

# Policy and Scrutiny Scoping Document

<b>Committee</b>	HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY – Delegated to the MID ESSEX AREA FORUM	
<b>Topic</b>	HEALTH INEQUALITIES ACROSS MID-ESSEX	Ref:AFM-SCR-01
<b>Objective</b>	To review health inequalities and provision of services to ensure equality of outcomes across the area of the Mid-Essex PCT, with particular reference to access and transport issues	
<b>Reasons for undertaking review</b>	The Area Forum meeting on 11th September 2009 received a presentation on health inequalities following which Members of the Forum raised some concerns over the ease of access and transport to health services.	
<b>Method</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial briefing to define scope</li> <li>• Task &amp; Finish Group</li> <li>• Commission</li> <li>• Full Committee</li> </ul>	<p>The Review will be undertaken by a Task &amp; Finish Group representing all three tiers of local government as agreed at the meeting of the Mid Essex Area Forum held on 12th November 2009.</p> <p>Meetings will be held as necessary to consider the issues, speak to commissioners, service providers and patient representatives.</p> <p>The final report will be submitted to the Mid Essex Area Forum, followed by the Health Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee to be ratified and then sent to the PCT for a full response to the recommendations and proposed actions.</p>	
<b>Membership</b> <i>Only complete if Task and Finish Group or Commission</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• J. Pike (Chairman)</li> <li>• Essex County Councillors Bob Boyce, Sandra Hillier and Maureen Miller</li> <li>• One representative from each of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Braintree District Council (Councillor Tony Shelton)</li> <li>○ Chelmsford Borough Council (Councillor Jean Murray)</li> <li>○ Maldon District Council (Councillor Alison Warr)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One representative from <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the Parish/Town Councils (Heybridge Parish Councillor Lew Schnurr)</li> <li>○ third sector organisations</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Judy Cuddeford, Braintree District Voluntary Support Agency,</p> <p>Lorraine Jarvis, Chelmsford Council for Voluntary Services,</p> <p>Paul Murphy, Maldon Council for Voluntary Services,</p> <p>a representative from Mid Essex LINK</p>	

<b>Issues to be addressed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inequality of health outcomes</li> <li>• The patient experience</li> <li>• Access issues</li> <li>• Transport issues, including comparisons with similar mixed rural/urban area</li> <li>• Plans for decentralisation of services</li> <li>• Cross-border service provision both inter and intra Essex</li> <li>• Partnership delivery of services</li> </ul>
<b>Sources of Evidence and witnesses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCT representatives &amp; nominees</li> <li>• Acute hospital trusts &amp; nominees</li> <li>• Local Medical Committee</li> <li>• Royal College of Nursing</li> <li>• AGE UK and other appropriate voluntary sector organisations</li> <li>• District Youth Councils</li> <li>• Resident Associations</li> <li>• LINKs</li> <li>• PALs</li> </ul> <p>A letter to be sent to potential witnesses and a press release issued inviting interested groups and members of the public to provide oral and/or written evidence.</p>
<b>Work Programme</b> (see attached timeline)	<p>1<sup>st</sup> meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NHS Mid Essex requested to provide the following background information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Up-date on health inequalities</li> <li>○ Waiting times for access to services</li> <li>○ Cross border patient flows to GPs, Community &amp; Acute hospitals</li> <li>○ Transport issues from a PCT perspective.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Development of a work programme</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators of Success</b>	<p>A greater understanding of the issues facing NHS Mid-Essex and its partner organisation in delivering equality of health outcomes and accessibility to services.</p> <p>Recommendations as to how services can co-operate even further to tackle these issues.</p>
<b>Meeting the CfPS</b> (Centre for Public Scrutiny) <b>Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Critical Friend Challenge to Executive</i></li> <li>• <i>Reflect Public voice and concerns</i></li> <li>• <i>Own the scrutiny process</i></li> <li>• <i>Impact on service delivery</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflect Public Voice &amp; Concerns – equality of access to health services is a matter of concern to local residents</li> <li>• Impact on service delivery - Consideration of the provision of health services to patients living in Mid Essex and diverse needs of residents across Mid-Essex.</li> <li>• Own the Scrutiny Process – To make recommendations on procedures for ensuring equality of outcomes</li> </ul>

<b>Diversity and Equality</b> <i>Diversity and Equality issues are to be considered and addressed.</i>	<p>To ensure that all patients have an opportunity to feed into this review including those within harder to reach groups.</p> <p>To review the access to services for the diverse populations of Mid Essex</p>		
<b>Date agreed by Committee</b>	<p>Health Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee – 6 January 2010</p> <p>Mid Essex Area Forum – 11 January 2010</p>		
<b>Future Action</b>			
<b>Governance Officer</b>	Graham Redgwell, Governance Officer	<b>Committee Officer</b>	Graham Hughes
<b>Area Co-ordinator</b>	John Zammit		
<b>Service Lead Officer(s)</b>	NHS Mid Essex		