

## HOSC/16/11

**Committee** Health Overview and Scrutiny

**Date** 21 April 2011

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### **UPDATE ITEM**

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

#### **Anglian Community Enterprise (ACE)**

The Secretary attended the formal launch of this Community Enterprise Company on 18 March. This is the main service provider in North East Essex.

#### **Broomfield Hospital**

In response to public feedback, improvements to the way finding system on the Hospital site are being made. The Hospital Trust has also run an online vote to give names to Wards that currently do not have one.

The Trust is currently trialling a shuttle bus service around the site. This trial started on 28 March and the service operates between 0830 and 1800 Monday to Friday. It will run for two months initially.

#### **Health for North East London (H4NEL) proposals**

These proposals, which were discussed by a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee and which impinge upon some Essex residents, have been called in by a number of local authorities. The Secretary of State has referred the matter to the Independent Reconfiguration Panel for consideration. It has been asked to report back to the Secretary of State by 17 July 2011.

Work is in hand on a £28 million development of the A&E Unit at Whipps Cross, which is due to be completed by the end of 2011.

#### **Mid Essex Hospital Services**

The Trust is recommencing its application to become a NHS Foundation Trust and hopes to achieve this status by the autumn of 2012. It is now undertaking a public consultation, which will run until 13 May 2011.

The usual practice is that individual Members, rather than the HOSC itself, comment on such proposals. All County Councillors in the Braintree, Chelmsford and Maldon districts have been advised of this proposal.

Copies of the consultation document are available on [www.meht.nhs.uk](http://www.meht.nhs.uk)

### **NHS South West Essex**

(a) The PCT has terminated the contract of a single handed GP in the area. Local Members have been advised of the circumstances behind this decision. All those registered with the GP are being advised of what they now need to do.

(b) The PCT is reducing the level of funding for beds at an establishment in Brentwood (Hedgerows). These are seen as social care beds which should be funded by the social services authority, which is aware of the changes being made. The number of health funded beds (for both continuing healthcare and a 'home for life') is not affected.

(c) The PCT is reducing the out of hours service provided in Brentwood. It will continue at the weekend but be withdrawn during Monday to Friday, where the level of demand does not justify its continuation. The Basildon and Thurrock Out of Hours Services are not affected. This proposal was included in the Trust's Turnaround Plan which was submitted to the HOSC last November.

A public briefing session was held in Brentwood on 13 April.

### **Quality Accounts**

In accordance with the procedure agreed at the last meeting, Members have been invited to comment on the Quality Accounts for:

- Central Essex Community Services (CESC)
- South West Essex Community Services (SWECS)

The Secretary has also been sent a copy of the North East London Foundation Trust (NELFT) Quality Accounts for information.

### **'Securing The Future'**

This is the name given to a consultation document issued by all five PCTs on proposals for the establishment of an Essex, Southend and Thurrock Managed Clinical Network for Child Protection and Looked After Children.

The Children and Young Peoples P&SC has been dealing with issues around the safeguarding of children for some time and has a standing Safeguarding Sub-Committee. Given its level of interest and expertise (and the limited time available for response), this issue was included on its agenda earlier this month. Members will be sent a copy of the response made, for information.

## **Stansted Surgery**

The local Member has asked what was now happening in respect of the proposal to provide a health centre. The Secretary has raised this subject at a meeting with representatives of NHS West Essex and it has been confirmed that the PCT remains committed to providing a health centre. A possible site has been suggested but this is dependent on planning permission for a larger development being agreed. Should this proposal not proceed, the PCT does have an alternate site in mind.

In addition, there is one item requiring Member's views:-

## **Expansion of services to provide radiotherapy in Essex**

Details of proposals from the Essex Cancer Network were circulated to HOSC members on 28 March. The deadline for comments is 25 May 2011.

These proposals do not affect West Essex, which falls within the area of another cancer network.

The HOSC is invited to comment on the four possible options (set out on page 8 of the consultation document – not reproduced with this agenda but available on [www.midessex.nhs.uk/radiotherapydiscussiondocument](http://www.midessex.nhs.uk/radiotherapydiscussiondocument)), particularly the preferred option for provision to be concentrated at Colchester and Southend Hospitals.

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