

REPORT OF THE
Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee
PART II

1. SUMMARY AND LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

- 1.1. This report provides an update on the work of Hampshire County Council's Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee from April 2020 to March 2021.
- 1.2. For 2020-21, the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee held the Local Government statutory responsibility for health scrutiny powers. These powers are intended to ensure that decisions about health services are taken with due regard to the people affected. The legislative framework within which the Committee functioned in this year allowed Members to consider any aspect of health that affects the population of Hampshire. It also placed very specific duties on the NHS with regard to consultation, information and responses to any recommendations made by the Committee.
- 1.3. The Committee was a statutory consultee on any potential substantial change being considered by the NHS, and had the power to refer contested decisions about health services to the Secretary of State for Health or to Monitor for Foundation Trusts.
- 1.4. In accordance with the Constitution of Hampshire County Council, the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee also focuses on how the County Council is contributing to delivering the Wellbeing agenda for adults' social care; promoting independence and quality of life for older people; healthy and safe families; Public Health; the integration of Health and Care services and relevant financial management.

2. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

- 2.1 The annual report of the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee is appended to this report. The Chairman of the Committee for the time period this report relates to was Councillor Roger Huxstep.

COUNCILLOR BILL WITHERS
Chairman, Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee

Scrutiny Annual Report: April 2020 to March 2021

Select Committee: Health and Adult Social Care

Report of Chairman: Councillor Bill Withers on behalf of previous Chairman Councillor Roger Huxstep

1. In-depth or Light Touch Reviews undertaken / outcomes being monitored:

No Working Groups were active or follow ups received in this period.

2. Statutory Duties Undertaken: Scrutiny of Proposals to Develop or Vary Health Services in Hampshire:

a) 'Hampshire Together': Modernising our Hospitals and Health Services Programme - Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

At its July 2020 meeting, the Committee heard from Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and commissioners regarding funding received under the government's Health Infrastructure Plan for investment in health infrastructure. The Committee learned that the Trust's hospitals require significant maintenance to bring them up to standard, and that difficult decisions would need to be made about what services would be provided where, to ensure sustainability and high quality care in the future. The Trust had been awarded seed funding to develop a strategic outline case for use of the capital funding available.

At the Committee's November 2020 meeting the Trust and commissioners presented their initial proposals for use of the funding, following an options appraisal process. A short list of options were under consideration. The options included building a new hospital near junction 7 of the M3, or building on land adjacent to the current hospital in Basingstoke. The Committee concluded that the proposals represent a substantial change to health services. As Southampton City Council had also reached this view, there was a requirement to form a Joint Scrutiny Committee to scrutinise the proposals. The HASC supported a Terms of Reference for a Joint Committee that was agreed by the County Council at its meeting in early December 2020.

The Joint Committee, made up of 7 Hampshire County Councillors and 1 Councillor from Southampton City Council, met in December 2020 and March 2021 as the Trust had initially planned to go out to public consultation on their plans in Spring 2021. The Joint Committee had the opportunity to comment on the planned approach to the consultation. Following feedback from the national assurance process, the consultation is on hold pending further work on the financial implications of the options under consideration. The Joint Committee will be re-convened in 2021 when a revised timetable for the consultation becomes clear.

b) Building Better Emergency Care Programme - Portsmouth Hospitals Trust

In July 2020 the Committee heard that Portsmouth Hospitals Trust had been awarded funding under Sustainability and Transformation Partnership capital allocations to develop the Emergency Department (ED) at the Queen Alexandra Hospital in Portsmouth. The existing ED layout was not designed for the number of patients the Trust now sees.

The Committee received an update at their November 2020 meeting that the outline business case had been approved and designs were being progressed. A preferred site had been identified to build a new Emergency Department on an existing car park on site. The topic remains on the work programme for further update in 2021.

c) Integrated Primary Care Access Service Update: Fareham and Gosport and South Eastern Hampshire CCGs and Southern Hampshire Primary Care Alliance

The Committee had previously scrutinised plans for integrated primary care access services across Fareham, Gosport and South East Hampshire. In September 2020 the Committee received a written update including how the pandemic had affected access to GP services. It was reported that the current model would run until the contract expires in March 2021 and commissioners would be developing a longer term model. A further update was received in March 2021, at which time the Committee heard that the current contract would be extended for a further year due to the pandemic. The topic remains on the work programme for a future update prior to expiry of the contract in April 2022.

d) Proposed Closure of Willow Ward: Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

In September 2020, the Committee were notified that Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust planned to close a ward used for treating adults with a learning disability whose behaviour is challenging. Members heard that there had been a reduction in demand for these beds and it was proposed to provide care for these individuals in future through a community based service. The Committee supported the closure as in the interest of service users and the local health system.

e) Out-of-Area Mental Health Placements: Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

In September 2020 the Committee received an update from Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust regarding use of out of area mental health beds, a topic the Committee had previously scrutinised. Members welcomed the progress the Trust had made in reducing use of out of area beds. It was however noted that the Trust was still placing patients in beds contracted from private providers within Hampshire. A further update was received in January 2021, when it was reported that the Trust would be increasing its in house bed capacity with a new 10 bed female Psychiatric Intensive

