

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

**REPORT 114/15** 

**11 JANUARY 2016** 

The purpose of this paper is to ask Members to determine whether or not they wish to make a formal response to the current consultation on the Draft Strategy before the closing date of 20 January 2016.

#### No. DETAIL

### I) INTRODUCTION

- a) In a Press Release of 22 December the Isle of Wight NHS Trust opened a consultation on its new Draft Strategy *Working Beyond Boundaries to be the preferred choice for sustainable integrated care* inviting comments and contributions by the closing date of Wednesday 20 January.
- b) The consultation also provided a series of four public meetings, with two at St Mary's and one at each of Sandown Health Centre and Ryde Health and Wellbeing Centre.
- c) Established in 2012/13 the Trust is an integrated service provider of acute hospital, mental health, learning disability, ambulance and community services for the Island. In 2014-15 its revenue was  $\pounds$ 174m for services delivered by a workforce of around 3,000 (almost 2,600 full time equivalent).
- d) The majority of its services are commissioned and funded by Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), NHS England and the Isle of Wight Council.
- e) *Working Beyond Boundaries* is described as a review of its original strategy document *Beyond Boundaries* adopted in October 2014 prompted by the success of the Island's My Life a Full Life Programme in becoming one of the 50 government funded *Vanguard sites* and the resulting potential for accessing an additional £8.1m funding.
- f) A copy of the Draft Strategy has been circulated to Members in advance of this meeting and the purpose of this Agenda item is for Members to determine whether they wish to make a formal response to the consultation and, if so, identify the content of it.
- g) Section 2) 5) of this report highlight four elements of the Draft Strategy that have particular significance for Ventnor's future where amendments might be proposed.

### 2) TOWN & PARISH COUNCILS

- a) The document makes no mention of Town and Parish Councils anywhere in its 21 pages: the only external engagement identified is through Community Action Isle of Wight.
- b) It needs to be recognised that Town and Parish Councils are not simply another voluntary organisation: their direct accountability to residents of their areas, their increasing role in the delivery of local services, their extended powers under both the Localism Act 2011 and the General Power of Competence and their detailed knowledge of the needs of their areas mean that they have significant benefits in their own right to bring to the work and responsibilities of all Island Agencies.
- c) Ventnor Town Council's involvement in the government's Our Place programme represents a clear commitment to full engagement with and support for all service providers including, in this instance, the Island's NHS Trust.

## 3) **DEPRIVATION**

- a) Although the document does note that *the Island ranks among the 40% most deprived local authorities in England* it neither acknowledges the substantial variations in deprivation *within* the Island nor includes addressing deprivation or the unequal experience of it within its strategic priorities and enablers.
- b) As Members are aware, the variation within the Island is very substantial: of the Island's 89 Lower Super Output Areas, two are in the most deprived 10% in England and 11, including Ventnor's central area, are in the most deprived 20%.

# c) At the other end of the scale, seven Island areas are in the least deprived 20%.

## 4) CHILDREN IN POVERTY

- a) The document also notes that 20% of the Island's 16,000 children are living in poverty, but makes no other reference at all to children with its major focus being on conditions related to elderly residents.
- b) In fact there are four areas of the Island, including Upper Ventnor, that rank in the 10% most deprived in England and another seven within the most deprived 20%.
- c) In particular, as with deprivation overall, the document contains no reference to the issue in either its strategic priorities or its strategic enablers.

## 5) GOVERNANCE

- a) The document makes no reference to the Trust's relationship and contribution to the Island's Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) although its Chief Executive is a Member of it.
- b) Clarification of the relationship would be welcome given the current review of HWB's governance, where there is considerable confusion.
- c) That is most clearly evidenced in in position paper Paper L on the Agenda of the 20 December HWB meeting where in the section on Vision and Strategy it asserts: The vision needs to be shared by everyone, clearly stated and understood. HWB strategy [is] to be a 'Strategy of Strategies' which everything else fits underneath/links to.

## 6) **RECOMMENDATION**

The Town Council is recommended to determine whether or not it wishes to respond to the current consultation and, if so, identify its contents.