

HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

21 JUNE 2016

ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH INPATIENT BED REVIEW UPDATE

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Summary

The attached report sets out the response from Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT) in respect of the request for regular updates on the position with the acute mental health inpatient beds review.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

- 1.1 Under the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 the Council may review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in Medway.
- 1.2 The terms of reference for the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chapter 4 Part 5 paragraph 21.2 (c) of the Constitution) includes powers to review and scrutinise matters relating to the health service in the area including NHS Scrutiny.

2. Background

- 2.1. Attached to this report as Appendix 1 is a report from KMPT which provides an update on the following five areas:
 - The contracting round 2016/17, including the creation of short term additional younger adult bed capacity;
 - Younger adult bed usage, including acute inpatient out of area placements and delayed transfers of care [DTocS];
 - The work of the national Emergency Care Improvement Programme [ECIP];

- Section 136 (Mental Health Act 1983) assessments and the joint working with the Police and South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust [SECAMB];
- Single point of access [SPoA] and;
- Closer working with social workers

2.2. Appendix 2 shows the out of area bed usage.

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. Under the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 the Council may review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in Medway. In carrying out health scrutiny a local authority must invite interested parties to comment and take account of any relevant information available to it, and in particular, relevant information provided to it by a local Healthwatch organisation. The Council has delegated responsibility for discharging this function to this Committee and to the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee as set out in the Council's Constitution. The Committee may make reports and recommendations to relevant NHS bodies and health service providers who can be required to respond formally within 28 days of a request for a response.

4.2. Department of Health guidance to support Local Authorities and their partners to deliver effective health scrutiny (published June 2014) emphasises the primary aim of health scrutiny is to strengthen the voice of local people, ensuring that their needs and experiences are considered as an integral part of the commissioning and delivery of health services and that those services are effective and safe.

4.3. The guidance states that local authorities will need to satisfy themselves that they keep open effective channels by which the public can communicate concerns about the quality of NHS and public health services to health scrutiny bodies. In the light of the Francis report local authorities are advised in the guidance to consider ways of independently verifying information provided by relevant NHS bodies and relevant health service providers – for example, by seeking the views of local Healthwatch.

5. Recommendations

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

Background papers: None.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Report from KMPT

Appendix 2 - Detailed bed usage data for April 2016

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