New HOSC!

Following the County Council elections on 4th June the County Council has appointed new members to the West Sussex HOSC.

The new HOSC Chairman is Mrs Christine Field (Lindfield & High Weald division). Newly elected to the County Council Christine has been a local councillor for over 20 years. She was Leader of Mid Sussex District Council for five years and its Chairman for two years. Christine originally trained as a Medical Social Worker and was Chairman of the Mid Sussex NHS Trust (Princess Royal Hospital) from its creation in 1992 until the merger with Brighton in 2002.

Christine said “I’m delighted to take on the role of Chairman of the West Sussex HOSC. I have a keen interest in the NHS and this is a very exciting opportunity. I’m very much looking forward to working with my colleagues on the HOSC and taking forward the work of the Committee”.

The HOSC Vice-Chairman is Mr Mike Coleman (Nyetimber division). Mike was elected as a County Councillor in 2001 and was previously Deputy Leader of the County Council.

HOSC Membership

County Councillors

Mrs Liz Bennett
Dr Howard Bloom
Mr Mike Coleman (Vice-Chairman)
Mrs Christine Field (Chairman)
Mrs Susan Knight
Mrs Angie Mills
Mr Andrew Smith
Mrs Nicola Waight
Dr James Walsh
Mrs Margaret Whitehead

District and Borough Councillors

Councillor Rod Hotton (Adur)
Councillor Mrs Ann Smee (Arun)
Councillor Brian Weekes (Chichester)
Councillor Lee Gilroy (Crawley)
Councillor Dr David Skipp (Horsham)
Councillor Mrs Jacqui Landriani (Mid Sussex)
Councillor Ms Joan Bradley (Worthing)

Local Involvement Network (LINK)

Dr Vicki King
Miss Betty Smith
Mr Taff Davies

Useful Information for New Members

A guide for new HOSC members is available electronically or in hard copy on request. The guide includes information on:

- The objectives of the HOSC and its powers
- HOSC Membership
- How the NHS works
- Glossary of terms/acronym buster
- HOSC/NHS contacts
- Triggers template for substantial variations/developments in NHS services
- HOSC Liaison Members with NHS Trusts
- Links to useful publications

To access an electronic version of the HOSC Member handbook – click here.
HOSC Meeting 16th July

The HOSC has held one meeting since the last newsletter. A summary of the issues discussed is listed below. For the full agenda papers please click here.

• Out of Hours Service (OOH) East Grinstead
  HOSC considered a report on the OOH service in East Grinstead. The PCT is proposing to close the weekday service and reduce the weekend service due to low usage. A pilot running these reduced hours has been operating since August 2008. Members considered the results of the pilot, including feedback from local stakeholders. They agreed to support the permanent change to the opening hours based on the usage figures and recommended that the PCT be invited to future West Sussex County Local Committee meetings to help publicise Out of Hours and other services.

• Fit for the Future (FFF) Update
  HOSC received an update on the PCT Review of Commissioning Intentions (Maternity, Inpatient Paediatrics & Emergency Surgery). The PCT is due to agree its commissioning intentions on 30th July, however, the key acute providers have asked for more time following this to respond and develop their clinical strategies/delivery plans. Therefore, the PCT Board meeting at which any decisions regarding the location of services/lifting of the FFF suspension will not be until October/November.

  It is likely that the Joint HOSC will reconvene in October/November, following any decisions taken by the Board. The Joint HOSC will need to consider the impact of the decisions, particularly how the outcome of the Review differs from the original FFF decisions. It will also need to decide whether or not the basis of its referral still stands. If entirely new proposals come forward, it is possible the Joint HOSC will require the PCT to carry out further consultation (with the public and the Joint HOSC).

  The HOSC appointed five County Council HOSC members to the Joint HOSC:-
  • Dr Howard Bloom
  • Mr Mike Coleman
  • Mrs Christine Field
  • Mr Andrew Smith
  • Dr James Walsh

Other local authorities’ members on the Joint HOSC will be appointed at their next meetings.

