

WHOLE COMMITTEE SCRUTINY OF HERTS VALLEYS CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP'S WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDING FOR CARE AND THE IMPACT ON HEALTH PROVISION IN WEST HERTFORDSHIRE

Report of the Director of Resources

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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To enable County Council to consider a report from the Health Scrutiny Committee following its scrutiny of the decision by Herts Valley's Clinical Commissioning Group (HVCCG) to withdraw funding of £8.5m to the County Council to protect social care in Hertfordshire.
- 1.2 To enable Members to consider the Committee's recommendation that Council reports HVCCG's decision to the Secretary of State.

2. Summary and Background

- 2.1 At its December 2016 meeting the Health Scrutiny Committee learned of the intention of Herts Valley Clinical Commissioning Group to withdraw its contribution of £8.5m to the County Council for social care with effect from 1 April 2017.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 19 January 2017 the Committee considered a report from Iain MacBeath, Director of Health and Community Services, which provided an update on the current position and which outlined the potential implications that the withdrawal of £8.5m funding could have on service provision. Following consideration of that report, the Committee unanimously agreed to convene a Special Committee Meeting to scrutinise the decision of HVCCG to withdraw £8.5m funding. The Committee further agreed that the Special Meeting should be attended by Cameron Ward, Interim Accountable Officer, Herts Valleys CCG and Caroline Hall, Chief Financial Officer, Herts Valleys CCG, and officers from Public Health and Health and Community Services. Representatives from the following organisations were also invited to attend:
 - Hertfordshire Partnership University Foundation NHS Trust
 - Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust
 - West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust
 - East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust
 - The Royal College of Nursing
 - The Police and Crime Commissioner's Office.

- 2.3 The Special Meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee was held at 10.00am on Wednesday, 8 February 2017.
- 2.4 The report of the Special Meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. The Committee's recommendations are set out at paragraph 3 below.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Health Scrutiny Committee recommended to County Council:-

That Council agrees:-

- (1) *under Regulation 23(9) of the Local Authority (Public Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013, to report to the Secretary of State the decision of the Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group to withdraw, with effect from 1 April 2017, funding to the County Council for the provision of care ("the decision") on the following grounds:*
- (a) *that the Council is not satisfied that there was any consultation in relation to the decision;*
- (b) *that the Council considers that the decision would not be in the interests of the health service in Hertfordshire;*
- (2) *that the reasons that the Council is satisfied that there was no consultation in relation to the decision are as set out in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.10 of the joint report of the Director of Health and Community Services and the Director of Public Health to the special meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee held on 8 February 2017 ("the special meeting");*
- (3) *having considered a summary of the evidence presented to the Health Scrutiny Committee at the special meeting, to decide that it is satisfied that the decision would not be in the interests of the health service in Hertfordshire and that that summary be included in the report to the Secretary of State.*

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The are no financial implications arising specifically from this report; the Committee's report concerns the decision of HVCCG to withdraw funding of £8.5m to the County Council to protect social care with effect from 1 April 2017.

Background Information

[Minutes Health Scrutiny Committee - December 2016](#)
[Report & Minutes Health Scrutiny Committee - January 2017](#)
[Report Health Scrutiny Committee - February 2017](#)