

Oxfordshire Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
4th February 2021

Chairman's Report

1.0 The first thirty days of Covid

- 1.1 At the HOSC meeting on the 26th of November 2020, the committee agreed to gather more information on the impact of the first thirty days of the Covid pandemic on care homes.
- 1.2 The report attached in Appendix 1 summarises the information obtained during meetings between co-opted Members of HOSC and the Director of Public Health and the Director of Adult Services at Oxfordshire County Council. In addition, the report provides data from ONS on mortality rates during this period and finally, the report presents issues for HOSC discussion.

2.0 Horton HOSC

- 2.1 The Horton Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) met on the 27th of November 2020 for the first since September 2019 to consider its next steps following a referral to the Secretary of State. This was the first meeting of the Committee with an expanded scope to consider the development of a Masterplan for the Horton General Hospital (HGH).
- 2.2 In September 2019, Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) took a decision to confirm an earlier decision (from 2017) to have a single specialist obstetric unit for Oxfordshire (and its neighbouring areas) at the John Radcliffe Hospital and establish a Midwife Led Unit (MLU) at the Horton General Hospital, for the foreseeable future.
- 2.3 Following the OCCG decision, the Horton HOSC submitted a referral to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care on the 2nd of December 2019. The Secretary of State briefly replied on the 15th of September 2020 to say he did not consider the referral to be valid. The Chairman of the Horton HOSC then wrote an additional letter in reply. No response has been received to date.
- 2.4 On the 27th of November 2020, the Horton HOSC considered advice on the potential pursuit of a Judicial Review of the Secretary of State's decision. The committee voted in favour of supporting a request to the OCCG Board to undertake a review of their September 2019 decision.
- 2.5 The Horton HOSC also considered a report on changes to the HGH in response to Covid-19, recent service improvements at HGH and a summary of the vision for HGH. The committee agreed that they would meet in the early months of 2021 to consider greater details on proposals for the HGH.

3.0 Committee briefings and communication

3.1 The committee received the following written briefings since its meeting in November 2020. These are in the Appendices of this report and are on:

| Appendix | Name | From | Received |
|-----------------|---|----------------------------|--|
| 2a | Confidential HOSC Members Briefing Note | OUH | 23/11/20 and updated on 27/01/21 |
| 2b | Moving Forward Together Briefing Document | OUH | 23/11/20 |
| 3 | System Stakeholder briefing- November | System | 27/11/20 |
| 4 | System Stakeholder briefing- December | System | 11/12/20 |
| 5 | System Stakeholder briefing- January | System | 07/01/21 |
| 6 | West Northamptonshire pharmaceutical needs assessment - 60 day consultation | Primary Care Commissioning | 18/01/21 |
| 7 | System Stakeholder briefing- January | System | 22/01/21 |