

**Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee.  
19 April 2018**

**Chairman's Report**

**1. Health and Social Care Liaison**

1.0 The following meetings were held with the Chairman and HOSC members since the last meeting of the Committee.

➤ **6 March – ‘Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West’ (BOB) Scrutiny Chairmen’s meeting.**

*The Deputy Chairman attended an informal meeting with the scrutiny chairmen from Buckinghamshire, Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham to hear of developments, exchange views and ask questions about progress with the ‘BOB’ Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP). The key points were:*

- New leadership of the BOB STP is now in place with Fiona Wise. STP leaders had reviewed and redefined the role of the STP and had identified the importance of working at a local level, then at scale where it makes sense. They identified the need to work with neighbouring STPs where appropriate.
- The STP will focus on more strategic collaboration, sharing local learning and continue a ‘bottom up’ approach through the Integrated Care Systems (ICS (formerly Accountable Care Systems)) to provide solutions to tackle local issues and that this could then inform best practice across the STP BOB area.
- The Government’s national planning guidance was clear that areas such as cancer, urgent care, primary care, mental health and maternity services should be led at the STP level.
- Government funding is increasing being allocated at an STP level.

➤ **21 March 2018 – Ways of Working Workshop**

*In response to advice from the IRP, the second ‘Ways of Working’ workshop was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March at the Kings Centre, Oxford with HOSC members and health representatives to consider a draft Protocol. A Protocol will be considered for agreement and adoption by the Committee on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April 2018.*

➤ **28 March 2018 – Response to the IRP**

*In response to advice from the IRP, a meeting between the Chairman of HOSC, the Chief Executive of the CCG and supporting officers was held on the 28th of March to consider a joint response to the Secretary of State, in-line with advice received. A proposal will be considered for agreement by the Committee on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April 2018.*

## **2. Referral to the Secretary of State: permanent closure of consultant-led maternity services at the Horton**

- 2.0 Following a decision by Oxfordshire CCG to permanently close obstetrics at the Horton General Hospital in Banbury (as part of Phase one of its Transformation Programme), the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) referred the decision to the Secretary of State. The referral was on the basis of:
- Regulation 23(9)(c) - the decision is not in the best interests of the health service or local residents; and
  - Regulation 23(9)(a) – the content of the two-phase consultation is inadequate.
- 2.1 In response to the committee’s referral of the CCG’s decision the Secretary of State passed the matter to the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP) for initial assessment. The Secretary of State received the IRP report on the permanent closure and wrote to Oxfordshire JHOSC on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2018 to state that “*The Panel considers each referral on its merits and concludes that further action is required locally before a final decision is made about the future of maternity services in Oxfordshire*”.
- 2.2 The full letter from the Secretary of State, along with the IRP recommendations can be found in Appendix A and B of this report. The response to these recommendations will be considered by the committee during its meeting of the 19<sup>th</sup> of April.

## **3. Task and Finish Group**

- 3.0 At the committee’s meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup> of February, a decision was taken to establish a Task and Finish Group to look in detail at Musculoskeletal Services (MSK).
- 3.1 A draft Terms of reference for this group has been developed and is attached to this report in Appendix C.