



Essex County Council

Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee

10:30	Thursday, 03 March 2022	Committee Room 1 County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH
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For information about the meeting please ask for:

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Pages

**	Private pre-meeting for Committee members only To begin at 9:30am in the Council Chamber, County Hall.	
1	Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest To be reported by the Democratic Services Manager.	5 - 5
2	Minutes of previous meeting To note and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9 February 2022.	6 - 9

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|----------|---|----------------|
| 3 | Questions from the Public
A period of 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make representations on any item on the agenda for this meeting. On arrival, and before the start of the meeting please register with the Democratic Services Officer. | |
| 4 | Maternity Services at ESNEFT
Committee to receive a further update on Maternity Services at ESNEFT. Previous reports that were presented in September 2021 can be found here . | 10 - 12 |
| 5 | Chairman's Report - March 2022
To note the latest update on discussions at HOSC Chairman's Forum meetings (Chairman and Vice-Chairman). It was agreed to invite a representative from Healthwatch Essex to future forum meetings. | 13 - 13 |
| 6 | Member Updates
To note any updates of the Committee. | 14 - 14 |
| 7 | Work Programme - March 2022
To note the Committee's current Work Programme. | 15 - 18 |
| 8 | Date of Next Meeting
To note that the next meeting will be held on Thursday 7 April 2022, in the Council Chamber, County Hall. | |
| 9 | Urgent Business
To consider any matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency. | |

Exempt Items

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and public)

The following items of business have not been published on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Members are asked to consider whether or not the press and public should be excluded during the consideration of these items. If so it will be necessary for the meeting to pass a formal resolution:

That the press and public are excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the specific paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A engaged being set out in the report or appendix relating to that item of business.

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Urgent Exempt Business

To consider in private any other matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

Agenda Item 1

Report title: Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest	
Report to: Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Report author: Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager	
Date: 3 March 2022	For: Information
Enquiries to: Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager – richard.buttress3@essex.gov.uk or Jasmine Carswell, Democratic Services Officer – jasmine.carswell@essex.gov.uk	
County Divisions affected: Not applicable	

Recommendations:

To note:

1. Membership as shown below
2. Apologies and substitutions
3. Declarations of interest to be made by Members in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct

Membership

(Quorum: 4)

Councillor Jeff Henry	Chairman
Councillor Mark Cory	
Councillor Martin Foley	
Councillor Paul Gadd	
Councillor Dave Harris	Vice-Chairman
Councillor June Lumley	
Councillor Luke Mackenzie	
Councillor Bob Massey	
Councillor Jaymey McIvor	
Councillor Anthony McQuiggan	
Councillor Clive Souter	Vice-Chairman
Councillor Mike Steptoe	

Co-opted Non-Voting Membership

Councillor David Carter	Harlow District Council
Councillor Peter Tattersley	Braintree District Council
Councillor Carlie Mayes	Maldon District Council
Councillor Lynda McWilliams	Tendring District Council

**Minutes of the meeting of the Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee,
held in County Hall, Chelmsford on Wednesday 9 February 2022 at 10:30am**

Present

Cllr Jeff Henry (Chairman)	Cllr Bob Massey
Cllr David Carter (Co-opted)	Cllr Carlie Mayes (Co-opted)
Cllr Paul Gadd	Cllr Jaymey McIvor
Cllr Dave Harris (Vice-Chairman)	Cllr Anthony McQuiggan
Cllr Luke Mackenzie	Cllr Clive Souter (Vice-Chairman)

Apologies

Cllr Lynda McWilliams (Co-opted)	Cllr Mike Steptoe
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The following officers were supporting the meeting:

- Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager
- Jasmine Carswell, Democratic Services Officer.

1. Membership, apologies and declarations

Apologies were received from Cllr McWilliams and Cllr Steptoe. No substitutions were appointed.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6 January 2022 were approved by the Committee as an accurate record.

3. Questions from the public

No questions from members of the public were received.

4. Community Children's Services – South East Essex

The Chairman welcomed Tricia D'Orsi from the Castle Point and Rochford CCG to the meeting.

