

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

13

Report of Corporate Director for Corporate Services

to

People Scrutiny Committee

14th April 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:

- Care Quality Commission;
- Tier 3 Weight Management;
- Urological cancer surgery in Essex; and
- Primary care strategy.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the report and any actions taken be noted.
- 2.2 That two Councillors (and one substitute) be confirmed as the representatives to sit on the Joint Committee looking at specialised urological cancer surgery in Essex. The representatives will report back on progress and any recommendations.

3. Issues

- 3.1 Care Quality Commission and Scrutiny – the Care Quality Commission (CQC) has recently launched a series of guides to encourage better information sharing and partnership working between Scrutiny Committees, local Councillors and CQC inspection teams across England. A copy of the guide – ‘CQC and council scrutiny – working together: a guide for Councillors’ – is available on the CQC website www.cqc.org.uk and a copy is available on this link [CQC and council scrutiny guide](#)

There are plans to hold an Essex wide event with Councillors and further information will be provided when available.

- 3.2 Tier 3 Weight Management update – a briefing note from health is attached at **Appendix 1** which the Committee is asked to note.
- 3.3 Urological cancer surgery in Essex – Members will recall that at the January meeting of the Committee, three Members were appointed to sit on a Joint Committee which could be required to consider the issue (Minute 602 refers). The Councillors appointed were – Councillors Crystall, Salter and Davies. Some further information about the issue has now been received from NHS England, as set out below.
- 3.3.1 Urological cancers include a range of tumours with different presentations including: Prostate cancer, Bladder cancer and Kidney cancer.

3.3.2 The NICE Improving Outcomes Guidance (IOG) now recommends a minimum catchment population for teams delivering specialist urology care as one million. The minimum catchment population for some other specialist cancer treatments can be even higher. The size of catchment populations is estimated to provide at least a minimum viable surgical case load for the respective teams involved to maintain clinical expertise and maximise patient outcomes. Specialised urological cancer surgery is currently provided by both Southend and Colchester Hospitals. Proposed changes to the specification for the future provision of this service in Essex, as a result of the NICE Guidance above, means that NHS England will be looking for just one specialist surgical centre for each cancer. As this impacts pan-Essex (i.e. includes Essex and Thurrock), in discussion with Scrutiny colleagues at Essex CC and Thurrock Council, it is proposed to establish a Joint HOSC involving all three local authorities to review and input into stakeholder consultation on proposed arrangements.

3.3.3 Essex CC HOSC is meeting on 1st April and are recommending that 2 of their members are appointed to serve on the Joint Committee. Thurrock Council HOSC is meeting in April and will recommend the same.

3.3.4 It is recommended to formally establish a Joint Committee with Essex and Thurrock to review proposed changes to the provision of specialised urological cancer surgery in Essex being proposed by NHS England.

3.3.5 As the Committee has already made nominations to this Joint Committee it is proposed that the nominations be confirmed, subject to one of the names being the designated substitute. The representatives will report back on progress and any recommendations.

3.4 Essex Primary Care Strategy – Members will recall that representatives from the CCG attended December meeting of the Scrutiny Committee and provided an update on the Essex Primary Care Strategy (Minute 430 refers). The CCG have been approached to provide a brief update and this will be circulated to Members when available.

4. Corporate Implications

4.1 Contribution to Council's Vision and Critical Priorities – Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation.

4.2 Financial Implications – There are no financial implications arising from the contents of this report.

4.3 Legal Implications – none.

4.4 People Implications – none.

4.5 Property Implications – none.

4.6 Consultation – as described in report.

4.7 Equalities Impact Assessment – none.

4.8 Risk Assessment – none.

5. Background Papers

- CQC Scrutiny Guide - email from CQC 17th March 2015
- Information from NHS England re urological cancer services review

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Briefing - Tier 3 Weight Management