

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

12

Report of Corporate Director for Corporate Services

to

People Scrutiny Committee

14th July 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:

- Health scrutiny role;
- Urological cancer surgery in Essex;
- Changes to Constitution;
- Essex Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee;
- Care Quality Commission (CQC);
- Quality Accounts;
- Special meeting on 7th September 2015;
- Healthwatch Southend; and
- Health profile.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report and any actions taken be noted.
- 2.2 That the Terms of Reference of the Joint Committee with Essex and Thurrock to review proposed changes to the provision of specialised urological cancer surgery in Essex be agreed.
- 2.3 To recommend to Council to agree minor changes to the Terms of Reference of the Scrutiny Committees as set out in **Appendix 2** and that paragraph 5.3 of Part 3 Schedule 2, of the Constitution be amended accordingly.
- 2.4 To recommend to Council to agree some minor amendments to Part 2 - Article 6 and Part 4 (e) (Scrutiny Procedure Rules) of the Constitution, as set out in **Appendices 3 & 4**.

3. Health scrutiny role

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is responsible for the following areas:
 - All Child and Adult Education
 - Youth Services
 - Children's Social Services
 - Adult Social Services

- Public Health
- Commissioning/Procurement for Children, Adults and Public Health, and
- Health scrutiny role (conferred by the Health & Social Care Act 2012)

Membership of the Committee also includes the statutory co-optees and other co-optees.

3.2 A Briefing Paper providing information specifically on health scrutiny and the health system locally has recently been sent to members of the Committee. The Committee has agreed protocols in place with Healthwatch Southend, NHS Southend CCG and the Health & Wellbeing Board. These can be found on the Council website¹ and by clicking on this link - [Protocols](#)

3.3 Elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting is information on the range of work undertaken by the Scrutiny Committees during 2014 / 15.

4. **Joint Committee - Urological cancer surgery in Essex**

4.1 A Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny 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 following Members were appointed at the Council meeting on 21st May 2015 – Councillors M Betson and L Davies (substitute – Councillor C J Nevin) (Minute 12 refers).

4.2 The Scrutiny Committee has previously received information about this matter (Minute 602, meeting on 28th January 2015 and Minute 811 meeting on 14th April 2015). A detailed briefing paper note was circulated to the Committee on 22nd May 2015.

4.3 An informal briefing by NHS England for Members from Essex, Thurrock and Southend Councils was held on 8th June 2015 to learn more about the proposal and to give the opportunity to feed-in to the Joint Committees more detailed deliberations. 6 Southend Councillors were able to attend the session and ask detailed questions.

4.4 The Joint Committee will meet on 13th July at County Hall, Chelmsford. The papers for the meeting are available electronically on our website². The terms of reference for the Joint Committee will be considered at the meeting, along with the work programme. The terms of reference will be tabled at the Scrutiny Committee meeting for agreement.

4.5 Constitutional changes – it is an opportune moment to recommend to Council to make some minor changes to the Scrutiny Committees in paragraph 5.3 of Part 3, Schedule 2 of the Constitution, as set out in **Appendix 2**. It is also proposed that some other minor changes are made to the Constitution to tidy up references to Healthwatch Southend and that Part 2 - Article 6 and also Part 4 (e) (Scrutiny Procedure Rules) be amended as set out in **Appendices 3 and 4**.

¹ https://www.southend.gov.uk/downloads/download/456/information_about_scrutiny_at_southend

² http://www.southend.gov.uk/downloads/download/372/joint_scrutiny

5. Other matters

- 5.1 Essex Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) – the Committee is asked to note that Essex HOSC have invited representatives from Southend Hospital to their next meeting on the morning of 29th July. Members of the Committee are most welcome to attend if they are able. Further information about the meeting will be provided in due course.
- 5.2 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 still plans to hold an Essex wide event with Councillors and further information will be provided when available.
- 5.3 Draft Quality Accounts 2014/15 – the Scrutiny Committee, as a statutory consultee is invited to comment on the draft Quality Accounts received from health bodies. The draft Quality Accounts from SEPT and Southend Hospital were received in early May. The documents were shared with the then Chairman and Vice Chairman and in view of the timescales for a response; both Trusts were advised that the Scrutiny Committee was unable to submit a formal response.
- 5.4 Special meeting of Committee – a special meeting of the Scrutiny Committee has been arranged for Monday 7th September 2015 @ 18.00. It has been agreed that the following matters will be considered at this meeting:-
- a) St Luke’s Walk-In Centre consultation;
 - b) Health Services in Shoebury; and
 - c) Brief update on Primary Care Strategy.
- 5.5 Healthwatch Southend – the Committee is asked to note that the Healthwatch Southend Annual Report 2014/15 has recently been published and can be accessed on the following link – [Healthwatch Southend AR](#)
- 5.6 Health Profile 2015 – the latest health profiles have been published by Public Health England³. A copy of the health profile for Southend-on-Sea has been placed in the members work room.

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

³ <http://www.apho.org.uk/default.aspx?RID=49802>

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**

- Health scrutiny briefing – email to scrutiny cttee members on 1st June 2015
- Urological cancer surgery- email to scrutiny cttee members on 22nd May 2015 and subsequent reminder / follow up emails to attendees
- CQC Scrutiny Guide - email to scrutiny cttee members on 11th June 2015

8. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Terms of Reference of the Joint Committee with Essex and Thurrock to review proposed changes to the provision of specialised urological cancer surgery in Essex (**TO BE TABLED**)

Appendix 2 – Proposed change to the terms of reference of the Scrutiny Committees in Part 3 Schedule 2 to the Constitution.

Appendix 3 – Proposed change to Part 2 - Article 6 to the Constitution.

Appendix 4 – Proposed change to Part 4 (e) (Scrutiny Procedure Rules) to the Constitution.