A detailed briefing note on Fit for the Future has been prepared for members – click here.

• Upper Gastrointestinal (GI) Cancer Care Pathway for Worthing
  A small number of Worthing residents currently access the Upper GI cancer service provided at the Royal Surrey County Hospital in Guildford. Plans to transfer an element of the service from Guildford to Brighton have been considered by HOSC at previous meetings. At its April meeting HOSC requested confirmation from Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust of its support for the proposed change and has since received a letter from the Trust confirming its commitment to the process provided that a number of key success factors are met.

  The PCT confirmed that it has been working closely with Surrey PCT and the Royal Surrey County Hospital in Guildford and is liaising with the National Cancer Team regarding the proposal. HOSC members viewed the change as a positive move as two centres would allow flexibility and increased access to the service. HOSC agreed that the change should be monitored by its Liaison Members for Western Sussex Hospitals and Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trusts.

• Business Planning Group (BPG) Report
  The BPG reported back on issues considered at its meeting in April:-

  Sussex Rehabilitation Centre (SRC) -
  SRC provides rehabilitation for stroke or acquired brain injury. Prior to November 2008, the service was managed by South Downs NHS Trust (SDH) and provided at Southlands Hospital, Shoreham. In January 2008 it was agreed that the West Sussex inpatient Stroke Rehabilitation Service would be relocated to Worthing Hospital (however, this is currently under review and likely to happen in 2010 at the earliest). The Neurological Rehabilitation service for Brighton & Hove and East Sussex patients transferred from Southlands to Princess Royal Hospital (PRH) in Haywards Heath and the West Sussex PCT continues to commission a small number of beds for patients with an acquired brain injury at PRH.

  Following the move to PRH concerns were raised by HOSC members concerning the level and quality of service provision,
however, HOSC agreed that no further scrutiny was required by this Committee on the basis that the issues affect East Sussex and Brighton & Hove residents.

**Horsham Minor Injuries Unit** - HOSC considered a report on the pilot to extend the opening hours of Horsham Minor Injuries Unit to 10 hours a day, 7 days a week. It agreed that monitoring and evaluation of the pilot should be carried out locally and that arrangements should be developed in liaison with North Horsham and Chantry County Local Committees and Horsham District Council’s Scrutiny & Overview Committee, with a report back to HOSC at the end of the process.

**Tender Process for Medical Cover at Community Hospitals in West Sussex** - Concerns were raised by some HOSC members at the end of June 2009 regarding plans by the PCT to put out to tender the medical cover provided at all the Community Hospitals in West Sussex (Salvington Lodge, Midhurst, Arundel, Kleinwort, Zachary Merton, Horsham). The PCT provided a short briefing note on this.

Key information included:

- The medical cover service applies to beds at the Community Hospitals that are, in the main, used for elderly patients being rehabilitated for discharge home, although some are used for intermediate step up care to avoid an acute admission, and some for palliative care.
- No service change is planned.
- This is a contractual process that legally the PCT is required to carry out.
- The PCT is looking to develop a consistent specification across all Community Hospitals.
- Meetings are being held with individual GP practices currently providing this service during June and July 2009.
- A specification will be developed following workshops with current providers during July and August 2009, following which a tender process will begin.
- A decision on the successful tender is likely to be taken in March 2010.

The HOSC agreed that the tender process should be considered by its Business Planning Group at its next meeting in August 2009.

**Triggers and Patient and Public Involvement Checklists** - The HOSC noted the revised ‘Triggers’ checklist (guidelines for identifying substantial variations and developments in health services), following feedback from NHS Trusts. The template along with the Good Practice Checklist on consultation will generally be used by the Business Planning Group when looking at proposed changes to services. Both templates are available by clicking here.

