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## **OSP UPDATE REPORT TO CABINET: - EKHUFT NEW CLINICAL STRATEGY PROPOSAL**

To: **Cabinet – 14 November 2013**

Main Portfolio Area: Community Services

By: **Charles Hungwe, Senior Democratic Services Officer**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **Thanet Wide**

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**Summary:** **The purpose of the report is to provide an update to Cabinet regarding the scrutiny review work in relation to the proposed Clinical Strategy by the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT).**

### **For Decision**

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#### **1.0 Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 On 8 December 2011, Full Council received a question from a member of the public in relation to unconfirmed proposals for transferring trauma services from QEQM Hospital in Margate to Ashford. Some discussions had occurred between Thanet District Council's Cabinet representative and Mr Stuart Bain, Chief Executive of East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust. Further investigations of the issue would need to be carried out by the Council.
- 1.2 Cabinet then considered a report on 10 May 2012. Councillor Johnston moved, Councillor Fenner seconded and Members agreed the following:
1. To note the report;
  2. To support the ongoing dialogue with the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust and local campaigners;
  3. Requested the Overview & Scrutiny Panel to add this matter to its Work Plan with a view to informing itself, drafting a consultation response and reporting back to Cabinet.
- 1.3 Thereafter; on 28 May 2012 the Overview & Scrutiny Panel set up the East Kent Hospitals Clinical Strategy Review Task & Finish Group (TFG) to study the proposed clinical strategy and advise the Panel on recommendations to make to Cabinet.
- 1.4 On 15 October 2012 Members of the Task & Finish Group received a power-point presentation on the proposed EK Clinical Strategy by Mr Stuart Bain, CEx of the East Kent NHS Hospitals University Foundation Trust.
- 1.5 At their meeting on 20 November 2012, the Task & Finish Group took evidence from a number of stakeholder groups that included the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Royal College of Surgeons, Patient Group and East Kent Coastal Ambulance Services on the likely impact of the suggested changes to the current

health delivery services in Thanet. Members of the sub-committee agreed to forward to the EKHUFT Board the views of the Council regarding the proposed public consultation. The Chairman of the TFG sent a letter to the EKHUFT Board Chairman on behalf of the sub-group. A copy of the letter is attached as Annex 1 to this report.

- 1.6 The Board Chairman responded and advised Members to respond to the public consultation, once it was in train. A copy of the letter is attached as Annex 2 to the report.

## **2.0 The Current Situation**

- 2.1 On 29 May 2013, the Overview & Scrutiny Panel decided to keep the review of the proposed Clinical Strategy in abeyance until some progress had been made by the EKHUFT Board to produce the final Strategy for public consultation.

- 2.2 As at end of August 2013, the EKHUFT Board had not yet agreed on a final Clinical Strategy proposal to consult on. At a meeting of the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust on 30 August 2013, the Board of Directors considered an update report on the Clinical Strategy.

- 2.3 Detailed analysis of the proposal's various work streams were still being worked through by the Clinical Strategy Implementation Board as can be evidenced by the report considered at the Board meeting on 30 August 2013 which is attached as Annex 3 to the report.

- 2.4 The Overview and Scrutiny Panel considered the issue at its meeting on 22 October 2013; Councillor Campbell proposed, Councillor Harrison seconded and Members agreed the following that:

"The issue be brought back for discussion once the date for the public consultation on the matter has been announced by EKHUFT and decide on whether they are minded to recommend to Cabinet a collective TDC response to the public consultation on a new Clinical Strategy for East Kent as requested by Cabinet on 10 May 2012."

## **3.0 Options**

- 3.1 It is suggested that Cabinet agrees to await the report from the Overview & Scrutiny Panel, which will include a draft consultation response, before responding to the proposals of the EKHUFT Board.

## **4.0 Corporate Implications**

### **4.1 Financial and VAT**

- 4.1.1 There were no financial implications arising directly from this report.

### **4.2 Legal**

- 4.2.1 There were no legal implications arising directly from this report.

### 4.3 Corporate

### 4.4 Equity and Equalities

4.4.1 There were no equity and equalities implications arising directly from this report.

### 5.0 Recommendations

5.1 Members to note the update report;

5.2 Members agree to defer making a final decision on the matter until after the Overview & Scrutiny Panel has made recommendations to Cabinet regarding the public consultation by the EKHUFT Board on the proposed Clinical Strategy for East Kent.

### 6.0 Decision Making Process

6.1 The Executive can request the Overview & Scrutiny Panel to review an issue of public interest to Thanet area and make recommendations to cabinet for the Executive to consider when making a decision.

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### Annex List

Annex 1	EK Hospitals Clinical Strategy Review TFG Chairman's Letter to EKHUFT Board – 22 November 2012
Annex 2	EKHUFT Board Chairman's response Letter – 20 December 2012
Annex 3	Update Report to EKHUFT Board – 30 August 2013

### Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

### Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	Sarah Martin, Financial Services Manager
Legal	Harvey Patterson, Corporate & Regulatory Services Manager