

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

13

Report of Corporate Director for Corporate Services

to

People Scrutiny Committee

28th January 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 some scrutiny matters, as follows:

- Special Dental Service;
- Minor Oral Surgery procedures;
- Tier 3 Weight Management;
- Potential change to specialised urological cancer surgery in Essex;
- Information from Southend Hospital – Accident & Emergency; and
- Update on in depth scrutiny project.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the report and any actions taken be noted.
- 2.2 That three Councillors from the Scrutiny Committee be appointed to sit on the Joint Committee looking at specialised urological cancer surgery in Essex.

3. Issues

- 3.1 Special Dental Service – in December 2014 further information was received from NHS England, Essex Area Team about the procurement of an Essex wide community dental service. The briefing paper received on this matter, together with a response to some further information, is attached at **Appendix 1**. This information was circulated to Members of the Committee on 6th January 2015, requesting comments on the proposals. Some feedback was received and the following response has now been sent to NHS England:

- *The proposals should be welcomed and it is positive that all the elements in the current contract will be retained and the additional clinics is also positive.*
- *The scoping document should specifically identify Southend as being one of the necessary locations for clinics.*
- *Considering the patient group involved, actual parking facilities should be a minimum requirements at the clinics.*
- *Do the proposals reflect the needs of carers and people who lack capacity to consent to serious medical treatment (e.g. anaesthetic)?*

- *Unsure how the commissioning intention will address the general anaesthetic issue (that of people waiting for treatment). Theatre session availability at the hospital is the problem. Existing service is very good, except for bariatric and emergency domiciliary provision which could be improved without a major overhaul of commissioning.*
- 3.2 Minor Oral Surgery procedures – NHS England, Essex Area Team is responsible for commissioning primary and secondary care dental services in Essex – a briefing paper on this matter is attached at **Appendix 2**. NHS England have been contacted requesting information about the locations of the services in the south east Essex locality area. The Committee will be kept informed on this matter.
 - 3.3 Tier 3 Weight Management update – a briefing note from NHS England is attached at **Appendix 3** which the Committee is asked to note.
 - 3.4 Potential change to specialised urological cancer surgery in Essex – the Scrutiny officer has recently been contacted about this potential change – but as yet specific details have not been received. As this will potentially require the formation of a Joint Committee with Southend, Essex and Thurrock Scrutiny Committees, it is recommended that 3 Councillors from the People Scrutiny are nominated to sit on the Joint Committee.
 - 3.5 Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust – Accident & Emergency – at the meeting in December 2014 (Minute 434 refers), Members asked for updated A&E performance data. This information is attached at **Appendix 4**. The Committee is asked to note the information and consider how it would like to proceed bearing in mind the significant winter pressures being placed on the A&E services at present.

4. In depth scrutiny project

- 4.1 'How the Council assists and excites individuals and community groups to achieve healthier lifestyles' - The project team met again on 12th January 2015 to finalise plans for the main evidence gathering session for the in depth project. This will take place on Friday 6th February 2015 and will be held in a committee room, here at the civic centre. The programme for the event is attached at **Appendix 5** which the Committee is asked to note.
- 4.2 The study is focusing on people aged 19 and over and is considering what role the Council and its key partners, including the voluntary sector, can play to support more local people to lead healthier lifestyles. Central to the aims of the study is gaining a better understanding of the impact of health inequalities in the Borough and the relationship between disadvantage and negative lifestyle behaviours including obesity, smoking, alcohol misuse and lower levels of physical activity. The evidence gathering day with invited witnesses will be key to helping understand the relationship and will be able to get a first-hand understanding of the things that are working well within the Borough and identify issues where we need to do things differently.

5. Corporate Implications

- 5.1 Contribution to Council's Vision and Critical Priorities – Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation.
- 5.2 Financial Implications – There are no financial implications arising from the contents of this report.
- 5.3 Legal Implications – none.
- 5.4 People Implications – none.
- 5.5 Property Implications – none.
- 5.6 Consultation – as described in report.
- 5.7 Equalities Impact Assessment – none.
- 5.8 Risk Assessment – none.

6. Background Papers

- Email to scrutiny cttee members re Special dental Service – 6th January 2015
- Email to NHS England requesting further information re minor oral procedure – 17th December 2014 and 15th January 2015

7. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Briefing - Special dental service and response

Appendix 2 – Briefing - procurement of minor oral surgery procedures

Appendix 3 – Tier 3 Weight Management

Appendix 4 - A&E performance data

Appendix 5 - programme for scrutiny event