- **Appointments**
  HOSC confirmed the following appointments:

**HOSC Business Planning Group:**

- Mrs Field (Chairman) (WSCC)
- Mr Coleman (WSCC)
- Dr Walsh (WSCC)
- Cllr Weekes (Chichester District Council)
- Cllr Gilroy (Crawley Borough Council)
- Miss Smith (LINk)

**Dementia Task Force:** As reported in the last newsletter the Adults’ Services Select Committee (ASSC) and HOSC agreed that the future scrutiny of dementia services in West Sussex should be carried out jointly between the two Committees. A Task Force has been set up and the following members appointed:

- Mrs Field and Mrs Knight (HOSC)
- Miss Hendon and Mr Sheldon (ASSC)

The Task Force is likely to report back in January.

**Liaison Members with NHS Trusts:**

This is an informal arrangement established to serve as a communication link between HOSC and the local NHS trusts. HOSC appointed Liaison Members to each of the NHS Trusts (full list on last page of newsletter). For more about the role of Liaison Members click here.

**Healthcare Associated Infection (HCAI) Compliance and Care Quality Commission (CQC) Registration – Horsham Hospital**

HOSC noted a statement from West Sussex PCT on its HCAI compliance and action plan following the unannounced visit by the Healthcare Commission (now Care Quality Commission (CQC)) – click here.
• **HOSC Future Work Programme**
  The Committee agreed its 2009-10 work programme which includes:
  
  • Integration of Health and Social Care
  • Cancer Screening
  • Dementia Services in West Sussex
  • Implementation of Commissioning Intentions (Maternity, Inpatient Paediatrics & Emergency Surgery)
  • Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust - Merger & Bid for Foundation Trust Status
  • Annual Health Check
  • North East Review – Implementation

Items scheduled for future meetings include:

**10th September**

• South East Coast Ambulance Service Consultation on Foundation Trust Plans
• North East Review Update
• Stroke services in West Sussex

**8th October:**

• Update on Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust’s development of its clinical strategy and plans to become a Foundation Trust
• Presentation by Director of Public Health and Well-being

For details of future HOSC meetings click [here](#).

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**What’s New**

**Review of Health Scrutiny Guidance**

The Department of Health is reviewing the original health scrutiny guidance published in 2003. There have been significant changes in the NHS since the guidance was written. Strategic Health Authorities and Primary Care Trusts have been re-organised and Foundation Trusts exist in many parts of the country.

World Class Commissioning and Lord Darzi’s Next Stage Review are the latest in a series of policy initiatives that will impact on the way health services are planned and run. Health and social care services are becoming more integrated and the leading role that local authorities can play in tackling inequalities and enhancing well-being is gaining increasing recognition. It is likely that the revised guidance will be published in the Autumn.

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**Your service, your call – South East Coast Ambulance Service Foundation Trust Plans**

**Have your say on the future of your local ambulance service**

On 25 July, South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAmb) launched a 12-week public and staff consultation on its plans to become a foundation trust.

Visit [www.ysyc.secamb.nhs.uk](http://www.ysyc.secamb.nhs.uk) to find out more about SECAmb’s foundation trust proposals and to help shape the future of your local ambulance service by giving your views. Details of roadshows and public meetings being run by SECAmb in August and September across the region, including West Sussex, are also on the website.

**Darzi: High Quality Care for All: the journey so far**

Lord Darzi has published his report which examines the progress that has been made since ‘High Quality Care for All’ was published a year ago. Across each dimension of quality - patient experience, patient safety and clinical effectiveness Lord Darzi found that there has been real progress with patients already seeing a difference.

Major improvements highlighted in the report include the opening of 50 new GP led Health Centres, the introduction of personal care plans for 9.3 million patients with long term conditions and the growth in keyhole surgery. The report also mentions the excellent work of the South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust on thrombolysis - a new initiative to deliver world class stroke care which has proved very successful.
The focus on quality has moved up the agenda for staff and organisations and the report also outlines plans to drive up the quality agenda even further and free up clinicians time to do this. Proposals include:

- **Refining of targets based on evidence** - freeing up front line staff so they can focus on delivering high quality care. Removing the obsolete 13-week outpatient and 26-week inpatient performance targets, as well as reviewing data collections across the board to reduce the burden on front line staff.

