



The purpose of this Report is to

No. DETAILS

1) BACKGROUND

- a) Following the decision of the NHS Trust to move the Ventnor Health Visitor team from their current base in Salisbury Gardens to the Barracks in Sandown the Town Council Meeting of 10 June 2019 unanimously resolved in Minute 70/19 that: *a letter composed by Councillor Jason Mack and the Clerk and agreed by the Mayor setting out these concerns be delivered to those responsible for the decision.*
 - b) The letter was agreed and mailed to the Chief Executive of the Island's NHS Trust, Maggie Oldham, on 17 June and copied to John Metcalfe, Isle of Wight Council Chief Executive, Dr Mark Rawlinson, Locality Manager, South Wight Locality, Dave Stewart, Isle of Wight Council Leader, Paul Brading, Portfolio Holder, Children's Services, Councillor Gary Peace, County Councillor, Ventnor West and Councillor Graham Perks, County Councillor, Ventnor East
 - c) The Mayor offered to raise the matter further through a Public Question at the Board Meeting on the afternoon of 4 July; the Board asks for 48 hours' notice of Public Questions to ensure that a full response is possible at the meeting.
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2) RESPONSES

- a) A reply to the letter referred to in 1(b) above was received from the Trust Chief Executive Maggie Oldham on 11 July setting out the reasons for the move of the Health Visitor team and a copy is attached for Members' information and the record.
 - b) The Mayor's notice of his question to be put to the Trust Board meeting of 4 July was emailed to the Board as required on 1 July and read:

Ventnor Town Council believes that the proposed move of the Ventnor Health Visitor Team to Sandown has serious implications for both the town and the team. The reasons for the proposed move seem vague and confused, with early indications stating financial savings for the move, whilst other indications highlight the fact that the move is for logistical reasons in order to create a centralised service. VTC would challenge the premise of both of those reasons. We have sought clarity on this but have yet to receive a response.

My question, therefore, is whether the Trust Board will agree not to implement any changes to the current arrangements for this vital service until after appropriate consultation with the Town Council about them?
 - c) When the Mayor arrived at the Board meeting he was informed that they had not received the question and, consequently, no response could be provided.
 - d) In response to the Mayor's question to the Board Governance Officer Lynn Cave as to the reason for the failure of his question to reach the Board her email in response stated:

I have reviewed the emails which are sent to the board@iow.nhs.uk mailbox and unfortunately as your subject title did not indicate that this was a 'Question for the Trust Board' it was missed.
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3) FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

- a) After discussion with the Mayor a Freedom of Information request for copies of all email received by and sent from the email address Board@iow.nhs.uk for the period 1 July to 9 July was submitted by email on 9 July.
 - b) A reply was received on 24 July in the form of a screenshot of the list of 173 emails that had passed through the account in the period with request to identify which of them copies should be provided.
 - c) On the day the Mayor's question for the Board was received only two other emails went
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through that account.

- d) There was a flurry of emails on Monday 8 July, six headed *Ventnor Health Visitors* and two *Questions for the Board* copies of which have been requested.
 - e) It had been hoped they would be available in advance of this meeting but an apology has been received saying that due to staff shortages they will be supplied later in the week.
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