

OUTSIDE BODY – ANNUAL UPDATE

Outside Body:

HCC Health Scrutiny

Purpose:

HCC Health Scrutiny reviews decisions that the Council makes and holds the Executive to account in order to improve the services offered to the people of our county. The Committee specifically has the power to scrutinise health services.

East Herts Council Representative(s):

Cllr Symonds

Update:

Two of our meetings were cancelled due to Covid and the pressure that the NHS was under , however we did receive regular updates from the various NHS Trusts etc.

We looked at patient experience and the different way that the information was gathered by the trusts and it was noted that most users of the service were satisfied with the way matters had been handled.

We were kept up to date with the Covid vaccination programme by Dr Jane Halpin and Jim Mcmanus our director of Health, there was a bit of confusion noted around the NHS and our GP's and vaccination hubs and people being sent futher away than necessary it was noted that our GP service was outstanding in organising the hubs.

Mount Vernon Cancer specialist hospital which does see patients from Hertfordshie will be moving as the building is creaking at the seams and now needs to be near an A&E dept in case of an emergency. Talks are still proceeding on this matter.

Princess Alexandria Hospital in Harlow will be relocating at some point, the building are old but the care and the staff are excellent and recently came out of special measures.

The EEAST ambulance service continues to be challenging with patients having to wait too long they are on their third CEO in less than two years and have seen no progress for some time now.

Watford General is also an older hospital with listed building still being used and they also have a massive building programme.

The committee do ask searching questions and I myself have been thanked by other committee members for asking searching questions and do my best to represent East Herts on that committee.

Our minutes are sent to all district councils if we need more of an in depth report

Update provided by: Cllr Norma Symonds

Date: 19 April 2022