

Summary Report to Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee 12th October 2017

At the Council meeting in May 2015, Council agreed to make it a requirement that the Council nominee(s) to four specific outside bodies shall submit summary reports to the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee. The specific bodies identified were: -

- Essex Fire Authority
- Southend University Hospital - NHS Foundation Trust
- Essex Police and Crime Panel
- Kent & Essex Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority

In your response, please indicate which Group / Body this report relates to.

Notes:-

- *Where there is more than one nominee, a joint report shall be submitted.*
- *Council has agreed that updates shall be submitted to every other ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.*

Last update January 2017

Name of Group / Body:- Southend University Hospital – NHS Foundation Trust

Update on Key Issues

Future of A & E services

This year has been dominated by concerns over the future of Southend Hospital's A & E Department. Although emergency care provision forms just one element of the Mid & South Essex Sustainable Transformation Plan (STP), everything else has been eclipsed by the A & E issues. The long gestation of the STP has not helped either: the timetable for publication and formal consultation has kept slipping and this added to the uncertainty. Southend Hospital governors have had regular briefings and opportunities to question and challenge members of the Hospital Trust Board, but many questions have remained unanswered because elements of the STP were still under discussion and/or unresolved. In July it was announced that there would be no change to A & E designation at the three hospitals (Basildon, Southend & Broomfield): all three will retain a fully functional A & E 24 hours per day/7 days a week. Current indications are that the formal public consultation on the STP proposals will start by the beginning of November.

The actual consultation will be the responsibility of the Clinical Commissioning Group Joint Committee.

Review of 2016/17

The Southend Hospital Foundation NHS Trust AGM took place on 20th September 2017. Key points included:

- Formal collaboration between Southend, Basildon and Chelmsford Hospital Trusts with the establishment a Joint Executive Board and appointment of joint Chief Executive and Executive Team
- Benefits of collaboration starting to be seen.
- Significant improvements in financial position – targets set by NHS England met
- Relentless pressure on hospital services has continued: A & E attendances up by 3% from previous year, 263 black alert days in 2016/17 (highest alert level) compared to 85 in 2015/16

Person / Persons Making Response:

Councillor Meg Davidson

Date: 30th September 2017