

Item 4: Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust – Clinical Strategy – Elective Orthopaedic Services

By: Kay Goldsmith, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 11 May 2022

Subject: Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust – Clinical Strategy – Elective Orthopaedic services

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Summary: This topic of this report falls under the clinical strategy reconfiguration at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust.

The Committee has yet to determine if this proposal constitutes a substantial variation of service.

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## 1) Introduction

- a) At its meeting on 21 July 2021, the Committee received a paper about the clinical strategy reconfiguration at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust (MTW). This item falls under that reconfiguration and specifically relates to elective orthopaedic services.
- b) “Orthopaedic surgery is a specialty dealing with acute injuries, congenital and acquired disorders and chronic arthritic or overuse conditions of the bones, joints and their associated soft tissues, including ligaments, nerves and muscles.”<sup>1</sup>

## 2) Potential Substantial variation of service

- a) The Committee is asked to review whether the proposal constitutes 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Royal College of Surgeons <https://www.rcseng.ac.uk/news-and-events/media-centre/media-background-briefings-and-statistics/orthopedic-surgery/>

### **3) Recommendation**

If the proposed change to elective orthopaedic services is *substantial*:

RECOMMENDED that:

- (a) the Committee deems the proposed reconfiguration of elective orthopaedic services across Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust to be a substantial variation of service.
- (b) Kent and Medway CCG be invited to attend this Committee and present an update at the earliest opportunity.

If the proposed change to elective orthopaedic services is *not substantial*:

RECOMMENDED that:

- (a) the Committee does not deem the proposed reconfiguration of elective orthopaedic services across Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust to be a substantial variation of service.
- (b) the report be noted.

### **Background Documents**

Kent County Council (2021) 'Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (21/07/21)', <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=8758&Ver=4>

### **Contact Details**

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