

Item 10: Dental commissioning in Kent

By: Kay Goldsmith, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 21 July 2021

Subject: Dental commissioning in Kent

Summary: This report invites the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the information provided by NHS England/ NHS Improvement South East.

It provides background information which may prove useful to Members.

1) Introduction

- a) NHS England is responsible for commissioning primary dental care services to meet local needs and priorities, managed through local area teams.
- b) Contracts are issued to independent providers based on an oral health needs assessment which identify the level of dental need for a particular community.
- c) Contracted providers fulfil a certain number of “units of dental activity” (AUDs) in return for an annual amount of money.
- d) NHS England South East have provided the attached paper which provides an overview of dental provision in Kent, including patient access. Unfortunately, no one from the organisation was available to attend today’s meeting, and any questions from the Committee will be relayed via the Clerk for a written response.

2. Recommendation

RECOMMENDED that the Committee consider and note the report.

Background Documents

None

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