- **Clinician budget ownership** - looking at giving clinical teams in the acute sector ownership of their budget. Allowing clinical teams to manage their budgets will promote entrepreneurship and innovative delivery of services built around the needs of the patient.

- **Peer review accreditation system** - creating a new voluntary peer review system in which clinicians will judge the standard of their peers in order to drive up quality and achieve a 'gold standard' of care. The system will be developed through close collaboration and consultation with the relevant partners and stakeholders.

To access to the full report click here.

**Healthier People, Excellent Care – A year of progress**

One year after the publication of NHS South East Coast’s ten-year vision, Healthier people, excellent care, a progress report has been published detailing the consultation process and results, the changes and amendments that were made to the pledges, and next steps for PCTs and Trusts across the region. The finalised pledges have now been adopted by all PCTs and Trusts in Kent, Surrey and Sussex, and will be reflected in strategic plans and strategic commissioning plans for the coming year.

To access to the full report click here.

**Care Quality Commission (CQC): Voices into Action**

The CQC has published its statement on involvement, Voices into Action, outlining its plans to engage with patients, carers and the public. The document looks at how the CQC will involve care service users in all aspects of their work, and how they will ensure care services respond to the feedback received. A range of methods are mentioned, including surveys, consultations and engagement with LINks, as well as direct engagement through the use of “experts by experience”, and advisers. CQC will also provide feedback on how service user feedback has been used. For more details, please see the CQC website: [www.cqc.org.uk](http://www.cqc.org.uk)

**New Director of Public Health & Wellbeing**

Judith Wright has been appointed as Joint Director of Public Health and Wellbeing for both West Sussex PCT and West Sussex County Council. She will be taking up her new post on 7th September 2009.

As Director of Public Health and Wellbeing for West Sussex, Judith will have responsibility for public health in both the NHS and local government. She will be responsible for promoting the public’s health and wellbeing, tackling health inequalities, and ensuring that public bodies work well together to protect the health of local people.

HOSC will be inviting Judith to its October meeting to outline her role and to discuss related issues such as the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Local Area Agreement.

**Shaping the Future of Care Together**

Shaping the Future of Care Together sets out a vision for a new care and support system. The Green Paper highlights the challenges faced by the current system and the need for radical reform, to develop a National Care Service that is fair, simple and affordable for everyone. Within the Green Paper, it sets out a number of consultation questions and asks everyone to provide their views about how they think Government can make this vision a reality and develop a care and support system fit for the 21st century.

The consultation will run from 14 July 2009 to 13 November 2009.

To access the paper on the Department of Health website click here.
New Horizons - Government consults on mental health and well-being

The Department of Health has launched a consultation document on new approaches to tackling mental health. A number of key themes are being consulted on:

- Prevention and public mental health
- Stigma
- Early intervention
- Personalised care
- Multi-agency commissioning/collaboration
- Innovation
- Value for money
- Strengthening transition

The consultation closes on 15th October 2009. To access the document on the Department of Health website click [here](#).

Innovations in Primary Care

Innovations in Primary Care Limited (IPC) offered to provide a briefing for HOSC members on the services it provides locally. IPC is a limited company with West Sussex GPs and practice staff set up in 2005. Initially started in the old Adur, Arun and Worthing PCT area, by early 2006, all practices (clinicians and staff) in the area and several practices in Chanctonbury had become shareholders in the company. It now represents some 300 GPs and practice staff covering 500,000 patients in Arun, Adur, Chanctonbury, Crawley, Horsham, Mid Sussex and Worthing. Shareholding is open to all practices and associated staff in West Sussex. IPC is a Specialist Provider of Medical Services which is an NHS contracting format for Personal Medical Services but with the key difference that patients do not have to be registered with the provider to receive care, as would be the case for General Medical Services (GMS) and other agreements. IPC does not compete with GMS but offers community based care services to patients in West Sussex. All IPC employees have full NHS benefits.

The initial aim of the company to protect, nurture, and support NHS general practice, has evolved to support wider Primary Care and to take advantage of the potential to deliver clinical services in innovative ways. From the outset IPC set itself up as a new community-based company, with a strategic plan for improved and integrated service delivery and practice support.

