

16 January 2024

Agenda Item: 4

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ACCESS TO NHS DENTAL SERVICES

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider an update from NHS England representatives in respect of NHS Dental Services in Nottinghamshire, particularly in respect of access to services and revised commissioning arrangements.

Information

2. The Committee most recently considered NHS Dental Services at its March 2023 meeting, when it received a comprehensive briefing on the challenges faced by the service, particularly in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Committee welcomed NHS England's candour in respect of the challenges facing the sector, and requested a progress update in early 2024.
3. At the March 2023 meeting, the Committee was also informed about planned changes to commissioning arrangements – these are now in place. Members will wish to understand the benefits of these revised arrangements and to seek assurance that the transition from NHS England has gone smoothly, without detriment to service delivery.
4. The briefing update at the appendix to this report includes updates on the national NHS Dental Contract, access and performance challenges in Nottinghamshire for both adults and children and young people, secondary dental provision, latest service recovery initiatives and information on a strategic review of dental access. The update also provides commentary on private dental health provision.
5. Rose Lynch, Senior Commissioning Manager at the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board will be in attendance to present the information and to respond to questions.
6. To ensure best use of the Committee's time, the intention is to keep the discussion at service level. However, if members have concerns about individual dental practices please forward these to Democratic Services in advance of the meeting so that these can be addressed separately.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Health Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) consider and comment on the information provided; and
- 2) determine whether any further information was required for the Committee's consideration.

Councillor Jonathan Wheeler
Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Noel McMenamin – 0115 993 2670

Background Papers

Embedded documents within the Appendix to this report – to be circulated to Committee members separately.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All