

Report to: **East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC)**
Date: **24th September 2009**
By: **Director of Law and Personnel**
Title of report: **HOSC liaison Member arrangements with NHS organisations**
Purpose of report: **To agree HOSC liaison Member arrangements with NHS organisations.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

HOSC is recommended:

- 1. To agree the proposed HOSC liaison Member arrangements with NHS organisations.**
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1. Role of HOSC liaison members with NHS organisations

1.1 The proposal is to establish informal arrangements between HOSC members and the local NHS trusts to strengthen the committee's communication links.

1.2 The principle driving these liaison arrangements is to help improve the understanding of the NHS and its provision of health services, as well as to understand local needs.

1.3 The liaison member would be expected to:

- Keep a watching brief on the trust's services and activities
- Attend public briefings or seminars held by the trust as observer
- Consider the Trust's Board meeting agendas and other relevant papers
- Attend Board meetings as an observer
- Liaise with the relevant Local Involvement Network (LINK) representative to share knowledge and identify issues of share concern.
- Provide a brief summary of any particular issues of any potential concern via phone/e-mail to the Scrutiny Lead Officer
- Update HOSC on activities at the Committee meeting

1.4 These links would build on the relationship that the HOSC Chairman has already established in her informal meetings with the Chief Executive and Chair of many of the trusts.

1.5 They also build on the activities which individual HOSC members already undertake in attending various health events.

1.6 These link arrangements very much follow the practice adopted with the previous Patient and Public Involvement Forums which were superseded by the East Sussex Local Involvement Network in August 2008. Individual HOSC members liaised with particular Patient and Public Involvement Forums.

1.7 Overleaf is the proposed HOSC liaison members with NHS organisations.

Proposed HOSC Members liaison members with NHS organisations

NHS Organisation	Proposed HOSC liaison members	
<u>PCTs</u>		
NHS East Sussex Downs & Weald	Cllr Rogers	Cllr O'Keeffe
NHS Hastings and Rother	Cllr Pragnell	Cllr Martin
<u>Other Trusts</u>		
Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust	Cllr Howson	Cllr Lambert
Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust	Cllr Phillips	Cllr Tidy
East Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust	Cllr Hough	Cllr Davies
Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Cllr Tidy	Cllr Taylor
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust	Cllr Heaps	Dave Rogers

Janet Colvert, Chair, LINK Core Group already meets regularly with representatives from NHS organisations in East Sussex as part of her LINK responsibilities.

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