

**28 November 2016****Agenda Item: 7**

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **COMMUNITY PHARMACY BRIEFING**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To introduce briefing on community pharmacy issues from NHS England.

#### **Information and Advice**

2. Members will recall requesting briefing on the following areas relating to community pharmacies:
  - a. How pharmacies are commissioned
  - b. How contracts are monitored
  - c. How complaints are dealt with
3. Community pharmacies are recognised as key frontline service that can provide healthcare and advice as an effective alternative to many over-subscribed primary care services, particularly those of local GP practices. A written briefing from NHS England is attached as an appendix to this report.
4. Liz Gundel, Contracts Manager (Pharmacy Dental and Optometry) will attend the Health Scrutiny Committee to provide the briefing and answer questions, accompanied by Samantha Travis, Chair of the Pharmacy Local Professional Network. The network is intended to provide clinical input into the operation of the local team and local commissioning decisions. Local Professional Networks are also the focus of NHS England's work on quality improvement.
5. Members may wish to identify what further information they require regarding pharmacies. Members will see from the briefing that pharmacies face a considerable reduction in funding. The briefing emphasises that the local impact of the changes cannot be anticipated at present, but that there may be closure of some pharmacies, particularly in areas where there are pharmacies in close proximity. This may, therefore, be an issue for the Health Scrutiny Committee to retain on its work programme, and consider again when any prospective changes are being consulted on.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1) That the Health Scrutiny Committee considers and comments on the information provided.
- 2) That the Health Scrutiny Committee identifies any further information required.
- 3) That the Health Scrutiny Committee schedule further consideration, if necessary.

**Councillor Colleen Harwood**  
**Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Martin Gately – 0115 977 2826**

### **Background Papers**

Nil

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All