The Committee received the following update covering these key issues:

- This proposal was presented and endorsed by Southend Borough Council's People and Families Committee on 9 February 2022
- This report is for noting and the Committee are asked to support the recommendations set out in the paper
- These children's services are usually provided by a community service and not a hospital provider and it was felt the best option was to novate the contract to Essex Partnership University Trust (EPUT)
- It is recognised they need to create a different offer and the new model will be more attractive to the workforce

- EPUT have a proven track record of delivering paediatric services in Mid and South Essex
- Due diligence was completed around ASD diagnosis and decision taken to extend the service to 18-year-olds at the point of novation
- Efficiency will come from services working better, with a strong multi-disciplinary focus
- Power of feedback from resident voices is imperative as to how the service is taken forward – do not want it to be a top-down service.

After discussion, it was **Resolved** that:

- i) Further update to be provided to the Committee in six months
- ii) Committee endorsed the recommendations set out in the report

5. Urgent and Emergency Performance Update

The Chairman welcomed Neill Moloney, Deputy Chief Executive at East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust (ESNEFT) to the meeting.

The Committee received the following update covering these key issues:

- Most patients who require urgent care start out in the community and arrive at hospital via ambulance. Many patients are managed at home and do not require hospital treatment
- Have started to identify different pathways where patients who only need A&E care are taken there. Urgent treatment services are based in Clacton and Colchester Hospital and are working effectively
- Trying to minimise the amount of time someone has to spend in a hospital bed
- Planning for seasonal pressures starts very early. ESNEFT had a robust plan with regard the Covid-19 situation late last year
- Saw an increase in activity during omicron variant. High levels of staff sickness and ability to respond to challenges were impacted by this
- Lessons have been learnt from experience last year – ESNEFT did not raise a critical incident. 45 patients currently in Colchester Hospital with Covid-19
- Elective care waiting times have increased – now in excess of 1500 patients across the Trust. Target is that no one waits more than two years for elective treatment. On track to meet this target in March 2022.

After discussion, it was **Resolved** that:

- i) Further update to be presented to Committee in October/November 2022

The Chairman welcomed Elizabeth Podd, Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust to the meeting.

The Committee received the following update covering these key issues:

- Urgent Treatment Centre at PAH expanded to 7 days a week between 07:00 – 02:00

- PAH reviewed and relocated day case activity to support patient surgery
- Developed a cohort area in the Emergency Department with ED and East of England Crews to support ambulance handover
- Extended the operating hours of the discharge lounge
- Opened additional community capacity on the PAH site with Essex Partnership Trust support
- Enhanced virtual ward support for patients in Essex
- Opened and responded as required for covid capacity
- Created surge capacity for inpatients
- Created super surge capacity if needed to support inpatients
- Relocated and opened Red ITU
- The end of 'lockdown' precipitated a significant increase in attendances higher than at any time over the last five years, impacting our performance against the standard
- May 2020 – January 2021 saw an increase each month in handovers
- With bed occupancy, there has been a gradual increase in length of stay, stranded and super stranded patients.

After discussion, it was **Resolved** that:

- i) Further update to be presented to Committee in October/November 2022

6. Chairman's Report

The Committee noted the information update within the Chairman's report.

The Committee agreed to invite Healthwatch Essex to future Chairman's Forum meetings.

7. Member Updates

The following updates were provided to the Committee:

8. Work Programme

The Committee noted the current work programme.

9. Future Meeting Dates

The Committee agreed the proposed future meetings dates for the 2022/23 municipal year.

10. Appointment to Scrutiny Review Task and Finish Group

The Committee nominated Cllr Jeff Henry to be on Scrutiny Review Task and Finish Group.

11. Date of next meeting

To note that the next committee meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 3 March 2022 at 10:30am.

12. Urgent business

No urgent business received.

13. Urgent exempt business

No urgent exempt business received.

The meeting closed at 12:14pm.

Chairman

Report title: Maternity Services at ESNEFT	
Report to: Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Report author: Anna Turner, Associate Director of Engagement, ESNEFT	
Date: 3 March 2022	For: Discussion
Enquiries to: Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager (richard.buttress3@essex.gov.uk) or Jasmine Carswell, Democratic Services Officer (jasmine.carswell@essex.gov.uk)	
County Divisions affected: Not applicable	

1. Introduction

This paper provides an update to the Committee further to the briefing provided at the meeting of 2 September 2021 and the information paper provided to the Committee on 19 March.

