

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Corporate Director for Corporate Services

to

People Scrutiny Committee

12th April 2016

Report prepared by:
Fiona Abbott

Scrutiny Committee - updates

A Part 1 Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

To update the Committee on a number of matters, as follows:

- Urological cancer surgery in Essex;
- South Essex – NHS England and proposals for PET CT scanner;
- Prescribing of gluten free foods
- Southend LSCB Scrutiny Panel and Southend Adults Board Scrutiny Panel;
- Success Regime; and
- Quality Account.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report and any actions taken be noted.
- 2.2 That two Councillors from the Scrutiny Committee be appointed to sit on the Joint Committee looking at PET CT scanner in south Essex.
- 2.3 To recommend to Council to agree an addition to paragraph 9 of Part 3 Schedule 2 of the Constitution as set out in **Appendix 2**

3. Complex urological cancer surgery in Essex

- 3.1 The Committee will be aware that a Joint 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 Committee received a further brief update on issues at the meeting on 1st December 2015 (Minute 445 refers).
- 3.2 NHS England is looking to concentrate the most complex specialist surgery for prostate, bladder and kidney cancers at one centre in Essex. The purpose of the Joint Committee is to consider these proposals, particularly in relation to:
 - the extent to which the proposals are in the interests of the health service in Essex, Southend and Thurrock;
 - the impact of the proposals on patient and carer experience and outcomes and on their health and well-being;
 - the quality of the clinical evidence underlying the proposals;
 - the extent to which the proposals are financially sustainable;

- to make a response to NHS England and other appropriate agencies on the proposals, at appropriate times during the pre-tender and evaluation processes;
 - to consider and comment on the extent to which patients and the public have been involved in the development of the proposals and the extent to which their views have been taken into account.
- 3.3 The single-centre model has been agreed in principle with the five Essex Acute Trusts. NHS England has met with the Trusts and the expressions of interest /invitation to tender documentation has been formally sent out to the Trusts.
- 3.4 As part of the communications strategy, some planned public information events were held in January and early February. Councillors Walker, Buckley and Nevin attended the session in Southend on 25th January 2016.
- 3.5 The Joint Committee met on 9th March 2016 at County Hall, Chelmsford. The papers for the meeting are available electronically on our website. Cllr Nevin was appointed Vice Chairman of the Committee. The Committee received a detailed project update from NHS England and that two formal expressions of interest have been received from Colchester Hospital and Southend University Hospital. A further meeting is likely to be held in mid May 2016.

The Committee is asked to note this update.

4. South Essex – NHS England proposals for PET CT scanner

- 4.1 On 1st December 2015 the Committee considered the communications and engagement underway / planned by NHS England in connection with proposals for the future location of a PET CT scanner to serve the south of the county. The Committee also received written representations from clinicians based at Southend Hospital which had been sent to NHS England. (Minute 445 refers)
- 4.2 The Committee had previously supported the proposals by NHS England to move the PET CT scanner service to the existing fixed scanner at Southend Hospital as it offers the best long term benefits for patients and supported the (then) timescale for implementation (Minute 326 refers). However, Thurrock HOSC rejected the proposals and Essex HOSC asked for more engagement and information.
- 4.3 At the meeting in December, the Committee noted the revised engagement and consultation but felt that the location of the scanner should be Southend Hospital. A letter was sent to NHS England and this is attached at **Appendix 1.**
- 4.4 Following this, further communications have been received from NHS England, including further consultation events / engagement. (Copies are in members lounge). A copy of the survey available at the road show held in Southend is also in the member lounge. NHS England has also advised that a decision will not be made until after sufficient clinical, patient and public engagement has taken place.
- 4.5 A further communication from NHS England was received in early March and circulated to the Committee. The Chief Executive of Southend Hospital has also written to the Chairman on this matter.

- 4.6 As a way forward, it is proposed to establish a Joint Committee with Southend, Essex and Thurrock Scrutiny Committees. The terms of reference are to be agreed, and will focus on the engagement and governance processes. It is recommended that 2 Councillors from the People Scrutiny are nominated to sit on the Joint Committee.

5 Prescribing of gluten free foods

- 5.1 In February 2016, NHS Southend CCG provided information outlining proposed changes to the prescribing of gluten free foods, as follows:-

NHS Southend CCG (jointly with NHS Castle Point and Rochford CCG) is looking to engage with Southend residents for a three week period with a view to stopping or further restricting the prescribing of gluten free foods.