The full briefing is available on request.

News in Brief

Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust – Enhancing Local Transport

In 2007 there was a legal challenge to the decision by the Board of Surrey and Sussex Healthcare (SaSH) NHS Trust to cease provision of a link bus between Horsham, Crawley and East Surrey Hospital. As a result, the Board committed to taking a fresh decision on the link bus following a process of public engagement, called ’Enhancing Local Transport Services’.

HOSC gave its formal response to this engagement in September 2008, and the issue was also considered as part of the PCT’s North East Review (considered by HOSC at its meeting in February 2009). A business case was prepared for consideration by the SaSH Board, which met on 20th July 2009 to consider options in relation to the link bus.

The Board agreed that the Trust should not reintroduce the link bus on a full or partial basis. In addition, the fare reimbursement scheme will be discontinued, with funding for the scheme redirected into community transport services. SaSH states that it strongly supports the North East Review recommendation to set up a 'Partnership for Transport', which the PCT plans to launch in September 2009. To view the Enhancing Local Transport business case click [here](#). A letter from the Trust setting out the Board’s decision is available on request.

North East Review - The North East Review progress report was presented at the June Stakeholder Forum and the quarterly report went to the PCT July Board meeting. Further Stakeholder Forums have been set for September, October & November. In June West Sussex PCT distributed the NER Newsletter, with further editions to be produced in September and November. Click on the links to access the [Newsletter](#) and [PCT Board report](#). HOSC will receive a full update on the North East Review at its meeting in September.
Local Involvement Network (LINk)

The West Sussex LINk members on HOSC are:

- Dr Vicki King (Acute Trusts)
- Mr Taff Davies (Mental Health)
- Miss Betty Smith (PCT).

The view the LINk Annual Report – click here.

Swine Flu

The National Pandemic Flu Service website can be accessed by phone on: 0800 1 513 100 or on-line: www.direct.gov.uk/pandemicflu

Useful Publications

The following is a list of useful publications for HOSC members and anyone asked to attend a HOSC meeting to present information or answer questions. You can access these documents by clicking on the titles.

- A Guide to the NHS for members and officers of health scrutiny committees
- Ten Questions to ask if you’re scrutinising the effectiveness of your local hospital
- Effective Questioning in health scrutiny
- A Guide to Substantial variations and developments of health services

PCT Membership Scheme

Any member of the public living or working in the area, over the age of 14, covered by West Sussex PCT can become a member of the Membership Scheme. To find out more please contact the PCT Membership Manager on 01903 708400 or visit the PCT’s website.

Stop Press!

New Start Time for HOSC Meetings

Please note that future HOSC meetings will start at 10.30am as opposed to 10.00am as previously published.

Dates for your Diary

- 27th August - Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust Board (St. Richard’s Hospital)
- 2nd September – West Sussex PCT Board
- 10th September – West Sussex HOSC
- 24th September - Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust Board
- 24th September - Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust Board (Southlands Hospital)
- 29th September 2009 - Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust Board meeting (Princess Royal Hospital)
- 29th September 2009 South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust Board
- 5th October – Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (Council of Governors)
- 8th October – West Sussex HOSC
- 22nd October – West Sussex PCT Board

If you require any further information about these events, please contact the Scrutiny team.

HOSC Support Officers

The HOSC support team are based in Room 105, First Floor, East Wing South, County Hall, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1RQ

Helen Kenny, Scrutiny Officer (Health Scrutiny)
01243 752715
helen.kenny@westsussex.gov.uk

Ninesh Edwards, Scrutiny Officer (Mental Health Services)
01243 752714
ninesh.edwards@westsussex.gov.uk

Annalee Clayton, Member Services Officer
01243 752708
annalee.clayton@westsussex.gov.uk

Hard copies of any of the documents referred to in this newsletter are also available on request from Annalee Clayton.

We welcome ideas and submissions for future articles so please let us know if there is something you wish to submit. The next newsletter will be published in October.
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