

MINUTES OF THE MEETING of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel held remotely on Thursday 17 July 2020 at 1.30pm.

**Present**

Councillor Chris Attwell (Chair)  
Lee Mason  
Graham Heaney  
Leo Madden  
Arthur Agate, East Hampshire District Council  
Rosy Raines, Havant Borough Council (from agenda item 5)

**31. Welcome and Apologies for Absence (AI 1)**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Vivian Achwal, Trevor Cartwright, David Keast, Philip Raffaelli and Steve Wemyss

**24. Declarations of Members' Interests (AI 2)**

No interests were declared.

**25. Minutes of the Previous Meeting - 9 July 2020 (AI 3)**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2020 be agreed as a correct record.

*Matters Arising*

**RESOLVED** that the reasons and the plans for the merger of Hanway Road and Kingston Crescent surgeries be brought to the November meeting.

**26. Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust Update (AI 4)**

Penny Emerit, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Strategy & Performance and Lesley Bishop, Divisional Director of Medicine & Urgent Care, introduced the report and gave the following update on developments that had happened since it had been written.

111 First

Timely update on the 111 First initiative in light of media coverage earlier in the day following an announcement by Rt Hon Matt Hancock, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care. Coverage referenced the announcement by the Health Secretary of the intention for 111 First to be rolled out nationally by December 2020 as a key part of preparations for winter.

Media also referenced Portsmouth and updates included in the paper, as Portsmouth and South East Hampshire is an early mover for the 111 initiative. Since the end of June, patients who choose to access care via 111 have already been directed to the most appropriate service for their needs which includes their ability to get a booked appointment in the Emergency Department at Queen Alexandra Hospital if that is the best thing for patients.

Coverage of the Secretary of State's announcement talked about a national communications campaign launched in December but locally health partners had been running their own campaign including leaflet drops and advertisements encouraging patients to contact 111 where appropriate.

More than 1,100 patients had accessed the Emergency Department via a booked appointment made by the 111 service. PHT is continuing to gather patient feedback to support improvements in the service.

Four full system test days had been held where patients attending ED have been supported to access the most appropriate service for their needs via 111. The absolute focus is on patient safety throughout to ensure any patient requiring emergency care could continue to access this through the ED at QA.

An increase in attendances to ED had been seen, back up to levels seen prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. 111 First is a key part of winter preparedness

#### COVID-19 response update

Throughout the pandemic, PHT has prioritised delivery of urgent and cancer work. All cancer waiting time targets in June and July had been achieved. The trust continued to prioritise urgent and cancer services as part of the Phase Three Plan while increasing capacity for routine elective patients to ensure it is able to maintain patient safety and reduce risks relating to COVID-19.

The paper also highlighted plans for winter, with flu vaccination campaign due to launch the week after the panel meeting. The trust is also maintaining preparedness for additional COVID-19 patients and potential local outbreaks of the virus.

The trust was currently caring for 14 patients with COVID-19 at QA and the organisation had sadly reported two deaths in the previous fortnight. Ms Emerit confirmed that the trust's thoughts were with the patients' families.

In response to questions, the following points were clarified:

#### Flu vaccinations

David Bailey, Deputy Managing Director, Fareham and Gosport & South Eastern Hampshire CCGs was best placed to answer queries regarding the flu vaccination programme for members of the public. The trust's focus is on ensuring that all of their staff are offered the opportunity to have the flu vaccination as a key part of the organisation's preparedness and plans for winter.

David Bailey added that the Clinical Commissioning Groups were working on making the vaccination readily available where the population needed it.

#### 111 First

This service is run by South Central Ambulance Service. It is a national number but local calls are directed to a local call centre. At times of surge a national support comes in to play.

An appointment at ED is only one of a range of possible outcomes as a result of calling 111. If the call handler determines that a patient might need to be seen in hospital, the call is dealt with by a GP in the Clinical Assessment Service (CAS). This is an additional service whereby the GP has access to the patient's medical records and will speak to the patients determine if an ED appointment is the most appropriate outcome.

