

REPORT FROM THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee met on 17 and 31 March 2016

1. Scrutiny of the NHS in Hertfordshire's Budget and Quality of Care

- 1.1 The Committee's scrutiny of the NHS in Hertfordshire's Budget and Quality of Care was conducted over two days, commencing on 17 March 2016, when it gathered its evidence via a 'scrutiny café'. Evidence was gathered from two CCG's, five local trusts and Herts Urgent Care, with representatives from Public Health also present; paired up as follows:-
 - Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group (HVCCG) and West Herts Hospital Trust (WHHT)
 - East and North Clinical Commissioning Group (ENCCG) and East & North Herts Hospital Trust (ENHT)
 - Herts Partnership Foundation Trust (HPFT) and Herts Community NHS Trust (HCT)
 - East of England Ambulance Trust (EEAST) and Herts Urgent Care (HUC).
- 1.2 Members of the Committee were divided into 4 groups, which each questioned a pair of organisations on the themes of Quality of Care and Finance.
- 1.3 The Committee reconvened on 31 March 2016, when recommendations, information requests and additions to the Work Programme arising from the Committee's evidence gathering session on 17 March were agreed. These are included in the final report which can be viewed at the link below:
[Health Scrutiny Committee 31 March 2016](#)
- 1.4 The Committee agreed to review the process used for this year's Budget and Quality of Care. This will be undertaken at the Committee's meeting on 12 July 2015.

The Committee met on 19 May 2016

1. Health organisation responses to the information requests resulting from the HSC Budget and Quality of Care Scrutiny Café

- 1.1 The Committee considered a report providing responses to its requests for additional information arising from the Health Budgets and Quality of Care Scrutiny which took place in March 2016.

- 1.2 The Committee noted these responses and requested that a number of additional information requests be pursued by officers; these can be viewed in detail in the minutes of the meeting at the following link:

[Health Scrutiny Committee 19 May 2016](#)

2. West Hertfordshire Hospitals Trust: One year on from the Care Quality Commission Inspection

- 2.1 The Committee considered a progress report and presentation from West Herts Hospital Trust (WHHT) providing an update on the changes that had been implemented over the last year since the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection.
- 2.2 The Committee welcomed the update and commended the areas of improvement, items of positive news and the openness of Trust representatives.
- 2.3 The Committee noted that there was a need for continued work around Delayed Transfer of Care (DETOC) and that the planned scrutiny topic group on the subject of discharge would focus on this.
- 2.4 Members agreed that the Chairman write a letter to the relevant Minister on behalf of the Committee to express concern regarding the 50 per cent reduction in Central Government funding for West Herts Hospital Trust.

3. Scrutiny Work Programme

- 3.1 The Committee considered its work programme 2016 – 2017 noting those scrutinies recently concluded and those scheduled for the forthcoming period.
- 3.2 The work programme considered at the meeting reflected the decisions made by the Committee as to those scrutinies that remained on the work programme and those that would be removed. There were no scrutinies removed from the work programme at this meeting of the Committee.

[The Health Scrutiny Committee meeting on 12 July which takes place after the County Council agenda for its July meeting is published will be reported to Council on 15 November 2016]

Seamus Quilty, Chairman
July 2016