

Appendix 3

Scrutiny Management Board Briefing from Chair of Health Scrutiny Committee

1.0 Purpose of Update

- 1.1 This report updates Scrutiny Management Board (SMB) on the work of Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee and any issues and developments that have occurred since the last meeting of SMB.

2.0 Board Meeting Update

- 2.1 Since the last meeting of Scrutiny Management Board, Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee has been monitoring changes across a number of Health Services and will continue to do this through regular meetings with System Leaders in both areas. The last meeting of the Committee took place on 18 May.

- 2.2 The specific items considered at the 18th May meeting are listed below:

- Urology Services At University Hospitals Of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust - The Committee was informed that following concerns raised by a former colleague, due to the range and complexity of the allegations in 2019, the Trust had asked NHS England/Improvement to provide independent assistance to help investigate the claims. It was explained that as a result in 2020 NHS England/Improvement had commissioned NICHE Consulting Ltd (an independent management consultancy that specialised in supporting health care providers with all issues of safety, governance and quality, including undertaking independent investigations following very serious incidents) who undertook a detailed investigation received by the Trust in November 2021. Members were informed it had been acknowledged that work was required with regards to culture which had gone unchallenged in the Urology Team for a considerable length of time. It was explained that work undertaken following the NICHE recommendations had put Urology on a remarkable journey which had led to increased respect and psychological improvements; these would be escalated and articulated throughout the Organisation.
- Inpatient Mental Health Provision Across South Cumbria - Members considered a positive report from Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust regarding in-patient mental health provision across South Cumbria. The Committee was informed that in October 2019, Mental Health services across South Cumbria had transferred to Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust. It was explained that as part of that transfer, the Trust inherited a number of challenges, including a 'Requires Improvement Care Quality Commission' rating, as previously updated to the Committee.

- Liberty Protection - The Committee considered a report which outlined preparations for the Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS). It was explained that this would move several responsibilities from the local authority to NHS trusts, where inpatient services were provided to patients who lacked capacity and who may be deprived of their liberty.
- North West Ambulance Service Provision In Cumbria - The Committee received a presentation from North West Ambulance Service which provided an update on ambulance provision in Cumbria. Members were informed there were eight ambulance sites, 13-20 ambulances, three response cars and 191 active Community First Responders to support the county. The Committee noted the emergency response standards measured through the Ambulance Response Programme (ARP) which aimed to make sure patients were being reached as quickly as possible based on the nature and priority of the call.

2.3 The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for the 25th July and the items on the agenda are listed below:

- Update on the Health & Care Act and the impact on powers of Health Scrutiny - For the Committee to understand the measures for the Secretary of State (SoS) to intervene in proposals for NHS reconfigurations. The SoS will have to ask for views on the changes from local NHS organisations and health overview and scrutiny committees and publish a summary of their responses.
- Mental Health Services at Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear Foundation Trust (CNTW) - Update on the Improvements Made to Pathways of Care since the Transfer of Mental Health Services to CNTW.
- Dentistry Services in West Cumbria - Opportunity for the Committee to scrutinise the measures being put in place to address the fragility of dentistry services in West Cumbria following on from the report received by the Committee in October 2021.

3.0 Additional Scrutiny activity undertaken by the Committee

3.1 Additional activity that has taken place by or is planned by the Board is noted below:

3.2 Meetings between the Lead Health Scrutiny Members and Chief Officers and Chairs of key Health Partners have taken place periodically and are continuing on a quarterly basis.

3.3 Cumbria and Lancashire Joint Health Scrutiny Committee met on 15 March 2022. The Committee was informed that the context for UHMBT declaring OPEL Level 4 and contingency planning for winter 2022/23 would be considered at the next meeting in September.

3.4 The first meeting of the Joint Health and Adults Task and Finish Group took place on Wednesday 8 June, Members are scheduled to discuss: How the

Integrated Care Partnership will relate to the Health and Wellbeing Board and other health related organisations, How elected members will engage with the Integrated Care Systems, and in addition how the voice of the communities will be included, What changes the new Integrated Care System will bring to the Health Scrutiny function.

4.0 Conclusion

- 4.1 The Committee will continue to scrutinise matters relating to planning, provision and the operation of health services to ensure that decisions reflect local needs. They will also hold health service bodies to account publicly; assist in addressing health inequalities; support continuous improvement of health services and support and strengthening improved partnership working; ensure that proposals for major changes to health services are equitable, reasonable and reflect local need.

Chair: Cllr Carni McCarron-Holmes
May 2022