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**SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2020**

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**Present:** Councillors Bogle (Chair), White (Vice-Chair), Laurent, Professor Margetts, Noon, Payne and Vaughan

5. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes for the Panel meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record.

6. **COVID-19: RECOVERY PLAN OVERVIEW**

The Panel considered and noted the report providing an overview of the recovery and restoration activity underway in the Southampton and South West Hampshire system following the COVID-19 outbreak.

Stephanie Ramsey - Director of Quality and Integration, Integrated Commissioning Unit (ICU); David Noyes - Chief Operating Officer, Solent NHS Trust; Joe Teape – Chief Operating Officer, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust; Dr Adam Cox - Divisional Clinical Director, Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust and Jane Hayward – Hampshire and Isle of Wight Care System were in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Panel discussed a number of points including:

- How the health care providers are recovering from the peak of the Covid-19 pandemic and the risks, pressures on their services;
- Workforce resilience;
- The effect of the pandemic on numbers of patients:
  - awaiting routine appointments;
  - needing early help and assistance to prevent the need for more intensive care;
  - public willingness to attend medical settings. The Panel sought to understand whether reluctance to attend clinical settings during the pandemic had led to an increase in urgent / crisis referrals;
- Sustainability of funding;
- How Covid-19 appears to have been a catalyst to deliver changes that were already identified as being required such as:
  - the increased co-operation with service providers;
  - a greater emphasis on treatment outside of the emergency department, in community settings; and
  - the better use of technology.

The Panel questioned the extent to which the system would revert back to the previous operating methods once the pandemic is over as individual Trust's focus on their priorities.

- System resilience with regards to the expected Wave 2 Covid-19 and winter pressures, given workforce concerns; and
- The long term impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on the local health system.

7. **SOUTHERN HEALTH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST - WILLOW WARD PROPOSAL AND CQC UPDATE**

The Panel considered the report of the Chair of the Panel requesting that HOSP consider proposals to close Willow Ward, and the Trust's CQC inspection update.

Celia Scott-Molloy – Head of Operations, Learning and Disability Service- Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust and Ron Shields, Chief Executive - Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust were in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Panel discussed a number of points including:

- The number of patients now on Willow Ward;
- What the new community based provision would look like;
- The impact on service users that the delay in service from the proposed closure of Willow Ward to the new service being established would have; and
- Whether the creation of the new service would help to reduce the number of patients that require treatment outside of the region over time;

The Panel welcomed Ron Shields to the meeting congratulating the Trust on its recent CQC rating and commenting on the improvement shown by the Trust.

**RESOLVED** That an update is provided to the Panel, in advance of the 22 October meeting of the Panel, that would set out any progress on establishing the proposed Enhanced Intensive Support Service.

8. **THE EMERGING PICTURE - COVID 19 AND HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN SOUTHAMPTON**

The Panel considered and noted the report the Interim Director of Public Health enabling the Panel to discuss the emerging picture with regards to Covid-19 and health inequalities in Southampton.

Dr Debbie Chase - Interim Director of Public Health, Southampton City Council and Kate Lees - Consultant in Public Health, Southampton City Council were in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Panel discussed a number of points including:

- Resources available to the Interim Director of Public Health to support action to tackle health inequalities in the City;
- When more robust evidence is anticipated that would enable a base level being established that would help to direct approaches;
- Whether the Council was listening to the views and evidence provided by Public Health in establishing policy locally; and
- What implications were there to the City with the forthcoming abolition of Public Health England.

9. **CCG REFORM IN HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT**

The Panel considered the report of the Chair of the Panel recommending that the Panel consider developing a response to the proposals to reform Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Dr Mark Kelsey – Clinical Chair, NHS Southampton City CCG and James Rimmer – Managing Director, NHS Southampton City CCG were in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Panel noted that this item would be returning to the 22 October 2020 meeting for a fuller discussion. It was explained that the item would be presented to the Board of the CCG prior to this date.

The Panel raised a number of points including:

- The Panel's concerns that needs of Southampton residents would be side-lined as part of the reform. The Panel expressed apprehension that the joining together of the areas CCGs would result in a reduction in focus on the health matters within the City;
- The need for a place- based approach to health care as much as possible based on the needs of Southampton's population;
- A need for an explanation on governance arrangements and more detail on how the proposed reforms would work;
- The Panel briefly explored why Portsmouth CCG had not engaged in the merger and sought clarification on the benefits of any proposed changes.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) the Panel delegated responsibility to the Scrutiny Manager, in consultation with the Chair, to draft a response on behalf of the Panel setting out the Panel's comments in regard the proposed reforms in advance of the joint meeting of regional CCGs on 24 September; and
- (ii) the 22 October meeting of the Panel includes a more detailed item on CCG reforms in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.