2. Background

- 2.1 Between 30 March and 7 April 2021, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) undertook unannounced inspections of East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust's (ESNEFT) maternity services at the two main units. Feedback included that there were no urgent concerns about the safety of women or their babies. As a result of this inspection, in January 2021, the Trust's CQC rating for maternity services changed from 'Good' to 'Requires Improvement'. No restrictions placed on ESNEFT's CQC registration.
- 2.2 The full reports can be seen at:
- **Colchester Hospital:** <https://api.cqc.org.uk/public/v1/reports/c12a4b80-6263-42f2-8c5d-336db4a3348d?20210621104708>
 - **Ipswich Hospital:** <https://api.cqc.org.uk/public/v1/reports/bcefa105-afe2-449b-963b-373f3a376456?20210621104708>
- 2.3 Following the CQC inspection, and including the Trust's own existing internal work which included responses to the Ockenden Report, the Every Birth Every Day (EBED) Programme was set up to deliver a series of recommendations to support elements of the maternity services. The Programme is organised around four work streams addressing organisational development, safety culture, governance, and staffing and workforce.

3. Main progress since last update

The EBED Programme Board has continued to meet every month and is overseeing swift progress on all elements of its work plan, including the development of a Maternity Strategy. In our last paper in January, we told the Committee about developments in leadership and engagement. This paper focuses more on the development of and support for our maternity workforce.

4. Developing and increasing the resilience of our maternity workforce

- 4.1 In our medical workforce, our three new consultant Obstetricians will begin

working with ESNEFT on 1 April. Importantly, both of these individuals have backgrounds in foetal medicine, which will provide valuable additional knowledge in our teams for both service users and their unborn children.

- 4.2 Of our pool of 17 additional midwives who we have successfully recruited from other countries, we are pleased that two have begun working with us this month, and that the other colleagues from overseas will be starting work with us over the coming months. These staff will bring significant experience and increase the breadth of knowledge within our teams.
- 4.3 We have put in place a 'Recruitment and Retention Midwife' who is a midwife with a special interest in understanding any barriers we may have to recruitment or any issues we may have that may be causing midwives to want to leave. They will also be supporting our international recruitments as they settle in to their roles. The post-holder will report to the Deputy Heads of Midwifery and be tasked with implementing a robust induction process to develop an increasingly supportive environment for our midwifery colleagues.
- 4.4 We are pleased to say that we currently have 23 trainee midwives who are about to qualify and who wish to stay with ESNEFT.
- 4.5 We have plans to implement the Advanced Midwifery Practitioners role across ESNEFT as part of a national pilot. These colleagues are already highly experienced midwives, and this designation will enable them to have advanced skills which will support our various departments within maternity eg triage, outpatient clinics and assist with surgical delivery amongst other things.
- 4.6 In order to create a clear career and succession plan for our workforce, we are also creating two Maternity Support Workers who will provide support and teaching for our less experienced colleagues such as maternity care assistants. In this way, these colleagues will be able to see a clear progression path for them, and a possible way into direct midwifery, should they themselves wish to qualify.
- 4.7 There has been significant time invested since the CQC reports in developing the working environment for staff and in supporting them to deal with the many challenges associated with working in high-pressure roles. As part of this work, we conducted a temperature check survey with maternity staff in January this year, which demonstrates improvement in every area including feeling involved, valued, able to influence decisions and recommending the Trust as a place to work. Following on from this work, over the coming months, we are planning a series of events with maternity staff across ESNEFT, which will help to provide them with a series of tools and techniques that they can use to support themselves.

5. Continuity of Carer programme

- 5.1 Our work continues to re-start the paused Continuity of Carer programme. The programme will focus on the most deprived areas first. In north east Essex, this means that we will begin with midwifery teams focused on service users in the

Jaywick area. We have developed our building blocks to phasing in of Continuity of carer across our service at ESNEFT.

6. Engaging with our communities and service users

- 6.1** ESNEFT continues to work with the Maternity Voices Partnership (MVP), which is an independently run patient representative group, to develop collaborative work on a regional triage service. MVP have been invaluable in working with our staff and service users to provide input into an approach to deliver continuous improvements to our services.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1** The Trust continues to see steady progress on the EBED programme which will remain a significant priority for ESNEFT, working to ensure the delivery of the main programme outcomes throughout 2022.

Report title: Chairman's Report	
Report to: Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Report author: Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager	
Date: 3 March 2022	For: Information
Enquiries to: Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager – richard.buttress3@essex.gov.uk or Jasmine Carswell, Democratic Services Officer – jasmine.carswell@essex.gov.uk	
County Divisions affected: Not applicable	

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is the latest update reporting on discussions at HOSC Chairman's Forum meetings (Chairman, Vice Chairmen and Lead JHOSC Member).

2. Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider this report and identify any issues arising.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Forum usually meets monthly in between scheduled Committee meetings to discuss work planning. In addition, there are also meetings with the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care on a bi-monthly basis and quarterly meetings with senior officers.

4. Update and Next Steps

- 4.1. Due to the short amount of time between the completion of the February 2022 HOSC meeting and the March 2022 meeting, and owing to the fact there was no business that required discussion, the Chairman's Forum did not meet before publication of the agenda.

5. List of Appendices – none

Report title: Member Updates	
Report to: Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Report author: Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager	
Date: 3 March 2022	For: Discussion
Enquiries to: Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager – richard.buttress3@essex.gov.uk or Jasmine Carswell, Democratic Services Officer – jasmine.carswell@essex.gov.uk	
County Divisions affected: Not applicable	

1. Introduction

This is an opportunity for members to update the Committee
(see Background below)

2. Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider oral reports received and any issues arising.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Chairman and Vice Chairman have requested a standard agenda item to receive updates from members (usually oral but written reports can be provided ahead of time for inclusion in the published agenda if preferred).
- 3.2 All members are encouraged to attend meetings of their local health commissioners and providers and report back any information and issues of interest and/or relevant to the Committee. In particular, HOSC members who serve as County Council representatives observing the following bodies may wish to provide an update.

4. Update and Next Steps

Oral updates to be given.

5. List of Appendices – none

Report title: Work Programme	
Report to: Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Report author: Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager	
Date: 3 March 2022	For: Information
Enquiries to: Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager – richard.buttress3@essex.gov.uk or Jasmine Carswell, Democratic Services Officer – jasmine.carswell@essex.gov.uk	
County Divisions affected: Not applicable	

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The current work programme for the Committee is attached.

2. Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked:
- (i) to consider this report and work programme in the Appendix and any further development of amendments;
 - (ii) to discuss further suggestions for briefings/scrutiny work.

3. Background**3.1 Briefings and training**

Further briefings and discussion days will continue to be scheduled on an ongoing basis as identified and required.

3.2 Formal committee activity

The current work programme continues to be a live document, developed as a result of work planning sessions and subsequent ongoing discussions between the Chairman and Lead Members, and within full committee.

4. Update and Next Steps

See Appendix.

5. List of Appendices - Work Programme overleaf

**Prove Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme – March 2022**

Date	Topic	Theme/Focus	Approach and next steps
March 2022			
March 2022	Maternity Services at ESNEFT	Committee to receive a progress update on the implementation of recommendations from the CQC.	
		-	
April 2022			
April 2022	Princess Alexandra Hospital	Committee to receive an update from Princess Alexandra Hospital on its redevelopment plans	
May 2022			
June 2022			
July 2022			
July 2022	East of England Ambulance Service Trust	Committee to receive an update on the progress being made against CQC recommendations	
September 2022			
September 2022	South-East Essex Community Children's Services – Lighthouse Child Development Centre	Committee to receive an update following the transfer of the Lighthouse Child Development Centre to EPUT	

September 2022	Winter Flu	Committee to receive a report on preparations for the Winter period	
October 2022			
November 2022			
November 2022	A&E Seasonal Pressures	Committee to receive updates from the hospital trusts on their preparations for Winter	
December 2022			

Items to be programmed	Topic	Theme/Focus	Approach and next steps
TBC	GP Provision in Essex	<p>Committee to receive a briefing comprising of the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of GP provision across Essex, including staffing levels, recruitment plans, overall service performance - Digitalisation of access to health <p>Extended hours programme for a number of GP services</p>	
TBC	Autism Strategy	Committee to receive an update on Autism Services following initial report in January 2021. Scope set out as below:	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Referral and diagnosis times ▪ Transitions between children and adult services ▪ The number of people across Essex affected by Autism ▪ The impact of Covid-19 on Children's Autism services. 	
TBC	Mental Health Services	Committee to receive a further update on the mental health response to the pandemic and future service planning for changes in demand.	
TBC	New NHS Hubs	Further scoping required.	
TBC	Essex Partnership University Foundation Trust (EPUT Linden Centre review	Further scoping required.	
TBC	Hospital waiting times – overview of all Essex hospitals	Further scoping required.	
TBC	NHS 111 – impact of GP's directing people to that service	Further scoping required.	
TBC	Section 106 monies within the NHS	Further scoping required.	