

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Strategic Director
(Legal and Democratic Services)

To

People Scrutiny Committee

On

29th January 2019

Report prepared by: Fiona Abbott

Scrutiny Committee - updates

Part 1 (Public Agenda Item)

1. Purpose of Report

To update the Committee on a number of scrutiny matters.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report and any actions taken be noted.
- 2.2 That the updated protocols between the Scrutiny Committee and NHS Southend CCG, Healthwatch Southend and the Health & Wellbeing Board attached at **Appendices 1, 2 and 3** be noted.
- 2.3 To note the updated referral letter sent to the Secretary of State for Health & Social Care on 15th January 2019, attached at **Appendix 4**.

3. Protocols

- 3.1 At the People Scrutiny Committee meeting in January 2017, the Committee agreed updated working protocols between the Scrutiny Committee and the Southend Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the Scrutiny Committee and Healthwatch Southend and the Scrutiny Committee and the Health & Wellbeing Board.
- 3.2 The protocols have now been updated slightly and are attached at **Appendices 1, 2 and 3**. They are available on the website via the following link <https://democracy.southend.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13131&path=0>
- 3.3 The changes from previous versions are minor in content (formatting, correcting job title etc.) and have been shared with relevant partners.
- 3.4 There are also other documents of interest to the Committee on the website at the above link, including the Scrutiny Guide, health scrutiny briefing and monitoring of previous in depth scrutiny projects.

4. In depth scrutiny project - update

- 4.1 The Committee's in depth project for this year is – *'In the context of the vision for Southend 2050, what is the vision of young people which improves their lives, and what are the pathways to achieve this ambition'*.
- 4.2 The project team met on 8th November 2018, held 2 workshops on 21st and 22nd November 2018 and a witness session on 6th December 2018 with invited stakeholders, as outlined in the agreed project plan.
- 4.3 The next project team meeting will be on 6th February 2019 to consider the interim report.

5. Other Issues

- 5.1 Membership of committee – Parent Governor Representatives – at the last meeting of the Committee it was reported that nominations had been sought for the 2 vacant parent governor positions on the Committee. Parent Governor representatives are elected by Maintained School Parent Governors in Southend¹. The representatives have voting rights on education matters only and should limit speaking to education topics and topics which have a clear link to education.

Unfortunately, the 2 nominations which were received at the end of last year were not valid and a further letter has therefore been sent to all Parent Governors at maintained Schools in the Borough.

- 5.2 Referral of Mid and South Essex Sustainability and Transformation Partnership – Your Care in the Best Place Public Consultation by the Mid and South Essex Clinical Commissioning Group's Joint Committee - update

Just before the end of last year, the Department of Health and Social Care (DOHSC) wrote to the Chairman, Councillor Nevin, about the referral made re the Mid and South Essex STP. Officers subsequently spoke with the Department and discussed the process for the Secretary of State to review the referral Scrutiny had made. We were advised that the DOHSC are not planning to consider the referral until mid-January. The DOHSC are also conscious that they are due to receive a referral from Thurrock Council and may want to consider a joint review (depending on the content of that referral).

To assist the DOHSC we have also been asked to update the referral letter slightly with some additional information, adding supporting information where required, specifically around a link to all the Committees and meetings held; and evidence that conversations were held with the CCG Joint Committee re the referral. A copy of the updated referral sent to the Secretary of State is attached at **Appendix 4** for information - please note that there is no material difference to the original referral.

¹ The statutory basis for the role can be found in 'The Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001'.

6. Corporate Implications

- 6.1 Contribution to the Southend 2050 Road Map - Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation; ensure residents have access to high quality education to enable them to be lifelong learners and have fulfilling employment, aligning to the following 2050 ambitions – active and involved, opportunity and prosperity.
- 6.2 Financial Implications - there are no financial implications arising from the contents of the report. The cost of any Joint Scrutiny 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. 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 appoint a Joint Scrutiny Committee for the purposes of the consultation.
- 6.4 People Implications – none.
- 6.5 Property Implications – none.
- 6.6 Consultation – as described in report.
- 6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications – none.
- 6.8 Risk Assessment – none.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 Notes from project team meetings.
- 7.2 Letters sent to maintained Schools in borough.

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 – protocol Southend CCG

Appendix 2 – protocol Healthwatch Southend

Appendix 3 – protocol Health & Wellbeing Board

Appendix 4 – updated referral letter