerations in relation to the delivery or change of service. It also looks at the actions and performance of commissioners and providers of local health services. This includes the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Oxford University Hospitals Trust, Oxford Health Foundation Trust, South Central Ambulance Service and NHS England regarding specialist healthcare commissioning in Oxfordshire.

#### **PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:**

Co-opted members are appointed to HOSC to assist it in its work. Such members may be appointed because of their experience or expertise, and/or to represent specific health-related interests. Their role is non-party political and advisory, and they are invited to actively contribute to the discussion of the committee, but do not have voting rights.

Co-opted members usually serve for a 2 year period. The HOSC sits five or six times a year, however extra meetings take place as and when required.

### Person specification

Co-opted members of the public should be able to demonstrate:

#### Essential:

- A good knowledge of the Oxfordshire health system,
- An awareness of health issues in the local Oxfordshire community and the challenges they currently face,
- The ability to take a view on how health services affect the whole of Oxfordshire, not just your own community,
- An understanding of the role of scrutiny in the work of local government,
- Time to be fully involved in the work of the Committee.

#### Desirable:

- Experience of working in a health-related environment,
- Good verbal communication skills,
- Good analytical skills and the ability to challenge constructively,
- A knowledge of the legal requirements of local authority health scrutiny,
- A commitment to reducing health inequality in Oxfordshire.