Care Unit at Antelope House in Southampton, and a new 18 bed female acute mental health ward at Parklands Hospital in Basingstoke, due to open later in 2021. Members welcomed this development.

f) Orthopaedic Trauma Transformation Update: Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and West Hampshire CCG

The Committee had previously scrutinised plans by the Trust to centralise trauma services to Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital. An update was received in September 2020. It was reported that the next phase of the trauma and orthopaedic services transformation programme had been disrupted by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. A further update was received in March 2021. The topic remains on the work programme for a future update.

g) Becton Centre Closure: Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

At the January 2021 meeting the Committee was notified of the intention by Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust to move the services and teams based at the Becton Centre in New Milton to other locations and close the building. The Committee supported the proposal on the evidence that the building was no longer fit for purpose and the change did not involve any reduction to services.

h) Whitehill & Bordon Health and Wellbeing Hub update: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Partnership of Clinical Commissioning Groups

At the March 2021 meeting the Committee received an update on the development of a health and wellbeing hub for the Whitehill and Bordon area. It was reported that there remained a financial viability gap which was being worked through. The topic remains on the work programme for a future update.

i) Andover Hospital Minor Injuries Unit – Update: Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and West Hampshire CCG

The Committee have been monitoring the Andover Minor Injuries Unit for some time as the Trust have had difficulty staffing the Unit for the commissioned hours. In September 2020 a written update was received, reporting that the Unit had been closed temporarily in April 2020 due to the pandemic but was re-opening from October 2020. The Trust is continuing to work on a sustainable model of urgent care within Andover and the topic remains on the work programme for a future update to the Committee.

3. Scrutiny of Issues relating to the Planning, Provision or Operation of Health Services:

a) Care Quality Commission (CQC) Inspection Outcome and Monitoring: Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

In September 2020 the Committee considered the report from a Care Quality Commission inspection of services provided by Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust published in April 2020. Members welcomed that the Trust's overall rating was 'Good', an improvement on the 'Requires Improvement' rating from the previous inspection in 2018.

b) Clinical Commissioning Group Reform

In September 2020 the Committee were notified of the intention of six Clinical Commissioning Groups covering the Hampshire area to merge in April 2021. Members were disappointed that Portsmouth City Clinical Commissioning Group and North East Hampshire and Farnham Clinical Commissioning Group would not form part of the new arrangement. A further update was received in March 2021, and it was noted that the government had published a White Paper regarding plans for further join up between health and care services in Integrated Care Systems (ICS). The Committee requested a further update later in 2021 on the development of a Hampshire and Isle of Wight ICS.

c) NHS 111 First

At the November 2020 meeting the Committee were briefed on the local implementation of a national programme 'NHS 111 First' encouraging patients to ring 111 for advice on whether to attend an Emergency Department (ED), and then staff would book them an appointment at the ED. This approach was designed to help manage attendance at Accident and Emergency during the pandemic. The support to 111 had been increased to reflect the increased demand on this service during the pandemic. This topic remains on the work programme for review in 2021.

4. Pre-scrutiny of Significant Executive Decisions:

None in this period.

5. Call-In of Significant Executive Decisions:

There were no Call-Ins of any executive decisions in this period.

6. Referrals:

No topics were referred to the HASC for consideration in this period.

7. Scrutiny of Budgets and Performance:

a) Revenue Budget for Public Health for 2021/22:

The Committee reviewed the revenue budget for Public Health in January 2021 and resolved to support the recommendations being proposed to the Executive Member for Public Health.

b) Revenue Budget for Adults' Health and Care for 2021/22 and Capital Programme for Adults' Health and Care for 2021/22 to 2023/24:

The Committee reviewed the revenue and capital budgets for the Adults' Health and Care Department in January 2021 and resolved to support the recommendations being proposed to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health.

8. Policy Review:

No policy reviews were undertaken during this period.

9. Questioning and exploring areas of interest and concern:

Covid-19

The Committee has maintained an overview over the past year of the response in Hampshire to the Covid-19 pandemic by health and care system partners. Starting at the July 2020 meeting, the Committee received an update at each meeting from NHS Commissioners and provider Trusts, the Director of Public Health, and the Director of Adults Health and Care. These updates covered: the impact on hospitals; the vaccination programme; the impact on waiting times for planned care; the impact on care homes and other social care services; infection rates and testing; support to the clinically extremely vulnerable and those shielding.

The following topics were also considered:

- Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust Estates Update (November 2020)
- Adult Safeguarding Annual Report (October 2020)
- NHS 111 Performance (March 2021)
- Health and Social Care System Resilience during Covid-19 (March 2021)
- Clarence Unit Woodcot Lodge Discharge to Assess service (March 2021)

10. Upcoming topics:

The following topics feature on the Select Committee's Work Programme

- Adult Safeguarding
- Public Health Policies

- Scrutiny of the Health and Wellbeing Board
- Budget Scrutiny
- Care Quality Commission inspections of NHS Trusts serving the population of Hampshire
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Sustainability and Transformation Partnership and Long-Term Plan
- Temporary Service Closures and Planned Changes
- Updates on planned changes to health services previously considered
- Covid-19 vaccination programme and service recovery