Committee: Healthier Communities and Older People

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 2014
Agenda item:
Wards: ALL

Subject: Review of Health Services in South West London – verbal update

Lead officer:

Lead member: Councillor Logie Lohendran, Chair of the Healthier Communities and Older People overview and scrutiny panel.

Forward Plan reference number:

Contact officer: Stella Akintan, stella.akintan@merton.gov.uk; 020 8545 3390

Recommendations:

A. That Panel members comment on the feedback from the discussion between the Chair, Vice Chair of this Panel and Dr Howard Freeman, Chairman of Merton Clinical Commissioning Group on the next steps for health services in South West London following the end of the Better Services Better Value Review.

B.

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1. To update the panel on the latest position on any planned reviews of health services in South West London.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. On the 6th January 2014 The Six South West London Clinical Commissioning Groups issued a press release stating that the business case for the Better Services Better Value Review was rendered invalid following the withdrawal of Surrey Downs Clinical Commissioning Group from the process.
- 2.2. The proposals within the BSBV review had significant implications for Merton residents, including the possible closure of Accident and Emergency and Maternity departments at Epsom and St Helier University Hospital.
- 2.3. The review was clear that the current configuration of health services in south west London is unsustainable therefore it is expected that a similar review will take place in the future.
- 2.4. Dr Freeman was invited to attend the Panel but had to decline due to a prior commitment. Therefore a meeting was scheduled for afternoon of the 12th February with Dr Freeman and Councillor Lohendran and Councillor McCabe to discuss the next steps and any early proposals for health services in South West London. The outcome of the discussion will be reported to the panel meeting.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel can select topics for scrutiny review and for other scrutiny work as it sees fit, taking into account views and suggestions from officers, partner organisations and the public.

Cabinet is constitutionally required to receive, consider and respond to scrutiny recommendations within two months of receiving them at a meeting.

- 3.1. Cabinet is not, however, required to agree and implement recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny. Cabinet could agree to implement some, or none, of the recommendations made in the scrutiny review final report.
- 4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED
- 4.1. The Panel will be consulted at the meeting
- 5 TIMETABLE
- 5.1. The Panel will consider important items as they arise as part of their work programme for 2013/14
- 6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS
- 6.1. None relating to this covering report
- 7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS
- 7.1. None relating to this covering report. Scrutiny work involves consideration of the legal and statutory implications of the topic being scrutinised.
- 8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS
- 8.1. It is a fundamental aim of the scrutiny process to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engaging with local partners in scrutiny reviews. Furthermore, the outcomes of reviews are intended to benefit all sections of the local community.
- 9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS
- 9.1. None relating to this covering report. Scrutiny work involves consideration of the crime and disorder implications of the topic being scrutinised.
- 10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS
- 10.1. None relating to this covering report
- 11 APPENDICES THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT
- 12 BACKGROUND PAPERS
- 12.1.