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Report title: Primary Care Update

Report to: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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County Divisions affected: Not applicable

1. Introduction

1.1 This report provides background information on the current state and transformation agenda for primary care services across Essex. In particular, this report focusses on overall activity levels and how activity is delivered, feedback from patients, the evolving primary care workforce and new plans for extended access services from October 2022.

2. Action required

2.1 This report is for noting and discussion.

3. Background

- 3.1 Primary Care (general medical services) manages an estimated 80% of all patient interaction with the NHS. The responsibility for the provision of primary medical care sits with the three emerging Integrated Care Boards covering the Essex Boundaries. Prior to the covid pandemic, each system was implementing new models of primary care that aimed to better meet patient need through workforce transformation, digital solutions, workload efficiencies and engagement. During the covid pandemic, the method of delivering primary care services has evolved. The transformation programmes have continued.
- 3.2 The service is now presented with unprecedented demand and whilst primary care is providing more consultations than ever before, there remain significant challenges with access.
- 3.3 This report overviews the changing approach to delivering primary care and the initiatives being undertaken across Essex to improve service provision.

4. List of Appendices

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