Subject: Accident and Emergency Care in London

Report to: Health Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 9 December 2015

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

1.1 This report sets out background information and context to the discussion on Accident and Emergency (A&E) Care in London that Members will have with expert guests at today’s meeting.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee notes this report as background to putting questions to invited guests on Accident and Emergency Care in London, and notes the discussion.

2.2 That the Committee notes the scoping paper for the Committee’s review of Accident and Emergency Care in London, attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

3. Background

3.1 At its meeting on 20 October 2015, the Committee agreed to delegate authority to the Chair, in consultation with the Deputy Chair, to agree the topic, scope and terms of reference for the main topic at the December meeting of the Committee. The Chair agreed that the topic for this meeting would be A&E Care in London. The agreed scoping paper is attached at Appendix 1.

4. Issues for Consideration

Remit of the discussion

4.1 This evidence session will examine the current pressures facing A&E services in London, and examine how to maintain equality of access to A&E services in London within the context of the wider strain on urgent and emergency care across the NHS. The meeting will receive updates on service availability across London, updates on how effectively winter planning has been implemented, and workforce issues. The Committee will also seek to determine the impact of A&E reconfiguration on particular groups or geographic locations. Invited guests include representatives from:
5. **Legal Implications**

5.1 The Mayor of London’s statutory responsibilities in relation to health matters, as set out in the Greater London Authority (GLA) Act 1999, are to develop a strategy which sets out “proposals and policies for promoting the reduction of health inequalities between persons living in Greater London”. The GLA Act 1999 defines health inequalities as inequalities between persons living in Greater London “in respect of life expectancy or general state of health which are wholly or partly a result of differences in respect of general health determinants” and also goes on to define “health determinants”. The Mayor of London has no statutory role in the commissioning of any health services or health service provision.

5.2 Officers confirm that the scope for this review fall within the Committee’s terms of reference.

6. **Financial Implications**

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report:

Appendix 1 – Scoping paper for the Health Committee’s review into Accident and Emergency Care in London

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**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

List of Background Papers: None

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