

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of Chief Executive Director (Adults & Communities)

to

Cabinet

on

15th September 2020

Report prepared by: Tandra Forster

Agenda
Item No.

Mid & South Essex Health & Care Partnership MoU

People Scrutiny Committee
Cabinet Member: Councillor Harp
Part 1 (Public Agenda Item)

1. Purpose of Report

This paper presents the Mid & South Essex Health & Care Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), for the approval of the Cabinet.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Cabinet is asked to approve the Mid & South Essex Health & Care Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (attached at Appendix 2) enabling the Lead Officer to sign the MoU on behalf of the organisation.

2.2 In so doing, Cabinet acknowledges that Terms of Reference (ToR) for groups outlined in the MoU (the Health & Care Partnership Board, System Finance Leaders, Clinical and Professional Forum, etc) will be considered and approved by the Health & Care Partnership Board. All ToR will align with the principles of the MoU.

3. Background

3.1 Following discussion by the Health & Care Partnership Board and Partnership Chairs' Group, a system-wide Governance Task and Finish Group was established, chaired by Alan Tobias, to develop a memorandum of understanding to guide the work of the Health & Care Partnership.

3.2 The Task and Finish Group comprised representatives from across the system (see Appendix 1). The group met three times, to work through iterations of a MoU, building on work undertaken in Thurrock, and learning from other systems.

3.3 Partners had differing perspectives on the level of detail the MoU should provide. The MoU seeks to steer a middle path, maintaining flexibility rather than providing definitive descriptions of actions and functions in all areas,

particularly as no part of the MoU is legally binding. We have aimed to describe our intent to work in partnership.

3. PRINCIPLES

The MoU is:

- Based on an ethos that the Partnership is a **servant of the people** in Mid and South Essex.
- Seeks to ensure **collective decision-making** to **improve the health and wellbeing of our residents**.
- Has a **central principle of subsidiarity**.
- Commits to **supporting Place** as the primary planning footprint for both delivery of population health and integration of NHS, and adult and children's social care services.
- Recognises the **pivotal role of our Health and Wellbeing Boards** in setting joint health and wellbeing strategies to reduce health inequalities.
- Recognises the central role of **Local Authority Health Overview and Scrutiny** arrangements with responsibilities for holding health and care organisations to account and for scrutinizing major service changes
- Recognises the **regulatory functions of the NHS**.

This MoU is **not**:

- A legal contract. It is not intended to be legally binding and no legal obligations or legal rights shall arise between the Partners as a result of signing the MoU.
- Intended to replace or override the legal and regulatory frameworks that apply to our statutory NHS organisations and Local Authorities.

4. Other Options

As set out this MOU provides guiding principles for how the Health and Care Partnership will work together and was developed collaboratively therefore no other options were considered.

5. Reasons for Recommendations

To enable us to participate and contribute fully in the Mid and South Essex Partnership.

6. Corporate Implications

- 6.1 Contribution to the Southend 2050 Road Map – this partnership supports the delivery of 2050 and in particular Active and Involved and Safe and Well.

6.2 Financial Implications

The MOU respects subsidiarity and therefore will not create financial implications.

6.3 Legal Implications

None – the MOU respects the principle of subsidiarity and recognises that any decisions will need to be agreed through established governance of individual organisations.

6.4 People Implications

None

6.5 Property Implications

None

6.6 Consultation

None

6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

None

6.8 Risk Assessment

None

6.9 Value for Money

None

6.10 Community Safety Implications

None

6.11 Environmental Impact

None

7. Background Papers

None

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Task and Finish Group

Appendix 2 – Mid South Essex MOU