



# Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Arrangements in Staffordshire

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# Outline of presentation

- The Health Environment
- Relationships and roles
- CCG and Boundaries
- Health scrutiny regulations
- Powers of a health scrutiny committee
- Health bodies statutory duties
- Health scrutiny arrangements in Staffordshire
- Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny work
- Training and development

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# The Health Environment

The aim of local overview and scrutiny ... is to act as a lever to improve the health of local people ... by addressing ... health inequalities between different groups ... to secure the continuous improvement of health services that impact upon health”.

*Department of Health 2002*

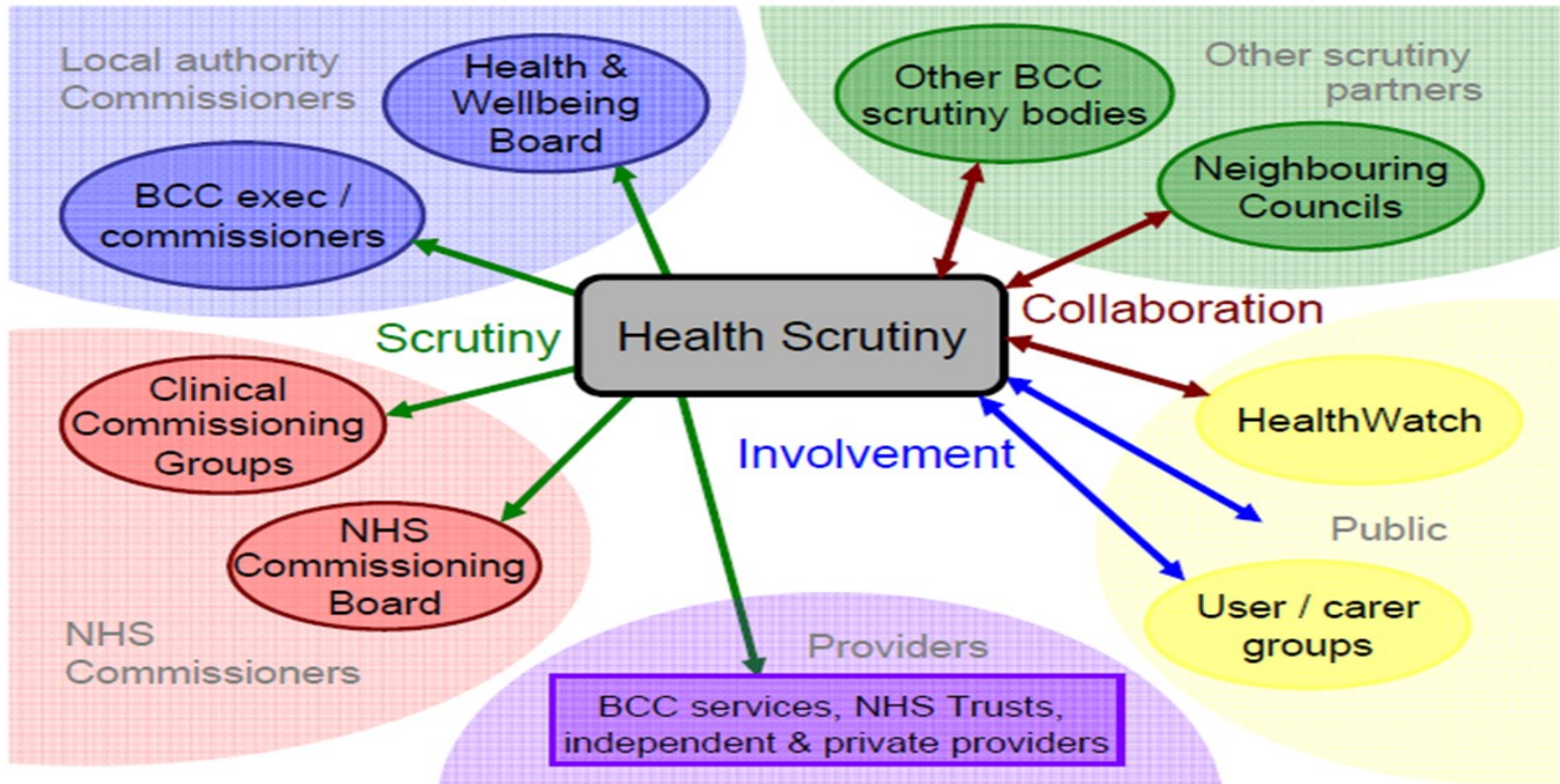
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Staffordshire  
County Council

