

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 2021 to March 2022.
- 1.2. For 2021-22, 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.

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

Scrutiny Annual Report: April 2021 to March 2022

Select Committee: Health and Adult Social Care

Report of Chairman: Councillor Bill Withers

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

Public Health Services Task and Finish Group

In June 2021, the Committee established a cross party Task and Finish Group to support the wider HASC in making recommendations to the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health in respect of the T21 Public Health savings proposals. The Working Group met five times to consider the current service provision, the potential impacts of the proposals on residents and implications for Hampshire County Council and made its recommendations to the wider Committee at the October 2021 meeting.

SP23 Task and Finish Group

In October 2021, the Select Committee initiated a cross party Task and Finish Group to review savings proposals totalling £725,000 in relation to the future of the Adults Social Care Grant Schemes and reductions to Social Inclusion services, as part of the wider Adults' Savings Programme 2023 (SP23). The Group met five times over a six month period providing Members the opportunity to question and scrutinise the approach being taken and provide input to support the development of final proposals to the wider Committee. The Working Group reported to the full Committee when the Committee pre-scrutinise the proposals to the Executive Member in summer 2022.

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

a) Building Better Emergency Care Programme - Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust

As part of a regular cycle of updates, at its June 2021 meeting, the Committee heard from Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust on plans 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 heard that learning from the pandemic would be built in to the new facility e.g. ventilation and flexibility of space. Engagement had been undertaken and feedback had been received around the environment and accessibility. Further work was needed to form a full Business Case for submission by May 2022, with the timeline to open the new facility in late 2024. The topic remains on the work programme for further update in 2022.

b) Urology services proposed reconfiguration: Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

At its June 2021 meeting, the Committee received an update from Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust presenting a report on proposals to reconfigure the urology service. It was planned to consolidate emergency urology to be treated at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester from September 2021. This would enable a better service to be provided for patients. The Committee supported the proposals to centralise emergency urology services on the basis that this was in the best interest of the service users.

c) Mental Health Inpatient Beds – Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

At its September 2021 meeting, the Committee heard from Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust, a provider of mental health services providing services in Hampshire, regarding the usage of Out of Area beds for mental health inpatients. The Trust had notified the Committee of their intention to increase their in house inpatient bed capacity, to reduce their reliance on other providers in future. The Committee heard that a new 18 bed female acute mental health ward had been opened in Basingstoke in August 2021, and a 10 bed female psychiatric intensive care unit in Southampton was likely to open at the end of 2021 or early in 2022.

d) NHS 111 and Integrated Urgent Care (South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust)

In November 2021, the Committee received a presentation from representatives of South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust and Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group providing an update on performance of the NHS 111 service in Hampshire and developments towards further Integrated Urgent Care. Members heard that NHS 111 was continuing to see high demand and Commissioners were now funding the service based on modelling of this level continuing. This topic remains on the work programme for a further update in 2022.

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

a) Update on the development of Integrated Care Systems (ICS) in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight

In September 2021, the Committee considered a report from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group and Frimley Clinical Commissioning Group, regarding the development of Integrated Care Systems (ICS) covering the Hampshire population. Members heard that the Health and Care Bill required ICSs to be in place

by April 2022, to bring together providers and commissioners of NHS services, local authorities and other local partners to plan and improve health and care services to meet the needs of their population. It was highlighted that this included a shift in focus to wellbeing and population health, and tackling inequalities in outcomes, experience and access. The Committee received a further update in January 2022, at which point it was noted the implementation date for the changes had been delayed until July 2022. The topic remains on the work programme for further update in summer 2022.

b) Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust: Stage 2 Independent Investigation Report by Mr Nigel Pascoe QC

In October 2021, the Committee considered a briefing note from Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust regarding the Stage 2 Independent Investigation Report into the Trust conducted by Mr Nigel Pascoe QC published in September 2021. The report considered the circumstances of the deaths of five people in the care of the Trust between 2011 and 2015, the internal and external investigations of those deaths and the steps recommended or taken to prevent their re-occurrence. Stage 2 focused on where the Trust had got to and where it should be, with a view to future reform and improvement. The Trust and Commissioners returned to the Committee in January 2022 to present the Action Plan to respond to the recommendations made in the Independent Review reports. A further update was provided at the March 2022 meeting indicating that a number of actions had been completed. The issue remains on the work programme for a further update later in 2022 to provide assurance that improvement has been embedded.

c) Dental Services in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight – NHS England and NHS Improvement

At the November 2021 meeting, the Committee considered a report from NHS England and NHS Improvement on access to dental services in Hampshire. Members heard that dentists had closed during the first Covid lockdown so there was a backlog, and once they re-opened the infection control measures in place meant that dentists were operating at reduced capacity. There was also a workforce pressure in terms of the number of dentists which had started before the pandemic. The Committee are continuing to monitor this topic, a further update was received at the March 2022 meeting and further updates later in 2022 are due.

d) Primary Care Services

At the November 2021 meeting, the Committee considered a report from the Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group regarding Primary Care. Members were concerned that residents were having difficulty accessing face to face appointments with GPs. A further update was received at the March 2022

meeting. The topic remains on the work programme for a further update, including what is being done to ensure the future GP workforce can meet the need for primary care.

e) Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust Care Quality Commission Inspection Report

At the March 2022 meeting the Committee questioned Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust regarding their Care Quality Commission rating reducing from Good to Requires Improvement following a recent inspection. The topic remains on the work programme for an update later in 2022 on how the Trust plans to respond to the areas of improvement identified by regulators.

4. Pre-scrutiny of Significant Executive Decisions:

At the October 2021 meeting the Select Committee pre-scrutinised proposals to make revenue budget savings in a number of public health services, following a Working Group considering the issues (see section 1 above). The Committee supported the recommendations being proposed to the Executive Member of Adult Services and Public Health.

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) Adults Health and Care 2023 Savings Proposals

In September 2021, the Committee pre-scrutinised proposals to meet the anticipated budget gap by April 2023 and resolved to support the recommendations being made to the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health.

b) Revenue Budget for Adults' Health and Care for 2022/23 and Capital Programme for Adults' Health and Care for 2022/23 to 2024/25:

The Committee reviewed the revenue and capital budgets for the Adults' Health and Care Department in January 2022 and resolved to support the recommendations being proposed to the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public 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, particularly through the earlier part of the year, of the response in Hampshire to the Covid-19 pandemic by health and care system partners and County Council departments. The Committee received regular updates 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:

- Cancer Services Repatriation (June 2021)
- Adult Safeguarding Annual Report (November 2021)
- Southern Health: Adult Forensic Ward Upgrade (January 2022)
- Health and Wellbeing Board Annual Report (June 2021)
- Urgent Treatment Centre Model (March 2022)
- Integrated Primary Care Access Service Update (March 2022)
- Alton Community Hospital – new ward (March 2022)

10. Upcoming topics:

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

- Adult Safeguarding annual report
- Health and Wellbeing Board annual report
- Budget Scrutiny
- Care Quality Commission inspections of NHS Trusts serving the population of Hampshire
- Whitehill and Bordon Health Hub development
- Extended Access to Primary Care Services
- Development of an Elective Hub and management of backlog following the pandemic
- Temporary Service Closures and Planned Changes to NHS Services
- Updates on planned changes to health services previously considered