

Item 5: Dermatology Services

By: Peter Sass, Head of Democratic Services

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 20 July 2012

Subject: Dermatology Services

1. Background

- (a) During its discussion on its Forward Work programme on 13 April, the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee discussed informed related to the Orpington Health Services Project which had been circulated to Members.
- (b) Dermatology was identified by Members as one service which was accessed from Orpington Hospital Services by a large number of Kent residents in 2010-11. This suggested there could be value in a wider review of dermatology services in Kent with a view to answering the following strategic question:
- Is access to dermatological services adequate and equitable across Kent?
- (c) The questions submitted to NHS Kent and Medway and South London Healthcare Trust are contained in the appendix to this report.

2. Recommendation

That the Committee consider and note the report.

Appendix

(a) Questions submitted in advance to NHS Kent and Medway:

1. Please provide an overview of the kind of dermatological services available to patients within Kent and Medway at the following levels of care:
 - a. Primary Care
 - b. Intermediate Care
 - c. Secondary Care
 - d. Tertiary Care.
2. What are the latest annual figures available for the estimated total number of patients in Kent accessing dermatological services at each of the above levels of service?
3. How many of these patients access services outside of Kent and Medway, where are these services located and what level of services are provided?
4. In addition, what is being done to enable self-care where appropriate?
5. The Committee has been informed that 3,223 people from West Kent attended dermatological services at Orpington Hospital in 2010-11. What work is being done to assess the impact on access to dermatological services for Kent residents as a result of the ongoing Orpington Health Services Project?
6. What work is being done, including work being undertaken with emerging Clinical Commissioning Groups, to develop dermatology services for Kent residents now and for the future?

(b) Questions submitted in advance to South London Healthcare NHS Trust:

1. Can you provide a summary of the Orpington Health Services Project, focussing on the current provision of dermatology services and how the provision of these is likely to change?
2. What work is being undertaken with NHS Commissioners in Kent over the impact of the Orpington Health Services Project on Kent residents accessing dermatology services at Orpington Hospital?