

Item 6: Local provision of ophthalmology services (Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley area)

By: Kay Goldsmith, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 21 July 2021

Subject: Provision of Ophthalmology Services (Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley area)

Summary: This report invites the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the information provided by Kent and Medway CCG.

1) Introduction

- a) Ophthalmologists diagnose, treat and prevent disorders of the eyes and visual system.¹
- b) The Kent and Medway CCG has asked to attend today's meeting and update the Committee on its plans for the ongoing provision of ophthalmology services in Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley.

2) Potential Substantial Variation of Service

- a) The Committee is asked to review whether the proposed changes to ophthalmology services constitute a substantial variation of service.
- b) Where the Committee deems the proposed changes as not being substantial, this shall not prevent the HOSC from reviewing the proposed changes at its discretion and making reports and recommendations to the NHS.

3) Recommendation

If the proposed changes to ophthalmology services are *substantial*:

RECOMMENDED that:

- (a) the Committee deems the proposed changes to ophthalmology services to be a substantial variation of service.
- (b) Kent and Medway CCG be invited to attend this Committee and present an update at an appropriate meeting once the timescale has been confirmed.

¹ NHS (2021) Ophthalmology, <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/ophthalmology>

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If the proposed changes to ophthalmology services are *not substantial*:

RECOMMENDED that:

(a) the Committee does not deem the proposed changes to ophthalmology services to be a substantial variation of service.

(b) the report be noted.

Background Documents

None.

Contact Details

Kay Goldsmith
Scrutiny Research Officer
kay.goldsmith@kent.gov.uk
03000 416512