

Report to: **East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC)**
Date: **26 March 2015**
By: **Assistant Chief Executive**
Title of report: **Better Beginnings: reconfiguration of maternity and paediatric services**
Purpose of report: **To consider an update on implementation of decisions made by East Sussex Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in relation to the configuration of maternity, paediatric and gynaecology services provided by East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

HOSC is recommended:

- 1) To consider and comment on the progress of the implementation of the reconfiguration of maternity and paediatric services; and**
 - 2) To identify any specific arrangements for future reporting to HOSC on implementation.**
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1. Background

1.1 In June 2014 the three East Sussex Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) made decisions about the future configuration of three services they commission from East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT), specifically:

- Maternity services
- Inpatient paediatric (children's) services
- Emergency gynaecology services.

1.2 In summary, the CCGs unanimously agreed the following future service configuration:

- Midwife-led unit and short stay paediatric assessment unit (SSPAU) to be provided at Eastbourne District General Hospital
- Consultant-led obstetric service, inpatient paediatrics, special care baby unit, SSPAU and emergency gynaecology to be provided at the Conquest Hospital in Hastings.
- Midwife-led unit to be provided at Crowborough Hospital.

1.3 The CCGs' decisions followed a period of public consultation and a formal consultation with HOSC as required under health scrutiny legislation (when proposals are considered to be substantial change). The report prepared by HOSC, following a detailed review, was taken into account by the CCGs, which also agreed to implement HOSC's recommendations as part of the wider implementation of the service reconfiguration.

1.4 In July 2014, HOSC considered the decisions made by the CCGs, including their response to HOSC's report, and the committee agreed that the reconfiguration is in the best interests of local health services. This agreement meant the service changes could be implemented. The report is published [on the HOSC website](#).

1.5 In September 2014, HOSC considered an early update report on the progress of the reconfiguration. HOSC agreed to hold a data workshop with the CCGs and ESHT to consider the data available for monitoring the quality of maternity and paediatric services and what the Committee would like to receive as part of future progress reports on changes to maternity and paediatric services.

2. Data

2.1 The data workshop was held at which it was agreed that future update reports should provide:

- A narrative report giving an overview of developments in the services since the last report to HOSC (see **appendix 1 & 2**).
- A table showing action taken or ongoing in relation to HOSC's recommendations (see **appendix 3**).

2.2 It was also agreed that it would be helpful to include the following elements in the narrative report:

- Any exceptional issues, challenges and achievements in the services.
- Update on the work to develop new maternity pathways.
- Update on the development of paediatric services post-reconfiguration, including community paediatrics.
- Any developments in the information given to patients to inform choices and expectations of services.
- A summary of any significant changes to the way ESHT and the CCGs are monitoring the services, for example, if a new maternity dashboard is introduced.

3. Conclusion and recommendation

3.1 HOSC is asked to 1) consider and comment on the progress of the implementation of the reconfiguration of maternity and paediatric services and 2) identify any specific arrangements for future reporting to the Committee on implementation.

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