

Summary Report to Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee 25th January 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 - October 2016

Name of Group / Body:- Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust **Update on Key Issues**

Meetings attended Oct 2016 – Jan 2017

<i>27/10/16</i>	<i>Governor Development Day</i>
<i>9/11/16</i>	<i>Council of Governors</i>
<i>8/12/16</i>	<i>Trust Board Meeting (Attended as observer)</i>
<i>14/12/16</i>	<i>Council of Governors</i>
<i>4/1/17</i>	<i>Special meeting of Council of Governors</i>

The Council of Governors meetings provide the main forum where governors can raise issues with the Chairman of Trust and others. All three meetings so far have proved to be useful opportunities to ask questions and have free and frank discussions.

Governors don't have direct input into the meetings of the Trust Board, but can attend as observers, along with members of the public. I attended the morning session of the Trust Board meeting in December. Unlike the Council, which publishes agendas and meeting papers a week in advance, the Trust Board papers are only available to observers on the day of the meeting. This makes it more of a challenge to follow the proceedings but nevertheless it was useful to see the Board in action. A key role for the governors is to hold the Trusts' non-executive directors (NED's) to account and it was encouraging to see their robust questioning and challenge at the Board meeting.

The main purpose of the special Council of Governors meeting on 4th January 2017 was to approve the appointment of Clare Panniker as Chief Executive to Southend Hospital Trust and the Chief Executive Officer and Accountable Officer to the three Trusts in the Success Regime (Basildon, Mid Essex & Southend). This was immediately followed by a briefing and question and answer session with Clare Panniker and Alan Tobias, Chairman of Southend Hospital Trust.

As far as the Success Regime/Sustainable Transformation Plan is concerned, the formation of the Joint Executive Group of the three Hospital Trusts is forging ahead. The appointments to this Group have now been announced.

For the time being, the three Hospital Trusts will continue as separate entities, each retaining their existing Chairmen, non-executive directors and governors. Each Trust will have a site senior leadership team who will primarily manage the day to day matters. These local teams will be led by three managing directors who also have membership of the Joint Executive Group. The Managing Director for Southend is Yvonne Blucher, formerly Chief Nurse at Southend Hospital Trust.

Many of the questions posed at this session concerned the future of A & E services at the three hospitals. We were assured that 24/7 A & E provision would continue at all three hospital sites. Discussions with clinicians are continuing: currently the siting of the designated emergency specialist hospital is undecided. Once the proposals have been finalised, they will go out to public consultation.

Person / Persons Making Response: Councillor Meg Davidson

Date:- 13th January 2017