

Subject: **Breast Screening: Update**
Date of Meeting: **14 April 2010**
Report of: **The Director of Strategy and Governance**
Contact Officer: Name: Giles Rossington Tel: 29-1038
E-mail: Giles.rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee examined the issue of local breast screening services in July 2009, following a Councillor question on the subject. At this meeting it was resolved that: "the Committee should receive an update report on breast cancer screening in 6 months time."
- 1.2 **Appendix 1** contains information on breast screening supplied by NHS Brighton & Hove (NHSBH) and by Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust (BSUHT), respectively the commissioners and the providers of city breast screening services. **Appendix 2** contains an extract from the minutes of the July 2009 HOSC meeting. **Appendix 3** contains a report drafted by officers of BSUHT and NHSBH for the July 2009 meeting (but not formally included in the meeting papers).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members:
- (1) note the contents of the report and its appendices;
 - (2) determine whether they require a further update on city breast screening services.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 HOSC members initially requested an update on city breast screening services following 2009 media reports detailing poor Brighton & Hove performance in screening for breast cancer. Dr Peter Wilkinson, Deputy Director of Public Health (NHSBH), and Kate Parkin, Director of Screening (BSUHT), attended the July 2009 meeting to answer members' questions. An extract from the minutes of this meeting is attached to this report as **Appendix 2**, and an informal briefing paper circulated to members at the July 2009 meeting is attached as **Appendix 3**.
- 3.2 At the July 2009 meeting, members were told that delays in the screening programme had largely been caused by a long-standing radiographer recruitment problem (recently exacerbated by a move to a better, but more radiographer-intensive 'two-view' screening system), but that steps had been taken to remedy this problem, such that it was anticipated that the programme would be back on target relatively quickly. The main purpose of this item is therefore to ascertain whether the improvement anticipated in July 2009 has actually taken place.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 No formal consultation has been undertaken in preparing this report

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 None to this report for information.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 None directly, as the report is for noting. The Committee is entitled to request a further update report, if considered appropriate.

Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon; date: 01/03/10

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 None directly.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 None directly.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 None identified.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 None identified.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Information provided by NHSBH and BSUHT
2. Extract of the minutes from July 2009 HOSC meeting
3. Briefing paper circulated to members at July 2009 HOSC meeting.

Documents in Members' Rooms:

None

Background Documents:

None

