

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Corporate Director for Corporate Services

to

People Scrutiny Committee

14th October 2014

Report prepared by:
Fiona Abbott

Scrutiny Committee updates

A Part 1 Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

To update the Committee on some scrutiny matters, as follows:

- Protocols;
- CCGs co-commissioning;
- Primary Care Strategy;
- Southend Hospital;
- Pathology services;
- congenital heart disease review;
- Task & Finish Group; and
- In depth scrutiny project

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report and any actions taken be noted.
- 2.2 That the updated protocol between the Scrutiny Committee and Southend CCG and the Committee and Healthwatch Southend attached at **Appendices 1 and 2** be agreed.
- 2.3 That the draft protocol between the Scrutiny Committee and Southend Health & Wellbeing Board attached at **Appendix 3** be agreed.
- 2.4 That the Committee nominate a Member to sit on the Essex CC Health Scrutiny Committee Task & Finish Group on Complaints Handling in the NHS.

3. Protocols

- 3.1 At the meeting on 15th July 2014 the Committee agreed that the working protocols between the Scrutiny Committee and the Southend Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the Scrutiny Committee and Healthwatch Southend should be reviewed following the publication of statutory guidance (Minute 112 (b) refers). The revised protocols which are now attached at **Appendices 1 and 2** have been shared with the Southend CCG and Healthwatch Southend respectively and any further comments received from the bodies will be reported verbally at the meeting. The Committee is asked to agree the updated protocols.
- 3.2 At the same meeting, the Committee was advised that work on a protocol with the Health & Wellbeing Board would be presented to members and the draft is attached at **Appendix 3**. The draft has been shared with the Chairman of the Health &

Wellbeing Board. The Committee is asked to consider and agree the Protocol which will need to be agreed by the Board at its next meeting.

4. Other matters

- 4.1 CCGs to have option to co-commission some primary care services – at the meeting on 15th July 2014 the Committee was advised about the consultation by NHS England on an option for CCG's to co-commission some primary care in future in partnership with NHS England. (Minute 112 (d) refers). The CCG was asked for an update about the process and implications locally.

In July Dr Husselbee, Clinical Chief Officer at the CCG, provided some further information regarding this issue, including a short survey for completion by stakeholders, and this was forwarded to the Committee. An information sheet about co-commissioning is also attached at **Appendix 4**.

- 4.2 Essex Primary Care Strategy – NHS England Essex Area Team is co-producing a new primary care strategy for the 7 Essex CCGs. A copy of the latest draft of the Strategy can be found - [here](#)

Members may wish to invite the CCG to attend a future meeting to discuss their specific plans for primary care.

- 4.3 Information on number of patient complaints relating to access to a GP – on behalf of the Committee NHS England / Southend CCG has been approached for information on the number of patient complaints to access a GP for Southend.

- 4.4 Southend Hospital – at the meeting on 15th July 2014, the Committee discussed the ongoing issues around the A&E service and asked that Jacqueline Totterdell, Chief Executive at the Trust be invited to a meeting to provide an update.

At the beginning of September, the Chairman met Ms Totterdell and discussed the recent performance of the Accident & Emergency Care targets and that the Trust is meeting its targets. During the meeting Ms Totterdell made an offer for scrutiny members to visit the hospital and said that she would be happy to facilitate this. This offer will be followed up with the Trust.

The Committee will note (see an earlier agenda item) that the Chief Operating Officer at the Hospital Trust, Jon Findlay and Dr Caroline Howard, A&E Consultant will be attending the meeting to provide an update on A&E performance issues.

- 4.5 Pathology Joint Venture – Southend Hospital has entered into a joint venture agreement with Basildon Hospital and Integrated Pathology Partnerships for the provision of Pathology Services – further details are attached at **Appendix 5**.

- 4.6 New Congenital Heart Disease review – NHS England, as the body responsible for commissioning specialised congenital heart services, is undertaking a national review of congenital heart services for children and adults – see [here](#)

The review will consider the whole lifetime pathway and its aims are:

- *securing the best outcomes for all patients, not just lowest mortality but reduced disability and an improved opportunity for survivors to lead better lives;*

- *tackling variations so that services across the country consistently meet demanding performance standards and are able to offer resilient 24/7 care; and*
- *improving patient experience, including how information is provided to patients and their families, and consideration of access and support for families when they have to be away from home.*

Further information about the review will be provided to the Committee when it becomes available.

- 4.7 Complaints Handling in NHS – The Essex CC Health Scrutiny Committee have recently agreed to set up a Task & Finish Group to review accessibility to, and effectiveness of, the current complaints handling processes at acute trusts in Essex. We have been approached to nominate a Committee Member to sit on the Group. The next meeting of the Group is being planned for mid-late October and the Group expects to report within 3-4 months with, probably, two commitments anticipated per month during that time.

5. In depth scrutiny project

- 5.1 At the meeting on the 15th July, the Committee agreed that its in depth project for the current municipal year would be on the following topic – How the Council assists and excites individuals and community groups to achieve healthier lifestyles (Minute 113 refers).
- 5.2 The Committee is asked to note the draft project plan attached at **Appendix 6**. The project team will be meeting on 10th November 2014 to finalise arrangements for the review.

6. Corporate Implications

- 6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision and Critical Priorities – Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation.
- 6.2 Financial Implications – none.
- 6.3 Legal Implications – none.
- 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

Email to scrutiny cttee members regarding co-commissioning of some primary care services – 24th July 2014

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 – protocol - CCG

Appendix 2 – protocol – Healthwatch Southend

Appendix 3 – protocol - HWB

Appendix 4 – information sheet on co-commissioning

Appendix 5 – information on Pathology Joint Venture

Appendix 6 – draft project plan