

HOSC/31/11

Committee Health Overview and Scrutiny

Date 14 September 2011

UPDATE ITEM

Report by Graham Redgwell, Secretary to the Committee

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The Committee is advised of the following issues arising since the last meeting:-

Clinical Commissioning Groups

The Department of Health is testing a draft framework for authorising new Clinical Commissioning Groups as part of the NHS reforms. Any comments on the framework may be passed on via the Strategic Health Authority.

Under current timescales, and subject to the appropriate legislation being in place, these Groups are due to become statutory bodies from October 2012.

Details may be found on

www.hsj.co.uk/Journals/2011/08/11/r/e/e/AuthorisationFramwework.PDF

Healthcare in the community for young people who offend

The CQC/HM Inspectorate for Probation issued a joint report on 29 July on how Youth Offending Teams provide health services to young people who offend. The report and accompanying press release was sent to HOSC members that day.

The report found an improved level of working and noted a number of important changes made since the last inspection (in 2009).

Healthcare in London

The Health Trusts involved are commencing steps to merge a number of existing Trusts in London. These are Barts and the London NHS Trust, Newham University Hospital NHS Trust and Whipps Cross University NHS Trust.

Details are available on each of the Trust's individual websites.

Mid Essex Hospital Services

Following a successful trial period, the 'Broomfield Hopper' bus around the Broomfield Hospital site has been made into a permanent service, running between 0830 and 1800 on five days a week. Within the Hospital itself, new signage has been introduced and all wards which previously had just a number have received a name (after villages in the mid Essex area). It is felt that this will significantly improve way finding on the site.

NHS South East Essex

A number of child health clinics in the area are moving to better equipped and more suitable premises. The changes are in line with the National Strategic Direction for Children's Services, and will enable integrated and holistic services to be provided on single sites.

The changes are:-

Canewdon – from Congregational Church Hall to Canewdon Community Centre.

Hullbridge – from Hullbridge Health Centre to the Willows Children's Centre.

Rayleigh – from St Michaels Church Hall to the Ladybird Children's Centre.

All users of the facilities have been informed of the changes. Home visits are not affected by these changes.

Princess Alexandra Hospital

From 1 September, the Hospital Trust has introduced a new system for its follow up arrangements for breast cancer patients. The changes are in line with national clinical guidance. Full details were sent to all HOSC and local County Councillors on 30 August.

Quality Accounts

Following consultation with Committee members, the Secretary responded to a Quality Accounts submission from Braintree Community Hospital.

South East Essex Community Healthcare (SEECH)

With effect from 1 August 2011, all staff and services at SEECH transferred to the South Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust. This has completed the divestment process of community services from the five local PCTs.

West Essex Urgent Care

On 18 July all HOSC members and local County Councillors were informed of changes NHS West Essex is making to improve urgent care services across the Epping Forest, Harlow and Uttlesford districts.