Feedback is mostly positive. Some service users had requested that the message for people to call 111 rather than going straight to the ED be made clearer.

The communications campaign is important to enable the local population to understand the right way to access the right services.

A review is underway to understand the number of people who are directed from the CAS to an alternative service rather than ED and the impact on GPs' general workload.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

**27. Hampshire & Isle of Wight Partnership of Clinical Commissioning Groups (AI 5)**

David Bailey introduced the report and explained that in order to maximise the opportunities to work at scale and accelerate change, the Boards of six CCGs (North Hampshire CCG, West Hampshire CCG, South Eastern Hampshire CCG, Fareham & Gosport CCG, Isle of Wight CCG and Southampton City CCG) are developing a business case to merge and create one new CCG for Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight from April 2021. The panel's views would feed into these designs.

In response to questions Mr Bailey explained that:

An application will be submitted to the Secretary of State by the end of September and will demonstrate that stakeholders have been consulted including clinical leadership, GP member practices, other NHS organisations and community patient engagement committees (with representation from patient participation groups) and upper tier local authorities.

Maggie Maclsaac is the Chief Executive Officer of the six CCGs. Merging would enable them to retain a local focus, benefit from working at scale where it makes sense to do so and reduce the complexity and fragmentation of some processes by bringing them together at a higher level to centralise governance, estate management and corporate accounts functions, for example.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1. An update be brought to the March meeting including the Clarence Unit.**
- 2. Information regarding consultation with borough and district councils will be sent to the panel.**

## 28. Public Health update (AI 6)

Helen Atkinson, Interim Director of Public Health reported that there had been no updates since the report was published. In response to questions from members she clarified the following points.

As part of the national care home testing programme, care home staff were being tested for Covid 19 every week and residents every month. Positive cases in care homes are followed up with infection control visits.

Pillar One Testing covers people in care homes and hospitals. Pillar Two Testing is for people in the community who are tested at home or at regional, mobile and local testing centres.

The laboratories currently do not have the capacity to meet the increased demand for tests. This is due to be resolved in the next few weeks by increasing weekend coverage and bringing new laboratories on board.

The weekly intelligence summary is presented to the Gold Command Committee, the Health Protection Board, adult social care, child services and published on the website.

Guidance, policies and delivery have been regularly changed often a short notice.

DHSC has contacted out tier three (non-complex cases) of the national contact tracing service and more complex cases are managed by Public Health England contact tracing teams. Local Authorities are now able to work with PHE to deliver local contact tracing of confirmed cases with PHE colleagues.

The Public Health Team work closely with schools providing advice and communication packs.

A local contact tracing pilot involving more Public Health involvement is currently being conducted in the North East and the North West. Portsmouth's application to be a pilot was approved last week.

A Process Project Manager was recently appointed and reservists are being recruited. These are volunteers from other teams and the redeployment pool and will be joined by eight officers from the Wellbeing Team.

The infection rate is increasing in Portsmouth and the Hampshire & Isle of Wight but is much lower than in some areas of the North East and North West.

	Infections per 100,000 residents
Portsmouth	11.2
Isle of Wight	7.1
Southampton	9.5
Hampshire	12.3
Bolton	121.9

	Number of cases in the 7 days prior to 15 September.
Portsmouth	13
Hampshire	76
Isle of Wight	6
Southampton	16

The infections are community-based and predominantly in young adults (20-30 year olds).

70 people across the region were admitted to hospital and 4 intensive care beds used.

Local Resilience Forums are a statutory responsibility of the Civil Contingency Act and are led by key partners.

Local Authorities are responsible for local outbreak planning.

**RESOLVED that the update be noted.**

The meeting ended at 2:55pm.

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 Councillor Chris Attwell  
 Chair