

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

Committee:	Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee
Date:	19 September 2023
Title:	Issues Relating to the Planning, Provision and/or Operation of Health Services
Report From:	Director of People and Organisation

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Purpose of this Report

1. This report provides Members with information about the issues brought to the attention of the Committee which impact upon the planning, provision and/or operation of health services within Hampshire, or the Hampshire population.
2. Where appropriate comments have been included and copies of briefings or other information attached. Where scrutiny identifies that the issue raised for the Committee's attention will result in a variation to a health service, this topic will be considered as part of the 'Proposals to Vary Health Services' report.
3. New issues raised with the Committee, and those that are subject to on-going reporting, are set out in Table One of this report.
4. Issues covered in this report:
 - a) Southern Health Acute Mental Health Wards Care Quality Commission Inspection (Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust)
 - b) Pressures facing Ford Ward, Fordingbridge Hospital (Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust)

Recommendations

5. That the Committee request a further update on progress made in completing the CQC action plan to be presented at the March 2024 HASC meeting.
6. That the Committee request to be kept informed of any changes to the plans to permanently close Ford Ward and any implications that arise from implementing this closure.

Executive Summary

Table 1

Topic	Relevant Bodies	Action Taken	Comment
a) CQC inspection/activation plan re. mental health inpatient units	Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust	CQC carried out an inspection in October 2022. As a result, the overall rating for these services remains as 'Requires Improvement'.	The CQC findings report was published in April 2023.
b) Proposed closure of Ford Ward, Fordingbridge Hospital	Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust	Due to staffing challenges, Ford Ward is temporarily closed. Southern Health are proposed to permanently close the Ward.	

Scrutiny Powers

9. The Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee has the remit within the Hampshire County Council Constitution for 'Scrutiny of the provision and operation of health services in Hampshire'. Health scrutiny is a fundamental way by which democratically elected local councillors are able to voice the views of their constituents, and hold relevant NHS bodies and relevant health service providers to account. The primary aim of health scrutiny is to act as a lever to improve the health of local people, ensuring their needs are considered as an integral part of the commissioning, delivery and development of health services.
10. The Committee has a role to 'review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in Hampshire'. Health scrutiny functions are not there to deal with individual complaints, but they can use information to get an impression of services overall and to question commissioners and providers about patterns and trends. Health scrutiny can request information from relevant NHS bodies and relevant health service providers, and may seek information from additional sources for example local Healthwatch.
11. The Committee has the power 'to make reports and recommendations to relevant NHS bodies and to relevant health service providers on any matter that it has reviewed or scrutinised'. To be most effective, recommendations should be evidence based, constructive, and have a clear link to improving the delivery

and development of health services. The Committee should avoid duplicating activity undertaken elsewhere in the health system e.g. the work of regulators.

Finance

12. Financial implications will be covered within the briefings provided by the NHS appended to this report, where relevant.

Performance

13. Performance information will be covered within the briefings provided by the NHS appended to this report where relevant.

Consultation and Equalities

14. Details of any consultation and equalities considerations will be covered within the briefings provided by the NHS appended to this report where relevant.

Climate Change Impact Assessment

15. Consideration should be given to any climate change impacts where relevant.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	no
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	no
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	no

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

This is a covering report for items from the NHS that require the attention of the HASC. It does not therefore make any proposals which will impact on groups with protected characteristics.