

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Health & Wellbeing Board – 3rd December 2014

Question from Mr Ali to the Chairman

Question

Can the Board provide the number of GP Practices among Southend's 36 GP Practices that have been inspected by the Health Regulator, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and whether it is satisfied with the outcomes of these inspections?

Answer

The following practices have been inspected by the CQC:

- Doctors Verghese and Khan;
- The Victoria Surgery;
- Dr Bhattacharjee;
- St Luke's Health Centre;
- Dr Irlam and partners;
- Dr Kongar (practice closing on 30th November 2014);
- Dr Latif-Puri;

Of those visited, all practices have now been judged as compliant with CQC standards.

Based on the information the Board has before it in respect of the GP Practices that have been visited and inspected by the CQC, the Board is satisfied with the outcomes of the CQC inspections.

I would highlight that the CQC is currently undertaking further inspections in the Southend area under its new inspection regime. The practices which have been visited are listed on the CQC website as follows (however no reports are yet available):-

- Queensway Surgery;
- Victoria Surgery;
- Dr Bhattacharjee;
- Dr Velmurugan;
- Dr Shah;
- The Practice Northumberland Avenue;
- Doctors AA Khan and Marasco

Question 2 from Mr Ali to the Chairman

Question 2

With both Southend CCG and SUHFT experiencing budget deficits and SUHFT having to close its Minor Surgery Ward and in view of the Minister of Health, Jeremy Hunt, calling for more huge future savings in the NHS budget, what prospects does the Board believe there are for Southend CCG and SUHFT being able to deliver a comprehensive healthcare system for the people of Southend in the Future?

Answer

There continue to be financial challenges across the NHS, and in Southend we are meeting these challenges through a number of different schemes. Local health organisations continue to look at ways that partnership working can create both financial efficiencies and benefits for patients. We are focussing on key priorities for the people of the borough whilst promoting important messages to the local population. These include advice on how to best manage their own health and wellbeing, and which NHS services are available to them in their own community. We continue to engage with local people and groups to ensure we are making the right decisions and putting NHS resources where they will do the most good.

Southend Hospital has not closed a minor surgery ward. To improve patients' experience and provide the best environment for their care, the trust recently reconfigured a number of its wards resulting in the creation of a single elective admissions area for patients. The changes will ensure that patients continue to receive high quality care in the right location and allow the hospital to use beds in the most efficient way to improve each patients' journey.

A key priority of the Board is to ensure that a quality system of health and social care continues to be provided for all residents. In view of significant ongoing challenges, partners continue to work closely together to ensure that services are both sustainable and responsive to the needs of local people.