

Report to: **East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC)**

Date: **20th March 2008**

By: **Director of Law and Personnel**

Title of report: **Fit for the Future in West Sussex**

Purpose of report: **To update the Committee on the work of the Joint HOSC established to scrutinise the Fit for the Future proposals in West Sussex and Brighton and Hove.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

HOSC is recommended to:

1. Note the progress of the Joint HOSC and its planned work schedule for the remainder of the programme.

1. Background

1.1 A public consultation on 'Fit for the Future' proposals in West Sussex was launched by West Sussex Primary Care Trust (PCT), in conjunction with Brighton and Hove City PCT on 26th June 2007. The consultation document has previously been circulated to HOSC members for information and is available from the website www.southeastcoastfff.nhs.uk .

1.2 The proposals focus on the pattern of acute hospital services across West Sussex, currently provided at St Richard's Hospital in Chichester, Worthing Hospital and the Princess Royal Hospital in Haywards Heath. The proposals involve either St Richard's or Worthing becoming a Major General Hospital, the other becoming a Local General Hospital and the Princess Royal Hospital becoming either a Local General Hospital or Community Hospital. The proposals sit within a context of the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton further developing as a Critical Care Centre and a strategy of increased development of services outside hospitals, in community settings.

1.3 Because the proposals have the potential to impact on residents in a wide area covering several local authorities, it was necessary to form a Joint HOSC to undertake the detailed scrutiny of the proposals. East Sussex HOSC agreed the terms of reference for the Joint HOSC and nominated Cllr Rogers and Cllr Phillips as the Committee's representatives at the HOSC meeting on 22nd June 2007. The Joint HOSC also includes representatives from West Sussex, Brighton and Hove, Surrey, Hampshire and Portsmouth HOSCs. Further details and minutes of the Joint HOSC are available via the HOSC website www.eastsussexhealth.org .

2. Joint HOSC programme of work

2.1 Since the Joint HOSC met for the first time on 4th July 2007, the Committee has met 15 times. Each meeting has focussed on a particular area including: emergency care, maternity services, paediatrics and children's services, community services, finance, PCT consultation process. Evidence has also been taken from a range of major stakeholders.

2.2 Attached, at appendix 1, is the timetable for the remainder of the programme. The Joint HOSC is scheduled to agree its report to the PCT on 2nd May 2008. West Sussex PCT is then expected to make its decision on the preferred model of care at a Board meeting on 7th May 2008 and subsequently to make a decision on the preferred location for centralised services on 4th June 2008. The Joint HOSC will then consider the PCT's decision and their response to the Joint

HOSC's report on 25th June. Further meetings of the PCT Board and Joint HOSC will take place in July to consider any further recommendations or outstanding issues.

2.3 Brighton and Hove City PCT will separately consider the issues relating to the provision of planned care at either the Princess Royal Hospital or Worthing Hospital for its population.

3. Developments in the proposed model of care

3.1 In response to the consultation, which closed on 14th November 2007, 42 alternative options were put forward by the public and stakeholders (although a number of these were found to be identical or very similar to options already considered by the PCT). West Sussex PCT commissioned Sir Graeme Catto, President of the General Medical Council, to analyse and assess these options and make recommendations to the PCT Board.

3.2 Sir Graeme Catto's report to West Sussex PCT recommended that a new model of care, developed and supported by local clinicians, be added to the PCT's shortlist, alongside their original options. This new model still envisages some centralisation of more specialist services at one hospital site in West Sussex (either Worthing or Chichester). However, it retains a wider range of services than originally proposed at the two other sites including the majority of A&E services, intensive care and acute medical services. The PCT has agreed to add this model to its final shortlist.

3.3 Sir Graeme Catto also recommended that one of the PCT's original options which would see the Princess Royal Hospital become a community hospital should not be included on the final shortlist as it has little support from the public or clinicians. However, the PCT has decided to retain this option on its shortlist as it does still meet their criteria for a viable model of care.

3.4 The PCT's final shortlist of options therefore has three models of care:

- A Major General Hospital delivering more specialist services at either Chichester or Worthing, with the other site as a Local General Hospital and Princess Royal as a Community Hospital.
- A Major General Hospital delivering more specialist services at either Chichester or Worthing, with the other site and the Princess Royal as Local General Hospitals.
- A Major General Hospital with more specialist services at either Chichester or Worthing with the other site and the Princess Royal as Local General Hospitals, but retaining a wider range of services including the majority of A&E, intensive care and acute medicine.

3.5 All three models still envisage consultant-led maternity and inpatient paediatric services being provided only at the Major General Hospital. The PCT has been undertaking further work on the potential configuration of midwife-led units which would support the consultant-led maternity service. The work of the PCT's Clinical Reference Advisory Group on maternity envisages a midwife-led unit alongside the consultant-led service at the Major General Hospital, plus two stand-alone midwife-led units elsewhere in West Sussex but the location of these has not yet been determined and may be dependent on the PCT's decision on the location of the Major General Hospital.

3.6 The Joint HOSC will be considering the new model of care proposed by local clinicians alongside the PCTs' original options when compiling its report.

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Revised Timetable for Joint HOSC Meetings 2008

Appendix 1

Date of Meeting	Final despatch	Main focus of meeting
14.2.08	-	PCT Board Meeting (major Fit for the Future agenda items to include decision making criteria, Options Assessment Panel (OAP) report, Consultation analysis)
20.2.08	12.2.08	<i>Joint HOSC Meeting</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public engagement report & analysis of consultation feedback • Consideration of revised shortlist of options • Health Impact Assessment / Public Health perspective (Dr. Farhang Tahzib) • Written evidence following questions raised by the Committee
5.3.08	26.2.08	Joint HOSC Meeting (morning only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence from key witnesses unable to attend previous stakeholder sessions (including: MPs, clinicians, district & borough councils) • PCT PPIF Chairman • Written evidence following questions raised by the Committee
5.3.08	26.2.08	Informal Evidence Review Session (afternoon only)
19.3.08	11.3.08	Informal Evidence Review Session
2.4.08	25.3.08	Joint HOSC Meeting (morning only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final evidence from key NHS witnesses (Chief Executives and Chairmen of SHA, Acute & Ambulance Trusts) • PCT Chairmen and Non Executive Directors • PCT Integrated plan
2.4.08	25.3.08	Informal Evidence Review Session (afternoon only)
16.4.08	8.4.08	Joint HOSC Meeting (morning only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution of any final outstanding queries regarding evidence for inclusion in final report • Consideration of the Committee's final report – draft recommendations and findings
16.4.08	8.4.08	Informal Evidence Review Session (afternoon only)
2.5.08	24.4.08	Joint HOSC Meeting (morning only) To agree final report
7.5.08	-	PCT Board Meeting – Decision on Model
21.5.08	13.5.08	<i>CANCELLED - Joint HOSC Meeting</i>
4.6.08	-	<i>PCT Board Meeting - To consider Locations</i>
25.6.08	17.6.08	<i>Joint HOSC Meeting (morning only) - To consider PCT's decision and response to Joint HOSC report</i>
10.7.08	-	PCT Board Meeting – Final Decision
23.7.08	15.7.08	Possible Joint HOSC Meeting (morning only) - Review of PCT decision