

Health Scrutiny

Under the Health and Social Care Act 2001, local authority scrutiny has the power to:

- Review and scrutinise the planning, provision and operation of health services in the area
- Require officers of local NHS bodies to attend meetings and answer questions
- Make reports and recommendations to local NHS bodies and expect a response within 28 days
- Set up joint health scrutiny committees with other local authorities and delegate powers to another local authority

Meanwhile, NHS Trusts have a statutory duty to:

- Provide information
- Consult on any proposed substantial developments or variations in the provision of services

And local authority scrutiny can refer a consultation to the Secretary of State if it considers:

- The consultation had been inadequate in relation to the content or the amount of time allowed or;
- That a proposal would not be in the interests of the health service

[Health and Social Care Act 2001](#) (See Section 7)

The legislation which gave scrutiny the power to review and scrutinise health services and to make reports and recommendations to NHS bodies.

[Local Authority \(Overview and Scrutiny Committees Health Scrutiny Functions\) Statutory Instrument No. 3048](#)

These regulations, issued by the Secretary of State for Health, detail the duties of NHS bodies and the powers of scrutiny committees.

[Advice to Local Authorities on Scrutinising Health Services \(Published 2014\)](#)

Provides advice and recommendations on carrying out scrutiny of health services.

The Health and Adults Social Services Panel (HASSP) meets 8 times during the council year and is responsible for scrutinising health services in the borough, as well as the Council's provision of social services for adults. For more information on the HASSP, contact Anna-Marie Rattray, Scrutiny Review Officer on (020) 8825 8227 or RattrayA@ealing.gov.uk