

Report to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 7 December 2021



Subject: Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust - Scrutiny of External Organisation

Responsible Officer: Gary Woodhall (01992) 564470

Democratic Services: Vivienne Messenger (01992) 564243

Recommendations/Decisions Required:

(1) That the Committee undertake appropriate external scrutiny of the development of a new hospital in Sheering by the Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust and the recent CQC report.

1. The Committee has previously requested an opportunity to undertake appropriate external scrutiny of the work being undertaken by the Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust to develop a new hospital in Sheering. This hospital would serve the residents in the west of the district and consequently there would be benefits for the Epping Forest District. This issue is included in the current work programme for the Committee and a special meeting was scheduled to consider this item.

2. Questions concerning the recent report from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on the care provision being provided at the current Princess Alexandra hospital have been raised for consideration at the meeting as well. Further lines of questioning to be raised have been sought, and Members will have the opportunity to question the representatives from the Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust at the meeting.

3. Invitations have been extended to the Trust and Lance McCarthy, Chief Executive, and Stephanie Lawton, Chief Operating Officer, will be attending the Committee meeting virtually.

Resource Implications:

The recommendations of this report seek to enable scrutiny activity to more effectively meet work programme requirements.

Legal and Governance Implications:

The Council's Constitution sets out rules for the management of its Overview and Scrutiny responsibilities. Although external organisations are not generally required by legislation to attend a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it is hoped that most would be willing to engage constructively with the Council's scrutiny activity when invited to do so.

Safer, Cleaner, Greener Implications:

There are no implications arising from the recommendations of this report in respect of the Council's commitment to the Climate Local Agreement, the corporate Safer, Cleaner, Greener initiative, or any crime and disorder issues within the District.

Consultation Undertaken:

The proposed external scrutiny exercise is included in the current work programme for the Committee.

Background Papers:

None.

Impact Assessments:Risk Management

The Council's Constitution sets out rules for the management of its Overview and Scrutiny responsibilities.

Equality:

There are no equality implications arising from the recommendations of this report.