

## Item 8: Assistive Reproductive Technologies (ART) Policy Review

By: Lizzy Adam, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 26 January 2018

Subject: Assistive Reproductive Technologies (ART) Policy Review

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

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

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### 1. Introduction

- (a) On 24 November 2017 the Committee considered a report regarding a review of Assistive Reproductive Technologies (ART) policy in Kent and Medway. The Committee agreed the following recommendation:

▪ *RESOLVED that the Committee:*

- (a) *notes that a review of the Assistive Reproductive Technologies (ART) policy is being undertaken by the Kent & Medway CCGs;*
- (b) *requests that the proposed revised policy is presented to the Committee in January in order for it to make a determination about the proposals constituting a substantial health service development or variation.*

### 2. Potential Substantial Variation of Service

- (a) Medway Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered this item on 18 January 2018 and determined that the proposed policy changes did constitute a substantial variation of service. If the HOSC determines the proposed service change to be substantial, the Joint HOSC will need to be convened.
- (b) If the HOSC deems proposed policy changes as not being substantial, this does not prevent the HOSC from reviewing the proposed change at its discretion and making reports and recommendations to Medway CCG.
- (c) If the HOSC determines proposed policy changes to be substantial, a timetable for consideration of the change will need to be agreed between the Joint HOSC and Medway CCG. The timetable will include the proposed date that Medway CCG intends to make a decision as to whether to proceed with the proposal and the date by which the Joint HOSC will provide any comments on the proposal.
- (d) If a Joint HOSC is established, the power to refer to the Secretary of State will not be delegated to the joint committee, the power to refer will

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remain with the individual committees (Kent HOSC and Medway HASC) which appointed the joint committee.

### 3. Recommendation

If the proposed policy changes are *not substantial*:

RECOMMENDED that:

- (a) the Committee does not deem proposed policy changes to be a substantial variation of service.
- (b) Medway CCG be invited to submit a report to the Committee in six months.

If the proposed policy changes are *substantial*:

RECOMMENDED that:

- (a) the Committee deems the proposed policy changes to be a substantial variation of service.
- (b) a Joint HOSC be established with Medway Council.

### Background Documents

Kent County Council (2017) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (24/11/2017)*',

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=7533&Ver=4>

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