

Item 6: East Kent Outpatients Services

By: Peter Sass, Head of Democratic Services

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 5 September 2014

Subject: East Kent Outpatients Services

Summary: This report invites the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the information provided on the East Kent Outpatients Services.

It provides additional background information which may prove useful to Members.

1. Introduction

- (a) Representatives from East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust initially attended the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7 June 2013 to discuss the Trust's developing clinical strategy.
- (b) The outpatients' strategy was one of the areas of particular focus during this meeting. The recommendation agreed by the Committee on 7 June 2013 was the following:
 - *AGREED that the Committee thanks its guests for their attendance and contributions today, agrees that the proposed changes to outpatient services and breast surgery services do represent a substantial variation of service and look forward to receiving further updates in the future; and also requests that East Kent Hospitals NHS University Foundation Trust take on board the Committee's comments regarding public consultation before the Trust takes any final decision on wider consultation.*
- (c) On 11 October 2013 the Committee considered a written update provided by East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust and NHS Canterbury and Coastal Clinical Commissioning Group. At the conclusion of this item, the Committee agreed the following recommendation:
 - *AGREED that the Committee note the report, ask the NHS to take on board the comments and questions raised by the Committee and that a small group be formed to liaise with the NHS on the draft consultation document.*
- (d) Dr M Eddy, Mr R Latchford, OBE and Councillor Michael Lyons formed a working group to read and comment on the draft consultation document.

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- (e) On 11 April 2014 the Committee considered a further written update provided by East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust and NHS Canterbury and Coastal Clinical Commissioning Group. At the conclusion of this item, the Committee agreed the following recommendation:
- *RESOLVED that the report be noted and the Chairman to write to EKUHFT to clarify the concerns raised regarding the redeployment of non-clinical staff prior to the independent analysis of the consultation.*
- (f) Miss A Harrison was invited to observe the option re-appraisal for the North Kent Coastal site on 22 April and 29 May. The re-appraisal was held following new information and comments received during the consultation and to incorporate additional information which had been requested by members of the public.
- (g) Dr M Eddy and Mr A Crowther visited Victoria Memorial Hospital in Deal on 29 April with representatives from NHS South Kent Coast CCG and Kent Community Health NHS Trust. The visit was arranged for Members to gain a better understanding of the nature of the site and the services currently provided as well as have the opportunity to hear about how commissioning plans for developing community and outpatient services on the East Kent Coast were developing.
- (h) Representatives of the Trust attended the Committee on 6 June 2014 to present the findings of the consultation and provide an update on the option appraisals for the North Kent site. At the conclusion of this item, the Committee agreed the following recommendation:
- *RESOLVED that:*
 - (a) *The Committee records its appreciation of the hard work the Trust has put into the consultation.*
 - (b) *The comments made by Members of the HOSC are considered and taken into account.*
 - (c) *The Committee asks for a return visit in September when a final decision has been taken.*

2. Recommendation

RECOMMENDED that the Trust be thanked for their attendance at the meeting and the update provided on the progress of the Board's plans for Outpatient Services in Kent and that they be invited to submit a progress report to the Committee within six months.

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Background Documents

Kent County Council (2013) '*Agenda, Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (07/06/2013)*',

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=25151>

Kent County Council (2013) '*Agenda, Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (11/10/2013)*',

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=5075&Ver=4>

Kent County Council (2014) '*Agenda, Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (11/04/2014)*',

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=5396&Ver=4>

Kent County Council (2014) '*Agenda, Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (06/06/2014)*',

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=27887>

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