

REPORT OF THE
Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
PART II

298. INQUIRIES RECEIVED AND ACTION TAKEN

The Committee continues to receive and respond to inquiries about NHS services from County Councillors and partners. At the meeting held on 22 May 2012 the following key items were considered:

A. Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust: Update on Merger to form Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

1. The Chief Executive of Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust attended to present an update on the merger of Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare NHS Trust and Basingstoke and North Hampshire NHS Foundation Trust in order to form Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. The new Trust was formally established on 9 January 2012, and covers three acute hospitals: Andover War Memorial, Basingstoke and North Hampshire and Royal Hampshire County.

2. The Trust had finished the 2011/12 financial year in a break-even position, with all performance measures met, with the exception of the 'referral to treatment time' target. Work was ongoing to meet this target, and it was predicted that the backlog of patients waiting longer than 18 weeks for treatment would be cleared by the Autumn. In 2012/13, the Trust wished to continue developing local services where possible, including expanding the use of mobile MRI scanners and chemotherapy suites. The Trust would also be developing a critical care centre, in line with national best practice.

3. Members confirmed they were satisfied with progress made on the merger of the two hospitals, and that they wished to receive a further update from the Trust later in the municipal year.

B. Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust: Andover Birthing Centre – update on implementation of model of care

1. Representatives from Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust attended to present an update regarding the implementation of the new model of care at the Andover Birthing Centre. It was reported that the Andover Birthing Centre would be rebranded the Hampshire Hospitals Birthing Centre, and would open in September 2012. The service proposed would be the same as that previously agreed by Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare NHS Trust, using the DOMINO model.

2. Members raised concerns that the previous service model had been unreliable owing to staffing shortages, and that the local community had a lack of faith in the Centre because of this. The Trust assured Members that it was confident that it had the appropriate staffing levels required to support the delivery of the new maternity service model of care, but should staffing levels decrease due to long-term absence or vacancies, the Trust would be able to call on a bank of midwifery staff. The Trust were aware that the local community had previously lost faith in the Birth Centre in Andover, but hoped that engaging with local stakeholders prior to its reopening would reassure service users that it will be available for those who wish to use it.

3. Following discussion, Members agreed that they were satisfied with progress made on the implementation of the agreed model of care for the Andover (Hampshire Hospitals) Birth Centre, and requested that a further update from the Trust be heard later in the municipal year.

C. Calleva Clinical Commissioning Group: Odiham Cottage Hospital – progress with model of care

1. Representatives from Calleva (North Hampshire) Clinical Commissioning Group gave an update regarding the progress with the implementation of the model of care at Odiham Cottage Hospital, in the Hart district area.

2. Members heard that the additional outpatient and community services proposed were now operational at Odiham Cottage Hospital. The Clinical Commissioning Group were working in partnership with Hampshire County Council Adult Services and Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust, as well as various voluntary and community service providers, in order to provide joined up services at the site. Future plans for services at the site included a bereavement service, a dementia advisory service, a sensory clinic/equipment service and an expansion from a three to a four day week of clinics provided by the integrated NHS team.

3. Members confirmed they were satisfied with progress made with implementation of the model of care at Odiham Cottage Hospital. Members hoped that Odiham would become an example of best practice to other Clinical Commissioning Groups looking to provide community and outpatient services from local hospital sites.

D. Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth Primary Care Trust Cluster: Fordingbridge Hospital update – radiology service

1. Representatives from Southampton, Hampshire, Isle Of Wight and Portsmouth Primary Care Trust Cluster and Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust presented a paper on the building works at the Fordingbridge Hospital, alongside an update on the future of the radiology service currently provided by Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust.

2. Members noted that the radiology service would remain at the Fordingbridge Hospital, with the agreement of the provider and local GPs, subject to an investment case being drawn up for the Arch Clinic, where the service would be re-provided from.

