

Item 7: St Martin's Hospital, Canterbury

By: Kay Goldsmith, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 23 July 2019

Subject: Review of St Martin's Hospital, Canterbury

Summary: This report invites the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the information provided by the Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust and East Kent CCGs.

It provides background information which may prove useful to Members in their assessment of whether the change constitutes a substantial variation of service.

1. Introduction

- (a) Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT) and the East Kent CCGs attended HOSC on 1 March 2019 and notified the Committee about the future of the old St Martin's (west) former hospital site. These plans fall under KMPT's Clinical Care Pathways Programme (which aims to develop and support the review and implementation of quality care pathways, expanding and developing the use of information management technology, and through a closer alignment of its built environment to the needs of services)¹.
- (b) KMPT has sold the site to Homes England and is required to vacate the premises by April 2020. Only one ward remains open, Cranmer, which provides 15 beds for older adults.
- (c) Senior clinicians had been reviewing the available options over the past year and at the meeting on 1 March 2019, two options were proposed:
- i. Maintain the current inpatient bed base within the KMPT estate;
 - ii. Support a net reduction of 9 beds by clearly evidencing the impact of additional services to reduce patient flow and length of stay.²

¹ KMPT (2019) KMPT Mental Health Update for HOSC (p.5)
(<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s89252/KentHOSC-KMPTReport-Mar19v0.8.pdf>)

² Ibid (p10)

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(d) The Committee agreed the following recommendation:

RESOLVED that:

- (a) The Committee noted the report and KMPT be requested to provide an update at the appropriate time;*
- (b) The Committee receive an update on the two potential options for change at the St Martin's site at the appropriate time; and*
- (c) The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, writes to the Kent and Medway Sustainability and Transformation Partnership to consider the relationship between children and young people's mental health services and adult mental health services as part of the Mental Health Workstream.*

(e) This item is in today's agenda as a results of recommendation (b) above.

2. Potential Substantial Variation of Service

- (a) The Committee is being asked to review whether the changes proposed by KMPT constitute a substantial variation of service.
- (b) Where the Committee deems the proposed change is not substantial, this shall not prevent the HOSC from reviewing the change at its discretion and making reports and recommendations to the NHS.

3. Recommendation

If the proposed change to St Martin's Hospital (west) is *substantial*:

RECOMMENDED that:

(a) the Committee deems the proposed change to St Martin's Hospital (west) to be a substantial variation of service.

(b) Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT) and East Kent CCG be invited to attend this Committee and present an update at an appropriate time.

If the proposed change to St Martin's Hospital (west) is *not substantial*:

RECOMMENDED that:

(a) the Committee does not deem the proposed changes to St Martin's Hospital (west) to be a substantial variation of service.

(b) the report be noted.

Background Documents

Kent County Council (2019) '*Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (01/03/19)*',
<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MIId=7926&Ver=4>

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