# Key Agencies - Relationships

Health scrutiny – key agencies and relationships

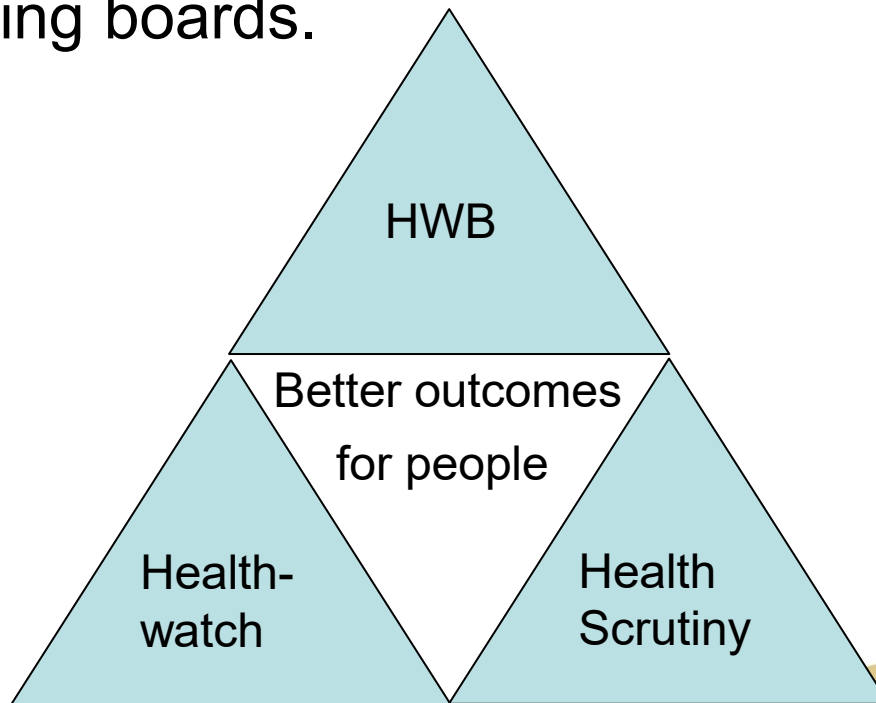


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# Roles – 2012 Act

Independent, but complementary, roles and responsibilities of council health scrutiny, local Healthwatch and health and wellbeing boards.



Further reading:

[Roles, relationships and adding value](#)

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# Clinical Commissioning Groups

- Includes all General Practices - authorised and licensed
- 6 Clinical Commissioning groups covering residents in Staffordshire:

Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, North Staffordshire, South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula, Stafford and Surrounds, Stoke on Trent.

- Commission acute local acute and tertiary services as required for their populations
- Duty to co-operate and work with local authority care commissioners

[link to CCGs and NHS Trusts](#)

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# Local Authority Boundaries



# CCG Boundaries



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# Health Scrutiny Regulations

## Health and Social Care Act 2012

- Patients and public at centre of health services
- Role of democratically elected Members to voice health concerns of constituents
- Health scrutiny powers given to local authorities with social services responsibilities - planning, provision and operation of health services in their area
- Local authorities' role to scrutinise issues of wider concern to local people
- Focus on improving health and reducing health inequalities

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# Powers of a Health Scrutiny Committee

- Role as official consultee on “substantial variations and developments”
- Require an officer of an NHS body to come before scrutiny and answer questions
- Make reports and recommendations to NHS bodies (no power to make decisions or require others to act)
- Co-opt members to the Committee
- Delegate powers to other authorities
- Set up joint committees
- Referral to Secretary of State
- No power to visit

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# Health Bodies'- statutory duties

- Provide information to the Health Scrutiny Committee (some exemptions)
- Make arrangements for officers to come before scrutiny to answer questions (given reasonable notice)
- Consult the Health Scrutiny Committee on proposals for substantial developments and variations (some exemptions)
- Where requested, respond in writing to reports or recommendations in 28 days
- Consult and involve patients and public in the planning, provision and operation of health services and report on this

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# Health Scrutiny arrangements in Staffordshire

## County level

Health matters that concern the whole or large parts of the county

- Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 21 Councillors – (13 County + 8 District/Borough)

## District/Borough level

Health matters of local concern within their area Committee dealing with health scrutiny

Various arrangements – 1 County Councillor

## Code of joint working with local authorities and NHS bodies

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# Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- Additional responsibility – County Council corporate priority and adult social care
- Responding independently to health related consultations
- Joint work with other scrutiny committees
- Regional health scrutiny
- Work programme planning, co-ordination and delivery
- Role of Chair, Vice-Chairs and members – relationship management and reporting arrangements
- Supporting Health Scrutiny Officers' Group

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# Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny work

- Asking questions of NHS bodies, Cabinet Members (and interested parties) on matters of interest to members and their local communities
- Challenging progress with improving performance in respect of health and wellbeing outcomes
- Responding to consultation
- Undertaking in-depth reviews of specific matters
- Being involved in developing the approach to scrutiny – training and development
- Realistic and deliverable

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# Training and Development

## Immediate training and support needs

- Individual induction
- Questioning skills

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