

Report to: **East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC)**

Date: **6th July 2009**

By: **Director of Law and Personnel**

Title of report: **Review of Stroke Care in East Sussex – Response to HOSC Recommendations**

Purpose of report: **To consider the response from the NHS and its partners to the recommendations arising from HOSC's Review of Stroke Care in East Sussex.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

HOSC is recommended:

- 1. To consider and comment on the response to HOSC's recommendations from NHS East Sussex Downs and Weald/NHS Hastings and Rother on behalf of local health and social care organisations.**
 - 2. To agree that the Committee will schedule time at the HOSC meetings in March and September 2010 and March 2011 to continue to monitor progress against the recommendations.**
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1. Background

1.1 In June 2008 HOSC established a Review Board to examine stroke care for East Sussex residents. This topic had been identified as a priority for review by the committee at a work planning seminar.

1.2 Councillors Davies, Healy, Martin and Rogers were nominated to form the Review Board. The Board subsequently agreed to invite co-opted representatives from the County Council's Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee and the non-executive directors of NHS East Sussex Downs and Weald (ESDW)/NHS Hastings and Rother (H&R) to join the Board. It was felt that these perspectives would add to the review process and help ensure that these groups would gain increased awareness of stroke care issues and the developments required. Councillor Forster from the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee and John Barnes, Chairman of NHS East Sussex Downs and Weald therefore completed the Board's membership.

2. Objectives and scope of the review

2.1 The objective of the review was to assess and make recommendations on the stroke care provided to East Sussex residents, with particular focus on awareness and prevention, provision of acute services and the integrated provision of rehabilitation and long-term support.

2.2 To achieve this the Review Board:

- Researched public and professional awareness of stroke prevention and care;
- Sought the views of patients, carers and professionals in relation to current stroke services and their views on how services could be improved;
- Examined how stroke services in East Sussex compared to regional and national best practice and;
- Researched stroke prevalence and outcomes data for East Sussex, with particular reference to identifying areas of health inequality.

3. Report and recommendations

3.1 The Review Board's findings and recommendations were outlined in the final report which was endorsed by HOSC at its meeting in March 2009. The report has therefore previously been circulated to the Committee and it is available on the HOSC website www.eastsussexhealth.org or on request from Sam White on 01273 481581 or sam.white@eastsussex.gov.uk.

3.2 HOSC agreed to request a response to the recommendations from NHS ESDW/NHS H&R who had agreed to co-ordinate the responses from other health and social care organisations through a newly established East Sussex Stroke Programme Board.

4. Response to recommendations

4.1 As requested, NHS ESDW/H&R have provided a response to the recommendations. Their covering letter is attached at appendix 1 and the full response in tabular format is attached at appendix 2.

4.2 All of the recommendations made by HOSC have been accepted by local NHS and social care organisations and are being taken forward through the multi-agency Stroke Programme Board. Details of the governance arrangements for this programme board are attached as a diagram at appendix 3. A summary of how the HOSC recommendations sit alongside other recommendations (e.g. National Stroke Strategy Quality Markers (QMs)) within each of the Programme Board's workstreams is attached for information at appendix 4.

4.3 The Stroke Programme Board has invited HOSC to nominate a Member to join the Board in order to be engaged in the detailed work of implementing the East Sussex Stroke Strategy. This provides an excellent opportunity to ensure that HOSC's recommendations are reflected in the ongoing work, and will complement HOSC's monitoring of progress through regular reports to the committee. Cllr Davies has agreed to take on this role, as Chairman of the HOSC Review Board on Stroke Care. The role will not involve participating in decisions of the Programme Board as this is not the role of HOSC, but will be in an advisory and observational capacity.

5. Issues to consider

5.1 The NHS ESDW/H&R Stroke Programme Lead, Rachel Harrington and her colleague Kate Russell, Service Improvement Project Lead will be available at the HOSC meeting to answer questions on the response to the HOSC recommendations and the ongoing work on Stroke Strategy in East Sussex. Members may wish to clarify aspects of the response or ask for further detail on specific areas of work.

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Background paper: Review of Stroke Care in East Sussex: Final Report, HOSC, March 2009.