

HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

31 MARCH 2015

SOUTH EAST COAST AMBULANCE TRUST UPDATE ON EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRES

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Summary

This report is to inform the Committee of South East Coast Ambulance Trust plans to move from three Emergency Operations Centres to two and to develop a new Trust Headquarters alongside one of those Centres.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

- 1.1 Under Chapter 4 – Rules, paragraph 22.2 (c) terms of reference for Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee has powers to review and scrutinise matters relating to the health service in the area including NHS Scrutiny.

2. Background

- 2.1. Attached to this cover is a briefing report from South East Coast Ambulance Trust (SECAMb) updating the Committee on plans for changes to the Emergency Operations Centres in the South East Coast. A representative from SECAMb will attend the meeting to present the report and respond to Members' questions.

3. Risk management

- 3.1. There are no specific risk implications for Medway Council arising directly from this report.

4. Legal and Financial Implications

- 4.1. There are no legal or financial implications for the Council.

5. Recommendations

5.1. Members are asked to consider and comment on the update.

Background papers:

None.

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SOUTH EAST COAST AMBULANCE SERVICE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Up-date to Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Medway Council

1. Introduction

1.1 An up-date was provided in Autumn 2014 to Medway Council regarding South East Coast Ambulance Service's (SECAmb's) plans to move from three Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs) to two. In addition, a new Trust Headquarters would be provided alongside one of the new EOCs.

1.2 The Committee is reminded that our plan is to move to the following model:

- A new "EOC West" - to be located in the Gatwick/Crawley area, co-located with the new HQ
- A new "EOC East" - to be located in Kent

The drivers for the change, as well as the benefits the new reconfiguration will bring, were also outlined to the Committee in the previous presentation. However, the Committee is also reminded that no definitive locations had been identified at that point.

2. Current position

2.1 Since September 2014, work has been on-going to identify specific locations for both of the new EOCs. However, given the specific pressures affecting the Sussex EOC (located in Lewes), the Trust Board has agreed to prioritise re-locating the EOC West as phase one of the project, to be followed by EOC East.

2.2 As explained in the earlier presentation, our preferred strategic location for the EOC West/new HQ is in the Gatwick/Crawley area.

2.3 A variety of commercial sites have been explored, however an opportunity has arisen during the past twelve months to locate the EOC West/new HQ on a site in Crawley owned by Surrey County Council. Surrey CC is looking to establish a "campus" site, including other emergency and council services.

2.4 SECAmb's Trust Board has given approval for the "campus" option to be our preferred option for the EOC West/new HQ. Details are currently being finalized but if plans progress as hoped, the new site will be ready for occupation in late 2016/early 2017.

2.5 Further up-dates will be provided to the Committee as required.

Janine Compton, Head of Communications

On behalf of South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust