

Subject: Ad Hoc Panel on the Procurement of a Brighton & Hove GP-Led Health Centre: Monitoring Report

Date of Meeting: 14 July 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 In 2009 HOSC members conducted an ad hoc panel review of NHS Brighton & Hove's procurement of a city GP-Led Health Centre – an additional city centre primary care facility offering GP services to registered and unregistered patients, 7 days a week, 12 hours a day.
- 1.2 The ad hoc panel report recommended that HOSC should receive an update report after the GP-Led Health Centre had been in operation for a year. This report comprises the requested update. Detailed information provided by NHS Brighton & Hove is reprinted in **Appendix 1** to this report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members:
- (1) Note the contents of this report and its appendix;
- (2) Determine whether any further monitoring of the GP-Led Health centre is required.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 In 2008 the Department of Health required all English Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) to commission an additional GP facility for their areas.

These facilities had to be open for extended hours (12 hours a day, 7 days a week), had to offer 'walk in' services (i.e. see patients who had not booked an appointment in advance), and had to treat both registered and unregistered patients (i.e. people on the GP practice list, but also visitors, people registered at other practices etc).

- 3.2 NHS Brighton & Hove undertook a competitive tender process and eventually awarded the contract to run a city GP-Led Health Centre to Care UK.
- 3.3 There was some public interest in the GP-Led Health Centre initiative and in NHS Brighton & Hove's management of the procurement process, and HOSC members decided that they should examine the issue via an ad hoc panel. The panel was formed and panel members met with officers of NHS Brighton & Hove to discuss elements of the procurement process.
- 3.4 In general, the panel found that NHS Brighton & Hove had acted in an exemplary fashion throughout the procurement process. However, panel members were keen that the performance of the GP-Led Health Centre should be closely monitored and to this end recommended that the HOSC should receive an update report after the GP-Led Health Centre had been in operation for a year or so. Specifically, panel members wanted the following issues addressed:
 - Whether the GP-Led Health Centre has been running smoothly in contractual terms (i.e. whether the contractor had kept to all the terms of its contract)?
 - Whether there has been a significant under or over performance (i.e. has the Centre dealt with the anticipated number of patients)?
 - What percentage of patients are unregistered patients?
 - What percentage of patients are city residents?
 - Is the GP-Led Health Centre's activity mix similar to that of a typical city centre GP practice?
 - Has the opening of the GP-Led Health Centre had an impact upon neighbouring GP practices (e.g. in terms of their list size or activity)?
 - Have the additional services (sexual health services) offered by the GP-Led Health Centre proved popular?

- Has the opening of the Centre had an impact on A&E attendance figures?
 - Are patients satisfied with services provided by the GP-Led Health Centre?
- 3.5 In addition to the above points, the panel recommended that NHS Brighton & Hove should investigate how best to solicit public opinion about future initiatives, suggesting that the PCT should consider allowing people to express their views about particular plans via the PCT's website.
- 3.6 Also, the panel recommended that the PCT should be asked to produce a report on what it was doing to improve the commercial competitiveness of local healthcare providers. This report will be tabled at a future HOSC meeting.

4. CONSULTATION

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

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 None directly for the council

Legal Implications:

- 5.2

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 None identified

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 None identified

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None identified

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None identified

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 None identified

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Information supplied by NHS Brighton & Hove

Documents in Members' Rooms:

None

Background Documents:

HOSC ad hoc panel report on NHS Brighton & Hove's procurement of a city GP-Led Health Centre