

REPORT OF THE  
Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

PART II

**140. INQUIRIES RECEIVED AND ACTION TAKEN**

1. The Committee continues to receive inquiries about NHS services from partners and County Councillors. At the meetings on 30 November 2010 and 25 January 2011 the following key items were considered:

**2. Portsmouth Hospitals Trust: closure of G5, end of life care ward at Queen Alexandra Hospital, Cosham**

Members of the Portsmouth Hospitals Trust End of Life Care team presented the new model for end of life care at Queen Alexandra Hospital. They explained that previously the ward had supported approximately 25% of older patients requiring End of Life care; however 75% of deaths in the elderly occurred in other areas of the Trust. The new model was designed to address this imbalance and provide a consistent, high quality end of life care service to older people and provide a highly flexible and experienced team to both advise and provide specialist care at any location in the hospital.

3. Members accepted the case put forward that these changes would provide a consistent and improved service for people requiring end of life care as well as their relatives and carers although further work was required to roll the model out across the Trust. The Committee requested additional information on the experience of relatives and carers when this was available as well as an indication of improvements in staff confidence as a consequence of the changes. It was agreed the Committee would share its views about these changes with the Independent Reconfiguration Panel and work with the Portsmouth Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel should this be required once the report was published.

**4. NHS Hampshire: Hythe Hospital**

A Panel was established to monitor progress with the development of options for this facility led by the Member for Dibden and Hythe. NHS Hampshire was working with local stakeholders, including Panel members, to take this work forward.

**5. Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare NHS Trust: Andover Birth Centre**

The Chief Executive and Head of Midwifery at Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare Trust (WEHT) provided a brief presentation to the Committee. It was acknowledged that the Birth Centre had only been open a matter of months following the previous closure. The Trust was engaging with local people and key stakeholders about the use of the birth centre in Andover with a view to understand what potential users of the centre wanted. WEHT confirmed this work would inform further engagement and the development of potential options.

6. The Committee questioned if it was timely to be engaging with people given that WEHT would be merging with a Foundation Trust in coming months. The Trust considered that this work would support the wider discussion about future services provided by the Trust, including where appropriate, new ways of working that would be sustainable and would meet the needs of prospective patients. The Director of Public

Health advised that NHS Hampshire was reviewing maternity services in North and Mid Hampshire, therefore the work being undertaken by WEHT should help inform the review. The outcome of the further engagement planned by WEHT would be shared with the Committee and next steps to be taken in terms of formal consultation agreed. It was confirmed that any proposals put forward for consultation would be informed by the review of maternity services in north and mid Hampshire planned by NHS Hampshire.

#### **7. NHS Hampshire: The future of Odiham Cottage Hospital**

Members were alerted to the intention of Hampshire Community Health Care to withdraw from the contract for providing inpatient care at Odiham Hospital. The notice period for withdrawing this contract had now been extended to July 2011.

8. The importance of local people and key stakeholders, including local County Councillors, being fully engaged in exploring the options for providing services at Odiham Hospital was stressed by the Committee.

9. Gaps in the material presented were highlighted and the feedback from local stakeholders confirmed that NHS Hampshire had improved its engagement with key community leaders.

10. The outcome of this process would be shared with the Committee in order that the timing and content of any public consultation required can be agreed, together with any other information requirements.

#### **11. NHS Hampshire: East Hampshire – Community Hospital Provision**

The Committee confirmed that it was helpful to see the proposals set out in the documents and to have confirmation of the support of GPs and local clinicians for this work.

12. There were gaps in the material presented and feedback from local stakeholders about the level of engagement that had taken place was variable, as highlighted by the County Councillor for Whitehill, Bordon and Lindford. These issues needed to be addressed.

13. The Alton pilot for co-ordinated inpatient care was supported by the Committee subject to confirmation of the benefits to be delivered to patients.

14. Wider stakeholder engagement (including local elected Members) to develop options for providing services at Petersfield, Alton and Chase community hospitals would now take place prior to agreement by the Committee on the timing and content of any public consultation.

#### **15. Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust : Birth Centres at Petersfield and Gosport**

Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust confirmed that that the stand alone midwife led birth centres at Petersfield Hospital and Gosport War Memorial Hospital reopened as agreed on the 9 January 2011.

#### **16. NHS Hampshire: Closure of Locks Heath GP Branch Surgery**

The Member for Fareham Warsash highlighted local concerns about proposals to close a General Practice Branch Surgery in his area and the impact this would have on patients. As GPs are independent contractors there was little scope to directly influence

this proposal however NHS Hampshire was asked to provide the Committee with options for maintaining primary care services in this locality should the closure proceed.

17. This report arises from the consideration of the items by the Committee on 30 November 2010 and 25 January 2011 which are on Hantsweb at:

[http://www3.hants.gov.uk/getdecisiondocumentfile?item\\_doc\\_ID=5595&file=30%20Nov%20inquiries.pdf&type=pdf](http://www3.hants.gov.uk/getdecisiondocumentfile?item_doc_ID=5595&file=30%20Nov%20inquiries.pdf&type=pdf)

and

[http://www3.hants.gov.uk/getdecisiondocumentfile?item\\_doc\\_ID=5795&file=2011-%20Jan-%20HOSC-%20Inquiries.pdf&type=pdf](http://www3.hants.gov.uk/getdecisiondocumentfile?item_doc_ID=5795&file=2011-%20Jan-%20HOSC-%20Inquiries.pdf&type=pdf)

#### **141. PROPOSALS TO VARY OR DEVELOP NHS SERVICES**

1. The Committee is continuing to receive proposals from the NHS to substantially vary or change the provision of health services. At its last meetings on 30 November 2010 and 25 January 2011 consideration was given to the following items:

2. **Hampshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust: proposals to modernise older people's mental health services in south Hampshire.**

The Committee did not give approval for the commencement of formal consultation on older people's mental health services in south Hampshire, following feedback from Eastleigh Borough Council about the lack of engagement that had taken place. The Committee stressed the need for local elected Members and other key stakeholders to be engaged in the development of options for change. The broad direction of travel outlined by Hampshire Partnership Foundation Trust was supported and the Committee welcomed the Trust's offer of a 'masterclass' for Members on the topic of dementia care.

3. **Department of Health: 'Liberating the NHS'- response to consultation.**

The Committee had confirmation that the role of the HOSC would be strengthened and extended to enable any NHS funded services to be subject to scrutiny by elected Members.

4. The responses made by the Committee influence and improve the delivery of health services in Hampshire and, in doing so, support the Corporate Strategy aim of maximising well being.

5. This report arises from the consideration of the items by the Committee on 30 November 2010 and 25 January 2011 which are on Hantsweb at:

[http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearchmeetings/meetingsitemdocuments.htm?sta=&pref=Y&item\\_ID=2380&tab=2](http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearchmeetings/meetingsitemdocuments.htm?sta=&pref=Y&item_ID=2380&tab=2)

and

[http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearchmeetings/meetingsitemdocuments.htm?sta=&pref=Y&item\\_ID=2565&tab=2](http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearchmeetings/meetingsitemdocuments.htm?sta=&pref=Y&item_ID=2565&tab=2)

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