

HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Hospital Car Parking
Date of Meeting: 14 April 2010
Report of: The Director of Strategy and Governance
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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The issue of parking at hospitals is one which is frequently in the national news, with concerns expressed about the capacity of hospital car parks, the fees charged for parking, and whether some types of patients and/or visitors should be able to park at reduced rates or for free.
- 1.2 In light of this national interest, the Chairman of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) has asked Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust (BSUHT) to provide some information on its car parking policy and provision.
- 1.3 **Appendix 1** to this report consists of material provided by BSUHT with regard to this issue.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members note the contents of this report and determine whether they need to take any further action.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Car parking at hospital sites has long been a contentious issue, with some people arguing that there should be more provision, and that parking fees should be lower or waived for particular groups of patients and/or visitors (e.g. cancer patients, in-patients etc).

- 3.2 The Department of Health is currently undertaking a national consultation on the issue of hospital car parking. This issue was raised at a recent meeting between the South East Coast Strategic Health Authority (SHA) and regional HOSC Chairmen (Kent, Medway, East Sussex, West Sussex, Brighton & Hove, Surrey). HOSC Chairmen agreed that there should be no co-ordinated regional response to this issue, as questions about appropriate hospital parking capacity, charging regimes etc. were best made on a case-by-case basis, since hospitals across the region differ so widely in terms of their size, location etc.
- 3.3 Particular local issues (i.e. issues relating to parking at the Royal Sussex County Hospital: RSCH) may include: parking capacity at the hospital; plans for parking re: the 3T development programme; the impact on the local community of 'overflow' parking from RSCH; queues for the main RSCH car-park; access to disabled parking bays in the main RSCH car-park; Pay and Display Vs Pay on Departure parking; the location of parking payment machines, and parking charges

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 None has been undertaken.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 None to this report for information.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 None to this report for information.

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 None to this report for information.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 None to this report for information.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None to this report for information.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None to this report for information.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 None to this report for information.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Information provided by Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust

Documents in Members' Rooms:

None

Background Documents:

None

