

Chairman's Report to the Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Board –10 November 2016

Financial Challenges to the Health Services in Surrey

I refer Members to the Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Board Report to the Council meeting of 11 October 2016 for an in-depth discussion on this subject.

South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAmb)

Members will recall that SECAmb provides 111 and 999 services to Surrey; East Sussex; West Sussex; Brighton and Hove; Kent; and Medway.

On 28 September 2016, I took part in a Quality Summit for SECAmb following a Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection of its emergency and urgent care services (the 999 service). The CQC rated the Trust as 'Inadequate' in this area.

As you are aware, the CQC inspects on a number of different themes. The CQC found the service was inadequate for safe, effective and well led, requires improvement for responsive, and was good for caring.

As a consequence, NHS England placed SECAmb into special measures for an initial period of 6 months. During this time, SECAmb management will be working to an agreed Improvement Plan with close help and supervision from NHS England.

In these circumstances, it seems appropriate to seek to reduce the burden placed on the SECAmb management of needing to report to seven individual Health Overview Scrutiny Committees (HOSCs).

Officers have drafted Terms of Reference (TORs) for a regional scrutiny sub-group, which can be found on pages 27 and 28 of the Agenda for today. I will be speaking with my colleagues to finalise arrangements at the South East Regional HOSC meeting on 18 November 2016.

I believe a regional sub-group would serve to reduce duplication, while also ensuring we are able to track progress against the improvement plan. It will also free up the capacity of the management team for SECAmb, and enable them to focus on improving services for the benefit of our residents.

Interviews for the substantive Chief Executive role will take place on 16 November 2016 and I have been invited to take part in that process.

Scrutiny and Support of Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs)

We are due to receive a progress update from each of the STPs today.

Attachment 1 to this report provides an excellent overview of the three Surrey STPs, and suggests the options for how the Board might scrutinise and support them in the year ahead.

We should note that in May 2017 there will be a new County Council and new membership to the Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Board.

Furthermore, where we are not the only HOSC involved in scrutinising an STP, the wishes of sister HOSCs will have to be satisfied. This is the situation for the Frimley STP and the Sussex and East Surrey STP.

It seems important that we work with colleagues, both within the Council, the NHS and our regional counterparts to reach a consensus view on how we develop our scrutiny of these plans, and I intend to work fully with all those partners on the Board's behalf to explore the options set out.

As far as scrutiny by the full WHSB is concerned: to date we have settled into a pattern of six monthly reviews, having first addressed the three emerging STPs at our workshop on 31 May 2016. This seems to be a sensible pattern and if followed, would have the new WHSB addressing the STPs again early in its term of office.

Organisation of scrutiny of the **Surrey Heartlands STP** is the most straightforward as we are the only scrutiny board involved at a county level. The STP has formed its Stakeholder Reference Group with mixed executive and scrutiny membership. Several Members of the WHSB took part in its first Meeting on 29 September 2016.

The Surrey Heartlands footprint includes Epsom Hospital whose future is not clear in my view. There might conceivably be a need to reform some sort of joint working with South-West London Boroughs along the lines that took place during the life of the 'Better Service Better Value' proposal.

The **Frimley STP** has also formed a mixed executive and scrutiny Member Reference Group. I took part in its first meeting on 22 June 2016 at which point the Group had its first view of the outline provisional Plan. Since then we have had Frimley's plan presented at our WHSB Workshop on 31 May 2016 and I saw the presentation again at the 22 September 2016 AGM of Surrey Heath CCG. The Plan

has been stable over that period and in my view is evolutionary rather than calling for significant change, therefore comparatively low risk.

Frimley Health, which includes Frimley Park Hospital serving Surrey, was rated 'Outstanding' by the CQC in September 2014 and other suppliers are also good; the interests of Surrey residents are well protected by the North East Hants and the Surrey Heath CCGs and I have a close relationship with the Surrey Heath CCG through my membership of the Surrey Heath Health and Well-being Board; I have had a 12 year working relationship with Andrew Morris the STP Lead.

Successful delivery of the **Sussex and East Surrey STP** appears to be more challenging than for either of the other two STPs.

For example, the quality of suppliers varies across the footprint. Whilst the Surrey and Sussex Hospital in East Surrey was rated 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission's (CQC) in June 2016, the Royal Sussex County Hospital (Brighton) was rated 'Inadequate' by the CQC and put into Special Measures by NHS Improvement in August 2016. East Sussex Healthcare Trust were placed in Financial Special Measures in October 2016.

Discussions are continuing with HOSC Chairmen from East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove concerning how best to work together to scrutinise and support the STP and these will be continued at our South East Regional HOSC Meeting on 18 November 2016. Michael Wilson, the Chief Executive, is supportive of the idea of closer working of the HOSCs.

Other Meetings Attended Since Last WHSB Meeting

On 21 September 2016, I took part in a full day event on STPs run by the Centre for Public Scrutiny which was attended by HOSC Members and Officers from all over England.

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