

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

**Date of meeting:** 11 December 2025

**By:** Deputy Chief Executive

**Title:** Cardiology Transformation at East Sussex Healthcare Trust

**Purpose:** To provide the Committee with an overview of progress made by East Sussex Healthcare Trust on the implementation of the Cardiology Transformation Programme.

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## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1) consider and comment on the report; and
  - 2) consider whether a further report on any of the areas covered in the report is needed, or to conclude scrutiny of this issue.
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### **1. Background**

1.1. On 2 December 2021, the East Sussex HOSC considered a report by the local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), now NHS Sussex, on proposed changes to acute Cardiology services in East Sussex provided by the East Sussex Healthcare Trust (ESHT) at Eastbourne District General Hospital (EDGH) and Conquest Hospital, Hastings.

1.2. Health scrutiny legislation requires NHS organisations to consult HOSCs about substantial developments or variations to services for residents. The Committee resolved that the cardiology proposals constituted a 'substantial development or variation to services' requiring formal consultation by the CCGs/NHS Sussex with HOSC.

1.3. HOSC established a review board, comprised of Councillors Belsey, Di Cara, Marlow-Eastwood, Robinson and Turner, which considered a range of evidence from the NHS and other witnesses, and agreed a draft report and recommendations.

1.4. The report and recommendations were agreed by the Committee at its June 2022 meeting and subsequently received updates from ESHT at the HOSC meetings on 15 December 2022, providing an overview of ESHT's consultation findings and a response to the recommendations of the review board. The Committee requested at its meeting on 18 September 2025, a progress report be brought to this meeting to provide an overview and evaluation of the changes that have been made to Cardiology services.

### **2. Supporting information**

2.1. ESHT has produced a report for the HOSC attached as **Appendix 1**. The report includes an update regarding the recommendations agreed by the HOSC in June 2022, as well as to provide additional context on the implementation plans and activities which have been undertaken since.

2.2. The report includes the following information:

- A response to the HOSC's recommendations from June 2022

- An overview of the implementation of the programme, including Cardiac Response Teams and 'hot clinics'
- An update on the current status of implementation
- An overview of the improvements and benefits of the transformation implemented
- An outline of the Benefits Realisation Plan and Key Performance Indicators, which will map the progress of the programme

### **3 Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

#### **3.1 The Committee is recommended to:**

- 1) consider and comment on the report; and
- 2) consider whether to request a further report on the Cardiology Transformation Programme, or any other topics identified in the report.

**PHILIP BAKER**  
**Deputy Chief Executive**

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