

Subject:	Development of a Community Health Hub at the Brighton General Hospital Site: Update		
Date of Meeting:	17 July 2019		
Report of:	Executive Lead for Strategy, Governance & Law (Monitoring Officer)		
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Ward(s) affected:	(All Wards);		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**Glossary/Acronyms**

SCFT: Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust – NHS Trust that provides community services across Brighton & Hove and West Sussex

CHH: Community Health Hub – a premises delivering primary and community healthcare

BGH: Brighton General Hospital – site of the former General Hospital near Brighton racecourse. Currently used mainly for community healthcare services

BSUH: Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust – local NHS acute Trust which runs the Royal Sussex, Royal Alex and Sussex Eye Hospitals in Brighton

BHCC: Brighton & Hove City Council

SPFT: Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust – NHS Trust that provides mental health services across Sussex

RSCH: Royal Sussex County Hospital

3Ts : major redevelopment of the Royal Sussex County Hospital to update facilities and create a regional tertiary, trauma and teaching centre

SViS: ‘substantial variation in service’ – NHS bodies have a statutory duty to consult with HOSCs when planning to make substantial changes to local health services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

1.1 This report provides an update on progress of the Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust (SCFT) initiative to develop a Community Health Hub (CHH) at the Brighton General Hospital (BGH) site.

1.2 Information provided by SCFT is included as **Appendix 1** to this report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That the Committee notes the update provided by SCFT.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 The BGH site is located at the top of Elm Grove, near Brighton racecourse. The site is no longer used for inpatient care (the last inpatient beds were removed in 2009), but does host a range of community health, mental health, rehabilitation and outpatient services as well as providing a base for a range of NHS and council community teams. SCFT, Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SPFT), Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust (BSUH) and Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC) all operate from the site.

3.2 Many of the facilities at BGH are very old and are no longer fit for purpose. Due to the condition of buildings and the way that the site is configured, only around 50% of facilities are currently being used.

3.3 In 2018, SCFT announced plans to redevelop the site, building a new Community Health Hub (CHH) to provide services in a more modern setting. The development of the CHH will be funded by the disposal of part of the BGH site for housing.

3.4 HOSCs have a statutory role in assessing whether NHS plans to make 'substantial variations in services' (SViS) will be of benefit or detriment to local people. However, it should be noted that this role is limited to 'health services'; it does not encompass other decisions made by NHS bodies, such as disposal of land or other assets.

3.5 When the HOSC initially considered SCFT's plans (27 June 2018), the Trust was considering several options for the site, and HOSC members resolved to treat the scheme as a SViS until such a time as it was clear what the impact on health services would be. When the HOSC reconsidered the issue (23 January 2019), SCFT had identified a preferred option for the site. This option included the retention of all current health services on the BGH site, with the exception of BSUH outpatient rheumatology, dermatology and physiotherapy. BSUH's services and estates strategy is for these services to be relocated to the RSCH following phase one of the 3Ts build, with a proportion of activity provided within city community settings. Given that SCFT's final plan for the BGH site will retain all other current health services in an enhanced setting, there are no obvious grounds to consider the plans as a SViS. (An extract from the minute of the January 2019 HOSC meeting is included for information as **Appendix 2.**)

- 3.6 It is recognised that SCFT plans to dispose of land at the BGH site for housing have attracted considerable public attention. However, this aspect of the proposals is not within HOSC's statutory or constitutional remit. Matters relating to housing developments in the city fall under the remit of the Council's Planning Committee and may be scrutinised by it.
- 3.7 There has been relatively little progress in the plans to develop a CHH in recent months. However, SCFT has provided an update on what activity there has been and this is included as **Appendix 1** to this report.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 Not relevant for this update report.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 None undertaken in preparation of this report.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Members are asked to note progress in the development of a Community Health Hub at the Brighton General Hospital site.
- 6.2 Members should also note that, with regard to BGH development plans, the HOSC's statutory remit extends only to changes to health services and does not cover any plans to dispose of NHS land or assets.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendations of this report.

Finance Officer Consulted: David Ellis

Date: 21/06/19

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 No legal implications other than those mentioned in the body of the Report have been identified.

Lawyer Consulted: Victoria Simpson Date: 16/06/19

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 SCFT's preferred option for the development of a CHH at the BGH site will see current services re-provided in a new build facing Elm Grove. This will provide

better access to people with mobility needs than the current site configuration, where the situation of patient services across multiple buildings on a steep gradient, with insufficient disabled access, present significant barriers.

SCFT has four staff equalities networks:

- Disability
- BAME
- LGBTQ+
- Religion and belief

The purpose of the networks is to provide a networking forum for members of staff who may share these protected characteristics, ensure the Trust executive are informed about the needs of staff members from within the groups to support improved employment access, as well as consider how service delivery can meet equalities needs. SCFT has committed to engaging the networks during the next stage of briefing and design.

Sustainability Implications:

7.4 None identified.

Any Other Significant Implications:

7.5 None identified.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Information provided by Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust
2. Extract of the minute from the January 2019 HOSC meeting (for information)

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