Currently patients who are diagnosed with Coeliac Disease are able to obtain gluten-free foods through prescriptions. Southend CCG currently spends approximately £80,000 per year on such prescriptions. Over 50% of this is for bread products with the remainder being for pasta, flour, cereals, cakes and biscuits. These products used to be difficult to source but are now widely available in the supermarkets and - whilst still more expensive than gluten containing products - the prices have significantly reduced.

Other CCGs both locally and nationally have either stopped the prescribing of these foods or are currently considering this course of action.

The CCG is also looking to develop an information leaflet for patients who need to have a gluten-free diet with useful tips and information.

Paul Ilett
Head of Communications and Engagement

- 5.2 The changes would affect around 250 patients in Southend-on-Sea (500 across CP&R and Southend areas) and assuming it goes ahead, an implementation date of 1st April 2016. An update response from the CCG on this matter is outstanding.

6. Southend LSCB Scrutiny Panel and Southend Adults Board Scrutiny Panel

- 6.1 Southend Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) – The Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is a statutory partnership responsible for co-ordinating and monitoring the effectiveness of safeguarding children arrangements in all agencies. The remit of the Board was extended in 2009 to include in its membership the lead member for children’s services, as a ‘participant observer’.
- 6.2 The Southend LSCB Scrutiny Panel was established in 2008. The Panel’s membership comprises 8 members of the People Scrutiny Cttee, appointed at the annual appointments Council. The Executive Councillor attends the meetings to enable him / her to operate as a well informed participant of the Board. The Panel scrutinises the papers of the upcoming Board meeting.
- 6.3 Southend Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) – the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) became a statutory partnership from April 2015, responsible for co-ordinating and monitoring the effectiveness of safeguarding adults arrangements in all agencies. The SAB works in partnership with the LSCB and Health and Wellbeing Board to provide strategic leadership across all services. It would

seem sensible for this Board to have similar scrutiny oversight arrangements and for a Panel to scrutinise it, which is something the Board has recommended. It is recommended that the remit of the existing Scrutiny Panel is widened so that a single Panel scrutinises both the LSCB and SAB.

- 6.4 It is therefore recommended to Council to make an addition to Part 3, Schedule 2 of the Constitution, as set out in **Appendix 2**.

7. Other matters

- 7.1 Independent Chair of Mid and South Essex Success regime – Dr Anita Donley has been appointed as independent chair, taking up the position from 1st April. The press release from NHS England is at **Appendix 3**¹.

The Committee is asked to note that Essex HOSC have invited Andrew Pike, NHS England to a meeting on the afternoon of 14th April 2016 to discuss the Success Regime. The Chairman & Cllr Davidson have indicated they will attend and any other Committee members are welcome to attend if they are able.

Citizen Engagement in the Success Regime – information has been circulated to Committee members regarding this event on Monday 18th April.

- 7.2 Draft Quality Report / Accounts 2015/16 – the Scrutiny Committee, as a statutory consultee is invited to comment on the draft Quality Accounts received from health bodies. In 2015, draft Quality Accounts from South Essex Partnership Trust (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.

At the meeting last July 2015, the Committee agreed that in future years, any Quality Accounts which are received should be circulated to committee members for any comments and for a submission to be sent to the Trusts in the time frame (Minute 139 refers).

SEPT have advised that they will be sending the draft Quality Account on 22nd April 2016 and the document will be circulated to the Committee as soon as it is received. There is a requirement that any comments must be received by 22nd May. Information from Southend Hospital is currently awaited.

8. Corporate Implications

- 8.1 Contribution to Council's Vision and Critical Priorities – Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation.
- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 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

¹ Latest information on the Mid and South Essex Success Regime can be found on the Success Regime webpage [here](#).

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.

8.4 People Implications – none.

8.5 Property Implications – none.

8.6 Consultation – as described in report.

8.7 Equalities Impact Assessment – none.

8.8 Risk Assessment – none.

9. **Background Papers**

- Urological cancer surgery- emails to scrutiny cttee members
- PET CT Scanner – emails to Cttee members 11th February 2016, 22nd February 2016, 16th March 2016, 18th March 2016
- Prescribing of gluten free foods – emails to members 26th February 2016, 11th March 2016

10. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – letter to NHS England

Appendix 2 – Proposed addition to Part 3 Schedule 2 to the Constitution.

Appendix 3 – Press release