

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

Date: **6th July 2009**

By: **Director of Law and Personnel**

Title of report: **Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust – Teaching, Trauma and Tertiary Care (3T) Programme**

Purpose of report: **To brief HOSC on the 3T programme and its implications for East Sussex residents.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

HOSC is recommended:

- 1. To consider and comment on the 3T programme and its implications for East Sussex residents.**
 - 2. To agree whether the Committee requires any further information or reports at future meetings on the programme.**
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1. Background

1.1 Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust (BSUH) operates from two main acute hospital sites – the Royal Sussex County Hospital site in Brighton and the Princess Royal Hospital in Haywards Heath, West Sussex. The Trust is also responsible for the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital and Sussex Eye Hospital, both located on its Brighton site and the Hurstwood Park Neurological Centre in Haywards Heath. (Neurological = care of brain and nervous system).

1.2 Following public consultation and scrutiny by local HOSCs during 2004, the Trust reorganised some of its services between its two main sites so that the Royal Sussex County Hospital focussed more on emergency care and the Princess Royal Hospital more on planned (elective) care. The Trust works on a 'one hospital on two sites' basis, meaning that the services on the two sites are designed to complement each other, with the hospitals and their staff working closely together, rather than the two hospitals operating independently.

1.3 BSUH provides district general hospital services for its local population which includes Brighton and Hove, Mid-Sussex and the western part of East Sussex. However, the Trust also has a regional role as a tertiary care centre, providing more specialist services in areas such as cancer care, paediatric (children's) care and trauma to a large catchment population encompassing most of Sussex and beyond.

1.4 BSUH is a Teaching Hospital Trust, working in partnership with Brighton and Sussex Medical School, which took its first intake of medical students in 2003. It is the only teaching hospital in the south east area (excluding London).

2. Teaching, Trauma and Tertiary Care (3T) programme

2.1 The 2004 consultation mentioned in 1.2 above included the principle of the Royal Sussex County Hospital developing further as a tertiary care centre. This included moving the services provided at the Hurstwood Park Neurological Centre in Haywards Heath down to Brighton so that they would be co-located with other services needed to support a higher level Trauma Centre.

2.2 The Trust has made progress towards its tertiary care development aims over the past few years in a number of ways, for example:

- Building the new Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital on the Royal Sussex County site;

- Moving services into community settings or to other hospital sites where possible to enable room for development on the Royal Sussex County site;
- Developing its existing tertiary services and its links with the Medical School.

2.3 The 3T programme aims to build on this work and involves significant redevelopment of part of the Royal Sussex County site which currently houses mostly older buildings which are no longer considered appropriate for the provision of modern healthcare. The redevelopment will cost in the order of £400m.

2.4 Some key aims of the 3T programme are:

- the development of BSUH as a major regional trauma centre, including relocating the Hurstwood Park Neurological Centre to Brighton – currently a full range of trauma services are available within the Trust, but not in the same location, meaning that patients with both head and body injuries often have to be airlifted to London.
- upgrading the Trust's specialist (tertiary) facilities to reinforce the Royal Sussex County Hospital's position as a regional tertiary centre. This may mean that more services are available within Sussex, thus reducing the need for patients to travel to London.
- building on the success of the Medical School – having a successful medical school in Sussex can help significantly in bringing high quality staff into the county to work in local hospitals.

3. Implications for East Sussex residents

3.1 BSUH provides two levels of care for East Sussex residents – for residents in a significant area of the west of the county their local hospital is in Brighton or Haywards Heath and they receive the majority of their hospital based care there. The Trust also provides more specialist care for a catchment area which includes the whole of East Sussex.

3.2 Local hospitals within East Sussex, run by East Sussex Hospitals Trust also have links with BSUH through networks in areas such as cancer, cardiac and paediatric care.

3.3 The principles of developing the Royal Sussex County site as a tertiary and trauma centre and the relocation of neurological services have already been consulted on, both with the public and with local HOSCs as described above and through the 'Fit for the Future' programme and the regional strategy 'Healthier People, Excellent Care'. However, the Trust is keen to continue to engage with local people and HOSCs on its plans as they develop.

4. Issues to consider

4.1 The Trust has provided a presentation which gives a comprehensive overview of the 3T programme (attached as appendix 1). Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive and Nick Groves, Associate Director (3T) will present a shorter version of this presentation to HOSC and respond to questions. Mike Wood, Chief Executive, NHS East Sussex Downs and Weald/NHS Hastings and Rother will be in attendance to give a commissioners perspective on the East Sussex impact.

4.2 HOSC may wish to explore the following issues:

- Whether there will be opportunities to provide satellite services at hospitals in East Sussex.
- Whether there are opportunities to develop training links with East Sussex hospitals.
- How services in Brighton will be maintained during the period of the redevelopment.
- How local residents, particularly in the west of East Sussex, will be informed and engaged.
- What benefits there are likely to be for East Sussex residents in terms of reduced travel for specialist services outside of Sussex.
- What impact the development of BSUH may have on other local Trusts.

ANDREW OGDEN

Director of Law and Personnel

Contact officer: Claire Lee, Scrutiny Lead Officer

Telephone: 01273 481327