

HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

18 SEPTEMBER 2019

DENTISTRY SERVICES

Summary

1. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) is to receive an update on Dentistry in Worcestershire.
2. Representatives will be present from NHS England (NHSE), Public Health England (PHE) the Council's Public Health Directorate.

Background

3. NHS Dental Services in Worcestershire are commissioned by NHS England. NHS England is responsible for ensuring that everyone across the West Midlands has access to an NHS dentist. Dental provision includes General Dentistry (high street dentists) and specialist services that may be provided in a specialist or hospital setting, this could include Orthodontics and Oral Surgery.
4. The HOSC's most recent consideration of dental services was in December 2016, when an overview of services was provided. Details of this discussion are included in the background section of this report.
5. More recently, HOSC members have been informed about consultations taking place from July to August, relating to out of hours provision of Dental Services and on the redesign of community Dental Services in the West Midlands, since existing contracts are due to expire in 2020; further information on how the proposed changes may affect Worcestershire residents will be provided as part of this meeting.
6. There are currently 74 NHS dental practices in Worcestershire. Four of these are urgent access centres which are part of the Community Dental Services (CDS) these are based at Evesham, Kidderminster, Redditch and Worcester. The remaining 70 practices hold NHS primary care dentistry contracts.

Equality and Diversity Implications

7. People in certain groups are entitled to free NHS dental treatment. This includes children under age 18 or under 19 in qualifying full time education and pregnant women and those that have had a baby in the previous 12 months. An NHS Low income scheme (LIS) may provide partial help with the cost of dental care.

Purpose of Meeting

8. HOSC Members are invited to consider the information on Dentistry Services in Worcestershire and to agree:
 - whether any further information is required

- whether any further scrutiny work is required at this stage
9. In doing so, HOSC members may wish to consider factors such as:
- performance trends of dental services in Worcestershire
 - access to dental services
 - how will the proposals for Out of Hours services affect access in Worcestershire?
 - the fact that twenty percent of children enter school in Worcestershire with evidence of tooth decay (Oral Health Needs Assessment 2017, Worcestershire Health and Wellbeing Board)
 - how stakeholders are tackling issues relating to dental health
 - Healthwatch Worcestershire's Report (Going to the Dentist Report, 2019)

Supporting Information

- Appendix 1 - Presentation slides to provide information on:
 - Access (including Starting Well initiative for children) – to follow
 - Out of Hours Dental Services
 - Community Dental Services Review

Appendices 2 - 5 are available electronically:

- Appendix 2 – Findings of the Review of Community Dental Services
- Appendix 3 -Briefing for HOSCs on the Redesign of Community Dental Services
- Appendix 4 – Out of Hours Dental Services Consultation Document
- Appendix 5 - Briefing for HOSCs on Consultation on Out of Hours Dental Services

Specific Contact Points for this Report

Emma James / Jo Weston, Overview and Scrutiny Officers: 01905 844964 / 844965
Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Worcestershire Health and Wellbeing Board Oral Health Needs Assessment 2017: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20122/joint_strategic_needs_assessment/1514/jsna_health_needs_assessments
- Healthwatch Worcestershire Report 'Going to the Dentist, February 2019': <https://www.healthwatchworcestershire.co.uk/going-to-the-dentist-in-worcestershire/>
- Public Health England Guidance 'Adult oral health: applying All Our Health' March 2019: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adult-oral-health-applying-all-our-health/adult-oral-health-applying-all-our-health>
- Public Health England Guidance 'Child oral health: applying All Our Health' July 2019: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-oral-health-applying-all-our-health/child-oral-health-applying-all-our-health>
- Agenda and Minutes of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 13 December 2016 – available on the website <http://worcestershire.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=141&MId=1249&Ver=4>