

REPORT OF THE
Health and Adult Social Care Select (Overview and Scrutiny)
Committee (Annual Report)

1. SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the work of Hampshire County Council's Health and Adult Social Care Select (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee from May 2014 to April 2015.

2. LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

2.1. For 2014-15, the Health and Adult Social Care Select (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee held the Local Government statutory responsibility for health scrutiny powers. These powers are intended to ensure that decisions about health services are taken with due regard to the people affected. The legislative framework within which the Committee functioned in this year allowed Members to consider any aspect of health that affects the population of Hampshire. It also placed very specific duties on the NHS with regard to consultation, information and responses to any recommendations made by the Committee.

2.2. The Committee was a statutory consultee on any potential substantial change being considered by the NHS, and had the power to refer contested decisions about health services to the Secretary of State for Health, or Monitor for Foundation Trusts.

2.3. In accordance with the Constitution of Hampshire County Council, the Health and Adult Social Care Select (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee also focuses on how the County Council is contributing to delivering the Wellbeing agenda for adults; adult social care; promoting independence and quality of life for older people; healthy and safe families; Public Health; the integration of Health and Care services and relevant financial management.

3. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

3.1. Proposals to develop or vary NHS services have continued to come to the Health and Adult Social Care Select (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee throughout the year, where Members can be alerted to forthcoming proposals to change health service provision. All proposals for varying NHS services are considered by the Committee and any associated reports or comments are included with agenda papers to ensure members are properly informed about proposals to change health service provision.

3.2. Responses to consultations and other proposals to develop or vary services since May 2014 have included:

Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in conjunction with NHS England, North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group and West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group

- Future organisation of hospital services across North and Mid Hampshire

NHS England (National)

- Congenital Heart Surgery.

NHS England (Wessex)

- Vascular Surgery services in South Hampshire

3.3. Monitoring of consultations and other proposals to develop or vary services since May 2014 have included:

South Eastern Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group:

- Proposals for changes to service provision at Chase Community Hospital.

Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

- Adult Mental Health services: monitoring changes to the model of care in Hampshire

3.4. Responses to health inquiries since May 2014 have included:

CCGs, Community Providers, Hampshire County Council and Hospital Providers

- A review of system resilience actions taken by all four health systems in Hampshire (Frimley, North and Mid Hampshire, Portsmouth and South East Hampshire, and South West Hampshire)
- An overview of out of hospital urgent care and community alternatives to emergency departments

Frimley Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust with North East Hants and Farnham CCG

- Acquisition of Heatherwood and Wexham Park NHS Foundation Trust by Frimley Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to form Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust

Southampton City Clinical Commissioning Group

- Bitterne Walk-In Centre – proposed temporary closure

Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

- Alton Community Hospital – temporary closure to admissions of Anstey Ward
- Care Quality Commission inspection report outcomes
- Fordingbridge Hospital – temporary closure of five beds on Ford Ward
- Gosport War Memorial Hospital - temporary closure to admissions on Daedalus Ward
- Melbury Lodge – temporary change of use of Stefano Olivieri older people's mental health ward
- Ravenswood House – temporary move of some patients to Woodhaven Unit, Calmore, to facilitate improvement works

3.5. The Health and Adult Social Care Select (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee have undertaken a number of reviews relating to its remit since May 2014. These have included:

Care Act:

This working group has met since November 2013 in order to help shape the County Council's response to the Care Bill, which became an Act of Parliament in May 2014. Since this time, the group have met regularly in order to monitor and feed into the Council's implementation of this key piece of legislation. The Committee have been kept apprised of key outcomes through updates from the Vice Chairman.

Fluoridation:

Public Health England announced in October 2014 that it would no longer seek to implement proposals to fluoridate the drinking water supply in Southampton and parts of South West Hampshire. The Committee reviewed this decision in November 2014 and determined to forward the topic of child dental health to the Children and Young People Select Committee for consideration, as part of its remit for child health in Hampshire.

Supporting People

This working group has met since July 2014 in order to review proposals for services relating to crisis and prevention, ex-offenders, mental health and veterans prior to final decision and pre-decision scrutiny in Summer 2015. The Committee have been kept apprised of key outcomes through updates from the Vice Chairman.

The Use of Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 in Hampshire

Members agreed the final report of the 'Adult Mental Health' working group in July 2014, forwarding the report's final recommendations to partners for consideration and implementation. The Committee have completed a six-month monitoring of this topic, noting the positive progress of the recommendation's implementation. Issues relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner's and Constabulary's remit in relation to this topic have been forwarded to the Hampshire Police and Crime Panel for review.

3.6. The Health and Adult Social Care Select (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee have received a number of Overview or Pre-Scrutiny items since May 2014, which have included:

Hampshire County Council Adult Services

- 2015/2016 revenue and capital budget
- Adult Safeguarding
- Delayed Discharges update
- Supporting People

Hampshire County Council Public Health

- 2015/2016 revenue budget

3.7. Additional scrutiny items in relation to health, social care and public health have included:

Hampshire County Council Adult Services

- Care Act implementation update
- Fast Track and Continuing Healthcare – update on internal review.

Hampshire County Council Public Health

- School Nursing

Health and Wellbeing Board

- Better Care Fund
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy Consultation

3.8. Members have additionally received regular information briefings and updates outside of the formal meeting process in order to ensure that timely access to ongoing issues in Hampshire can be received in the most efficient format possible. Topics heard through this programme have included:

- Interim update on Mental Health services
- Step-down beds in Gosport War Memorial Hospital
- Transformation of the Reablement Service and 'REACT' (Adult Services)

4. WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2015/16

4.1. The Committee will continue to engage actively with partner organisations across Hampshire, and in one-to-one meetings as appropriate. It will continue to build relationships with commissioners and providers operating in the County, as well as establishing links that lead to better services through good working relationships with the Health and Wellbeing Board and Local HealthWatch.

4.2. The Committee will also continue to receive information on, and initiate action in response to, issues raised by Members and partners in relation to health, adult social care, public health and wellbeing. Particular issues for further consideration and action during 2015/16 may include:

- The continuing impact of financial pressures and changing service models on sustainability in the NHS and on adult social care;
- National reviews of specialist NHS services;
- Monitoring of substantial changes to NHS services;
- Contributions to Inspection reports of the Care Quality Commission;
- Horizon scanning for national and local issues impacting on the planning, provision and operation of health and adult social care services, including any policy decisions made by the new Government post-general election;

- Undertaking reviews through the formation of working groups, to include a joint review with the Health and Wellbeing Board on the topic of 'mental health';
- Reviewing savings in line with 'Transformation to 2017' in the delivery of Public Health and Adult Services across Hampshire;
- The evaluation and monitoring of the Better Care Fund, amongst other shared budgets, to achieve efficient and cost-effective procurement through co-commissioning.

Further details can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm

COUNCILLOR ROGER HUXSTEP
Chairman, Health and Adult Social Care Select (Overview and Scrutiny)
Committee