

REPORT OF THE  
Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
PART II

**202. INQUIRIES RECEIVED AND TAKEN**

The Committee continues to receive and respond to inquiries about NHS services from County Councillors and partners. At the meeting on 26 July 2011 the following key items were considered:

**A. Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare Trust: Andover Birth Centre**

1. The Chief Executive of the Trust attended the Committee to provide an update on progress with the Andover Birth Centre. Four proposals regarding the future of the Birth Centre had been developed following engagement with stakeholders. An options appraisal had taken place in July 2011 with key stakeholders. The continuation of the current model of care was not widely supported and was not considered clinically or financially sustainable. Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare Trust proposed to formally consult on the three remaining options over an eight week period, commencing on 1 September 2011.

2. The Committee raised a number of questions in relation to the proposal and received assurance that the savings released as a result of changes to maternity provision in the Andover catchment area would be reinvested in midwife training and the procurement of maternity support workers.

3. The Committee resolved that the Trust confirmed that each of the three models of care subject to consultation was clinically and financially sustainable and that the preferred option identified was supported by GPs.

4. The outcome of the consultation and proposed next steps will be presented to the Committee at the November meeting.

**B. NHS Hampshire: East Hampshire Community Hospitals update**

1. The Committee received an update on progress made on the East Hampshire Communities Hospital Project in relation to the services provided at Chase Community Hospital.

2. The Committee stressed the need for local members and key stakeholders to continue to be involved in the engagement process. Feedback from Cllr Carew about the process to date and the needs of local people were shared with NHS Hampshire.

**C. Portsmouth Hospitals Trust: Support for people who are terminally ill**

1. Representatives of Portsmouth Hospitals Trust gave a presentation on

progress with the recommendations of the Independent Review Panel (IRP) following the closure of the G5 'end of life care' ward. The Trust demonstrated that work had been ongoing since the release of the IRP's report in May 2011. Although it wasn't sustainable to reopen the G5 ward other improvements could be made in relation to the Trust's end of life care services.

2. NHS Hampshire and NHS Portsmouth were working collaboratively to author an overarching strategy for end of life care across south east Hampshire.

3. In view of the interest of the Committee in this topic it was resolved that a workshop would be held in the autumn to enable Members to receive a more detailed report on end of life care in Hampshire.

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

### **A. Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust: Older People's Mental Health consultation outcomes**

1. Representatives of Southern Health updated the Committee on progress made since September 2010. Public consultation on the future of Older People's Mental Health (OPMH) services in Hampshire supported proposals for a move from bed-based services to a greater focus community based personalised care based on individual need.

2. The Trust had responded to concerns from service users and other stakeholders during the consultation exercise and placed greater emphasis on early diagnosis, training for GPs and staff awareness of care pathways.

3. Members highlighted the burden of longer travel times for some service users, and were assured by Southern Health that those patients likely to encounter this problem will have a solution provided for them before changes to services are implemented. The Trust was in receipt of advice from Eastleigh Borough Council regarding the transport for patients affected.

4. The Committee were satisfied with the engagement and consultation activities undertaken and resolved to support the proposed way forward.

### **B. Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust: Adult Mental Health Care – changes to services**

1. Southern Health outlined a proposal to commence public consultation on changes to the way in which support was provided to adults requiring mental health care.

2. The proposed changes would focus primarily on recovery, concentrating on a holistic approach that focused on the service user. The Trust expressed its wish to consult on a change to services currently provided in an inpatient setting to a model based on day care, hospital in the home and community support. Inpatient beds for

those requiring such services would still be available Southern Health was able to demonstrate extensive engagement activities in support of the changes proposed and well as the involvement of Hampshire Adult Services.

3. Taking this previous work into account the Committee resolved that it would support the proposal from the Trust for public consultation to take place over a six week period from early September to mid October. Additional questions from the Committee would be passed to the Trust for a response. The outcome of the consultation and proposed next steps would be provided to the Committee at its November meeting.

### **C. National Specialist Commissioning Board: Consultation on the Configuration of Children's Heart Surgery Services update**

1. The Panel convened to look at this issue on behalf of the HOSC had made an initial response to the public consultation in June 2011. This was circulated to all Members and supported 'Option B', the only option to include Southampton University Hospital NHS Trust (SUHT). The Panel highlighted:

- That quality of care had not been given appropriate weighting;
- The co-location of paediatric cardiac surgery with other essential children's services had not been appropriately considered;
- The variability in the way in which travel times were assessed;
- The impact on Paediatric Intensive Care, including retrieval of patients from the Isle of Wight;
- The implications for services that currently care for patients with congenital heart problems from before birth through to adulthood.

2. The Committee has until the 5 October 2011 to finalise its formal response to the consultation.

3. 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.

**204.** Further details can be found at [www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm](http://www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm) by typing in the relevant reference number:

- Inquiries received and action taken (search item reference 3151)
- Proposals to vary or develop NHS services (search item reference 3152)

COUNCILLOR PAT WEST  
Chairman