

Item 9: Maternity Services at East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust
(written update)

By: Kay Goldsmith, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 26 January 2022

Subject: Maternity Services at East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (written update)

Summary: This report invites the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the information provided by East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT).

It is a written briefing only and no guests will be present to speak on this item.

1) Introduction

- a) EKHUFT is currently subject to increased scrutiny following the performance of its Maternity Services.
- b) An Independent Investigation into East Kent Maternity Services is currently underway, led by Dr Bill Kirkup. Whilst this investigation is ongoing, there is a limit on the extent of HOSC's scrutiny, though at their meeting on 17 September 2020 the Committee agreed that an update should be provided once the final investigation report had been published. This is not due until Autumn 2022.
- c) Whilst the Committee's scrutiny is limited at this time, and it cannot investigate individual cases, the Chair has asked the Trust to provide an update on progress made to date in improving its maternity services. This is in light of recent news stories about the Trust's services in this area.

2. Recommendation

RECOMMENDED that the Committee note the update and the Trust be invited to return at an appropriate time.

Background Documents

Kent County Council (2020) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (05/03/20)*', <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=8286&Ver=4>

Kent County Council (2020) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (22/07/20)*', <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=8496&Ver=4>

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Kent County Council (2020) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (17/09/20)*',
<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=8497&Ver=4>

Care Quality Commission, East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust,
Overview and CQC inspection ratings, <https://www.cqc.org.uk/provider/RVV>

Independent Investigation into East Kent Maternity Services,
<https://iiekms.org.uk/about-the-investigation/>

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