

# Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

**Agenda**

Item No.

**Report of Chief Executive  
to  
Special People Scrutiny Committee**

**On 18th October 2017**

Report prepared by:  
Fiona Abbott

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**Mid and South Essex  
Sustainability and Transformation Partnership  
A Part 1 Agenda Item**

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## **1. Purpose of Report**

To update the Committee on Mid and South Essex Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (previously referred to as a 'Plan') and scrutiny following the special Scrutiny Committee meeting in September.

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 To consider the progress report on the development of the Mid and South Essex STP and the plans for public consultation as set out in the briefing paper at **Appendix 2.**
- 2.2 That authority be given to the principle of establishing a Joint Scrutiny Committee with Essex Council.
- 2.3 To support an invitation to Thurrock Council to join the new Joint Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.4 To approve in principle the working draft terms of reference for the Joint Scrutiny Committee, as set out at **Appendix 3.**
- 2.5 That four Councillors (and two substitutes) from the Scrutiny Committee be appointed to sit on the Joint Scrutiny Committee.

## **3. Background**

- 3.1 At the special meeting of the Scrutiny Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 the Committee had before it an update progress report regarding the emerging Mid and South Essex Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). The report was asking for agreement to the setting up of a Joint Scrutiny Committee with Essex and Thurrock Councils.
- 3.2 At the meeting the Committee also received an update briefing which advised that the Success Regime was intending to bring details for its planned engagement to the Scrutiny Committee by the end of September. A copy of the Minute is attached at **Appendix 1.**
- 3.3 The Scrutiny Committee resolved that agreement to the establishment of the Joint Committee with Essex and Thurrock Councils should be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee, or when the draft consultation document and plan

has been forwarded to the Committee for consideration. It was also agreed that NHS England be invited to attend the meeting when this matter is considered.

- 3.4 NHS England have now provided information on details and will be attending the meeting. An update briefing was circulated by email to the Committee on 3<sup>rd</sup> October and a copy is attached at **Appendix 2**. At the meeting, NHS England will be seeking the Committees views and advice prior to the formal consultation stage on the proposed consultation plan and any recommendations the Committee has on the formal consultation process.

This will be a significant consultation and there are still a number of steps needed to meet this timescale.

- 3.5 At its conclusion the paper requests that –
- *'The Committee is asked to consider this paper and the outline of our proposed consultation plan. We are keen to work with officers and members to take on board the advice of the Committee and ensure a meaningful consultation process for local people.*
  - *In particular we invite your view on how the Committee wishes to be involved during October, prior to the launch of consultation and as part of the analysis and decision-making process following the outcome of consultation.*
  - *We request that the Committee responds with a view on the consultation plan and any recommendations for further action.'*

#### **4. Joint Committee**

- 4.1 As set out in the report to the special meeting in September, over recent months there have been discussions with colleagues at Essex and Thurrock Councils with regard to the possibility of forming a Joint Committee to scrutinise the implementation of the Mid and South Essex STP Success Regime, and how it would meet the needs of the local populations in Essex, Southend & Thurrock.
- 4.2 The Joint Committee will act as the mandatory Joint Committee in the event that an NHS body is required to consult on a substantial variation or development in service that could affect the patients in the three local authority areas. It will comprise Members from the three component local authorities and consideration will need to be given to its political proportionality.
- 4.3 It is recommended that four Councillors from the People Scrutiny are nominated to sit on the Joint Committee and that two substitutes are also appointed. It would seem sensible if the Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee is one of the nominations.
- 4.4 This Committee has been supportive of the need for joint working with neighbouring local authorities, and clearly within the regulations there is a requirement to establish a Joint Committee for service reconfigurations that cut across more than one area if so requested by the NHS. The recent example of joint working between Essex, Southend & Thurrock is a review of urological cancer services. Essex and Southend also worked together in 2016 on another specialist commissioning issue (Thurrock choosing not to participate in that Joint Committee).

- 4.5 Following the helpful discussion and debate at the meeting in September, the possible terms of reference have been redrafted and are attached at **Appendix 3**<sup>1</sup>.

## **5. Current position on joint working**

- 5.1 Thurrock Health & Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee held a meeting on 7 September 2017 and considered the issue of joint working. Thurrock has concerns over the creation of this Joint Committee and resolved that officers would explore the most appropriate way for the three authorities to co-ordinate their approach to the STP.
- 5.2 Essex Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee will be considering this matter at their meeting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October. The report relating to this item can be found on this [link](#). The recommendation is to approve the establishment of the Joint Committee as described in this report.

## **6. Corporate Implications**

- 6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision and Critical Priorities – becoming an excellent 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 – the Scrutiny Committee exercises the health scrutiny function as set out in relevant legislation.
- 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 sent to Cttee – 2<sup>nd</sup> October regarding special meeting arrangements

## **8. Appendix**

**Appendix 1 – Minute 303 – People Scrutiny Committee 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**Appendix 2 – Briefing**

**Appendix 3 - updated draft terms of reference for Joint Committee**

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<sup>1</sup> Note – the terms of reference are a working draft