

HOSC/15/11

Committee Health Overview and Scrutiny

Date 21 April 2011

EAST OF ENGLAND REGIONAL HEALTH CHAIRS FORUM

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The Forum (which comprises the Chairs of the 11 HOSCs in the region) met on 25 February 2011. As usual, Essex was the host authority and the meeting was chaired by Councillor Butland.

The main items discussed were as follows:-

Learning Disability Regional Vision Statement

The Forum supported the Statement prepared by the Strategic Health Authority. It noted that there had been a major input from the 11 Learning Disability Partnership Boards as well as from individual clients and carers. This Statement is expected to underpin work for the next 10 years (copy of Statement available on www.eoe.nhs.uk)

Neo natal services

Later in the year Essex, Southend and Thurrock will jointly be monitoring progress on the proposals implemented in 2009.

Proposals for Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire will be finalised later this year.

Supporting Life After Stroke

It was agreed that the special report published by the Care Quality Commission should be addressed by the appropriate local HOSCs (this will be included on a future HOSC agenda).

Future of Specialised Commissioning

Catherine O'Connell, formerly Chief Executive of the West Essex PCT, has been appointed as Chief Operating Officer of the East of England Specialist Commissioning Group.

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Current legislation proposes that all regionally based bodies will disappear, probably in 2012/13. There is a strong likelihood, however, that some form of sub-national specialist commissioning will remain (with different geographical boundaries to those at present) under the aegis of the NHS Commissioning Board.

The next Forum meeting will be held in June.
