

Item: NHS Kent and Medway's drive towards a greener future

By: Kay Goldsmith, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 17 July 2024

Subject: NHS Kent and Medway's drive towards a greener future

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

It provides background information which may prove useful to Members.

1) Introduction

- a) At the meeting on 7 December 2023, the Committee requested a paper about how local NHS bodies are reducing waste and becoming greener. Following the request, the Committee's Chair and Vice-Chair met the ICB's Deputy Director for Strategic Estates and Sustainability to consider how this could be taken forward.
- b) The following outline was agreed:
 - i) Setting out the NHS's drive towards sustainability.
 - ii) What NHS Kent and Medway is doing in relation to procurement and sourcing of lower carbon intensive products and services.
 - iii) A summary from the NHS Provider Trusts in Kent and Medway outlining their journeys towards Net Zero.
 - iv) Summary information from local NHS Provider Trusts about what they are doing to reduce waste generated through their clinical activities.
 - v) Information about the NHS's supply chain (an overview of how suppliers are chosen and how they are managed in terms of sustainability) and how Trusts use local suppliers wherever possible.
 - vi) A summary of what the NHS in Kent and Medway is doing to help reduce patient travel (virtual appointments for example) to include confirmation that clinicians are appropriately trained to perform virtual appointments with patients.
- c) As part of the discussion, it was agreed that representatives from South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAmb) attend to set out their journey to Net Zero.
- d) This item falls within HOSC's powers to review and scrutinise matters relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in Kent.

Item: NHS Kent and Medway's drive towards a greener future

2) Recommendation

a) RECOMMENDED that the Committee consider and note the report.

Background Documents

None.

Contact Details

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