3. The Primary Care Trust Cluster requested the support of the Committee for a mix of partial and full closures of the Ford Ward, as a result of the building works, which contains 20 inpatient beds and outpatient/community facilities. These closures would be for up to eight weeks during August and September, as it was reported that this time of year had been identified as a period with the lowest bed demand. It was intended that the Ward would be fully operational by 1 October. Members were assured that staff from the Ward would be redeployed to the surrounding acute hospitals in order to signpost patients to the most appropriate facility whilst the inpatient beds were not operational

4. Members confirmed that they supported the proposal to temporarily close the Ford Ward during the periods of intensive building works. Members agreed that they wished to receive an interim update once the outcome of the investment case for the radiology service was known, and a full update on the progress of the Hospital works at their November 2012 meeting.

299. PROPOSALS TO VARY OR DEVELOP NHS SERVICES

The Committee is continuing to receive proposals from the NHS that may substantially vary or change the provision of health services. At its last meeting on 22 May 2012 consideration was given to the following items:

A. Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth Primary Care Trust Cluster: Chase Community Hospital Update

1. Representatives from Southampton, Hampshire, Isle Of Wight and Portsmouth Primary Care Trust Cluster gave an update regarding the development of proposals for the future use of the Chase Hospital site, a community hospital in Bordon, East Hampshire. It was reported that engagement work with stakeholders had led to the formation of general proposals for the future of the Hospital. It had been agreed by the Project Board that these proposals would be refined into detailed proposals, and this would be taken forward by a number of task and finish groups.

2. The Project Board were also considering the potential for a new 60 bedded nursing home to be built in the locality, with some of these beds commissioned as a replacement for the current inpatient beds at the Chase.

3. The Committee heard the views of the County Councillor for Bordon, Whitehill and Lindford, Cllr Adam Carew, who stated that local stakeholders were awaiting detailed proposals following recent local needs assessments, as well as the evidence on which these were based. Councillor Carew expressed concern that the current inpatient beds would be lost in the time it would take to build a new nursing home in the locality, and stakeholders were therefore keen that any new model of bed based care should be fully implemented before beds close at the hospital.

4. Members confirmed that they wished to invite both the Primary Care Trust Cluster and representatives from South East Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group to a future meeting of the Committee once detailed proposals for Chase Community Hospital were available.

B. Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust: Improving Outcomes for Hampshire's Adult Mental Health Services

1. As previously reported to County Council on 17 May 2012, the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed at its March meeting to establish a small task and finish working group to discuss four specific concerns raised by Members and stakeholders around Adult Mental Health service proposals. The Committee received the outcomes of this working group at its 22 May meeting.

2. In accordance with the constitution, the terms of reference of the working group were drafted and agreed by the Policy and Resources Select Committee. The Membership of the cross-party working group was agreed, and included independent representation from the Chairman of the Hampshire LINK, and independent advice from the Chief Executive of Solent Mind.

3. The working group examined all of the evidence received by the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee between July 2011 and March 2012 relating to the adult mental health service changes, including information received from Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust, as well as external stakeholders, such as those who

made a deputation to the 27 March 2012 Committee. The working group decided not to invite further evidence from other stakeholders to their meetings, but did have this option available to them.

4. The working group agreed at both sessions that it did not have serious or significant concerns regarding the ongoing implementation of the Trust's adult mental health proposals.

5. Members confirmed that they were content with the outcomes of the Adult Mental Health Working Group, and agreed the recommendations. In addition, the Committee noted that the Working Group had highlighted further supplementary information to be brought to the 24 July 2012 Committee meeting, when the Trust was next scheduled to provide an update on implementation.

C. National Specialist Commissioning Board: Children's Heart Surgery

1. The Chief Executive reported that the Joint Committee of Primary Care Trust's appeal of the Judicial Review decision that the national consultation had been unlawful had been successful, and the Trust would now be able to consider the consultation responses received, including the numerous responses from the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. The Trust would be taking a decision on the future configuration of Children's Congenital Heart Surgery services on 4 July 2012, in a meeting due to be held in public and webcast. The Committee would be updated at its 24 July meeting.

Further details can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm by typing in the relevant reference number:

- Inquiries received and action taken (search item reference 3954)
- Proposals to vary or develop NHS services (search item reference 3955)

COUNCILLOR PAT WEST
Chairman