

Item 8: Gluten Free Services in West Kent

By: John Lynch, Head of Democratic Services

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 25 November 2016

Subject: Gluten Free Services in West Kent

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

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

1. Introduction

(a) NHS West Kent CCG has asked for the attached report to be presented to the Committee.

2. Potential Substantial Variation of Service

(a) It is for the Committee to determine if the withdrawal of gluten free prescriptions constitutes a substantial variation of service.

(b) Where the HOSC deems the withdrawal of gluten free prescriptions as not being substantial, this shall not prevent the HOSC from reviewing the proposed change at its discretion and making reports and recommendations to the CCG.

(c) Where the HOSC determines the withdrawal of gluten free prescriptions to be substantial, a timetable for consideration of the change will need to be agreed between the HOSC and CCG after the meeting. The timetable shall include the proposed date that the CCG intends to make a decision as to whether to proceed with the proposal and the date by which the HOSC will provide any comments on the proposal.

3. Recommendation

If the withdrawal of gluten free prescriptions is *not substantial*:

RECOMMENDED that:

(a) the Committee does not deem the withdrawal of gluten free prescriptions by NHS West Kent CCG to be a substantial variation of service.

(b) West Kent CCG be invited to submit a report to the Committee in six months.

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3. Recommendation

If the withdrawal of gluten free prescriptions is *substantial*:

RECOMMENDED that:

- (a) the Committee deems the withdrawal of gluten free prescriptions by NHS West Kent CCG to be a substantial variation of service.
- (b) West Kent CCG be invited to attend a meeting of the Committee in two months.

Background Documents

None

Contact Details

Lizzy Adam
Scrutiny Research Officer
lizzy.adam@kent.gov.uk
03000 412775