

Item 6: East Kent Maternity Services Review: Implementation.

By: Peter Sass, Head of Democratic Services

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 4 January 2013

Subject: East Kent Maternity Services Review: Implementation.

1. Background

- (a) The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee initially received written updates on the East Kent Maternity Services Review at the meetings of 4 February 2011 and 10 June 2011.
- (b) Members heard from NHS representatives at the meeting of 22 July 2011. At this meeting the Committee agreed to examine this issue in more depth at a later meeting and that a small working group of Committee Members be established to further investigate and prepare a report for HOSC. The Members of this informal HOSC Liaison Group were Mr Nigel Collor, Mr Dan Daley, Cllr Michael Lyons and Mr Roland Tolputt.
- (c) Members of this informal HOSC Liaison Group reported back to the Committee when it further considered this subject on 9 September 2011. It was also decided that Mrs Elizabeth Green should join this Group, which would continue to liaise with the NHS on the subject.
- (d) Representatives of the NHS were invited to discuss this topic at the meeting of 14 October 2011. Members were provided with copies of the consultation document at this meeting as the consultation was launched that same day.
- (e) The consultation ran until 20 January 2012.
- (f) Further written updates were received at the meeting of 3 February and 13 April 2012. In addition, Members were able to attend an informal briefing with NHS representatives on 4 May 2012.
- (g) The Committee next discussed this issue at its meeting of 1 June 2012, to which NHS representatives were invited. The following recommendation was passed:
 - RESOLVED that the Committee note the decision to proceed with Option 1 and accepts the need to secure a safe and sustainable service, and requests an update report in nine months on the work which has been undertaken on improving access and engaging the affected communities and other ancillary issues, in discussion with the HOSC Liaison Group.

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- (h) A meeting of the HOSC Liaison Group with NHS representatives on this topic took place at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital on 5 November 2012.

2. Recommendation

That the Committee consider and note the report.