

HOSC review of proposal for Urgent Treatment Centres in Eastbourne and Hastings – Update

Background

HOSC considered at its 29 March 2018 meeting proposals by the Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford Clinical Commissioning Group (EHS CCG) and Hastings and Rother CCG (HR CCG) to re-locate the Walk-in Centres from by Hastings and Eastbourne stations to sit alongside the A&E departments at the Conquest Hospital and Eastbourne District General Hospital (EDGH) as part of new Urgent Treatment Centres (UTCs). This proposal forms part of a wider redesign of Urgent Care in the East Sussex Better Together (ESBT) area of East Sussex in accordance with the direction set by NHS England's Five Year Forward View.

The Committee agreed that the proposed relocation constitutes a 'substantial development or variation to services' requiring formal consultation by appropriate NHS bodies with the Committee – in accordance with health scrutiny legislation.

HOSC formed a sub-group to take responsibility for considering the proposals and the evidence in detail.

The key question that the Review Board has been considering is whether the proposals are in the best interests of the residents of East Sussex. This involved considering:

1. Whether the proposal is the only viable option for providing Urgent Treatment Centres,
2. Whether the proposals will provide better care and a better service than what is currently available
3. How the proposals will impact on patients, in particular vulnerable groups, who rely on the Walk-in Centres.

The Review Board comprised:

- Cllr Colin Belsey (Chair)
- Cllr Mary Barnes
- Cllr Janet Coles
- Cllr Mike Turner
- Jennifer Twist

The Review Board met twice:

At the first meeting on 9 May, the Board agreed its terms of reference and considered the CCGs' proposals in more detail.

At the second meeting on 29 May, the Board spoke to the following witnesses:

- **Representatives of the CCGs** (Mark Angus, Urgent Care System Improvement Director, Nicky Cambridge, Stakeholder Engagement Lead,) to consider an update

on the progress of the consultation process and to discuss additional information requested at the last meeting.

- **A representative of East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT)** (Joe Chadwick-Bell, Chief Operating Officer) to speak about the current care and access available for walk-in patients at the hospital sites and the advantages/disadvantages of a hospital-based UTC model over the existing model.
- **A clinical representative of the CCGs** (Dr Martin Writer, Chair, EHS CCG) to speak about the extent of support for the proposals from clinicians, and the clinical advantages of the proposed UTC model.
- **Representatives of the Walk-in Centres** (Dr John Rowan, Medical Director, and Mariann Cleverley, Associate Locality Director of Integrated Services, IC24) to speak about the cohorts of patients using the service and the reasons why people use the Walk-in Centres.
- **A representative of vulnerable groups** (Annie Whelan, Chief Officer, Seaview) to speak about how many use the current service, how they might be affected, and whether there are other methods of vulnerable groups receiving healthcare that may be more suitable.
- **A representative of Healthwatch** (Elizabeth Mackie, Volunteer and Community Liaison Manager) to speak about the views of the proposals from residents of East Sussex, the views of vulnerable groups, and how Healthwatch will be involved in the consultation process.