

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Corporate Director for Corporate Services

To
People Scrutiny Committee

1st December 2015

Report prepared by:
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Scrutiny Committee – updates
A Part 1 Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

To update the Committee on a number of matters, as follows:

- Urological cancer surgery in Essex;
- Southend Hospital - PET CT scanner;
- Admission arrangements – sibling admission criteria;
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health service;
- Community dental services in Essex; and
- In depth scrutiny project.

2. Recommendation

That the report and any actions taken be noted.

3. Complex urological cancer surgery in Essex - update

- 3.1 The Committee will be aware that a Joint Committee has been established with Essex and Thurrock Councils to review the proposed changes to the provision of specialised urological cancer surgery in Essex. The Committee received a further brief update on issues at the meeting on 13th October 2015 (Minute 326 refers).
- 3.2 NHS England is looking to concentrate the most complex specialist surgery for prostate, bladder and kidney cancers at one centre in Essex. The purpose of the Joint Committee is to consider these proposals, particularly in relation to:
- the extent to which the proposals are in the interests of the health service in Essex, Southend and Thurrock;
 - the impact of the proposals on patient and carer experience and outcomes and on their health and well-being;
 - the quality of the clinical evidence underlying the proposals;
 - the extent to which the proposals are financially sustainable;
 - to make a response to NHS England and other appropriate agencies on the proposals, at appropriate times during the pre-tender and evaluation processes;
 - to consider and comment on the extent to which patients and the public have been involved in the development of the proposals and the extent to which their views have been taken into account.

- 3.4 The single-centre model has been agreed in principle with the five Essex Acute Trusts. NHS England has met with the Trusts and the expressions of interest /invitation to tender documentation has been formally sent out to the Trusts. This will be shared with the Joint Committee
- 3.5 As part of the communications strategy, there are some planned public information events and details will be shared when available. At this stage it is anticipated that the Joint Committee will meet again in January and mid- March 2016. The Committee is asked to note this update.

4. Other matters

4.1 Southend Hospital – at the last meeting, the Committee was advised about proposals to move the PET CT service to the existing fixed scanner at Southend Hospital (Minute 326 refers). The Committee resolved to support the proposals by NHS England to move the PET-CT service to the existing fixed scanner at Southend Hospital, as it offers the best long term benefits for patients and the future of the PET-CT service and to support the timescale for implementation.

4.1.1 The matter was considered at the Thurrock and Essex Scrutiny Committee meeting on 13th and 14th October 2015 and unfortunately took a different position. NHS England have therefore not taken a decision on the future location of the scanner and are undertaking some further clinical and stakeholder engagement. A briefing paper on the matter is attached at **Appendix 1.**

4.2 School admission arrangements – sibling admission criteria – at the last meeting, the Committee considered the proposed admission arrangements for community schools (Minute 321 refers).

4.2.1 In response to questions on the sibling admission criteria, the Corporate Director for People said that the matter would be taken to the School Places Working Party for further investigation, to take a view on the extent of the problem over the last year and if this justifies the need to consult on any change.

4.2.2 The School Places Working Party met on 21st October 2015 and the Council's Strategic Lead for School Place Planning and Capital presented information on admission arrangements for community schools 2013 – 2015 which highlights that the issue seems to be around out of catchment area siblings. Based on the evidence presented the Working Party felt that no change was necessary and noted the position. The Working Party also agreed to keep a 'watching brief' on this issue.

4.3 Emotional wellbeing and mental health service - at the last meeting, the Committee was advised that from the beginning of November, NELFT became the new provider across Essex for all Emotional & Wellbeing and Mental Health Services (EWMHS) (Minute 326 refers). An information booklet and a copy of the stakeholder presentation was circulated to members on 13th November and a copy placed in the members work room. It is also suggested that it would be useful to invite NELFT to give a presentation at a separate, all member briefing.

4.4 Community Dental services in Essex – a briefing paper on this issue from NHS England is attached at **Appendix 2** which the Committee is asked to note.

5. In depth scrutiny project

- 5.1 At the last meeting, the Committee agreed the project plan for the in depth project for the current municipal year would be on the following topic – ‘Transition arrangements from children’s to adult services’ (Minute 326 refers).
- 5.2 The project is Chaired by Councillor Folkard and the project team will meet again on 26th November. A further meeting will be held in January to finalise arrangements for the witness session which will take place on 24th February 2016. The Committee is asked to note the update.

6. Corporate Implications

- 6.1 Contribution to Council’s Vision and Critical Priorities – Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation.
- 6.2 Financial Implications – There are no financial implications arising from the contents of this report. The cost of the Joint Committee work can be met from existing resources.
- 6.3 Legal Implications – Where an NHS body consults more than one local authority on a proposal for substantial development of the health service or a substantial variation in the provision of such a service, those authorities are required to appoint a joint committee for the purposes of the consultation. Only that joint committee may - make comments on the proposal to the NHS body; require the provision of information about the proposal; require an officer of the NHS body to attend before it to answer questions in connection with the proposal.
- 6.4 People Implications – none.
- 6.5 Property Implications – none.
- 6.6 Consultation – as described in report.
- 6.7 Equalities Impact Assessment – none.
- 6.8 Risk Assessment – none.

7. Background Papers

None

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 – PET – CT scanner - update from NHS England

Appendix 2 – community dental services in Essex - update from NHS England