

HOSC summary of Highlights.

The Glos CC HOSC met on 15 November. The two items under the Scrutiny section of the Agenda both related to Health.

Gloucestershire Hopsitals NHS Foundation Trust -Financial position.

The Chief Executive summarised her written report and answered questions (( Saira you know where that report is online)). She also introduced Mr Keith Norton who was a one of the Boards Non Executive Directors (NED)

The CEO accepted that the financial situation that the Trust found itself in was a failure of financial governance and that she, and the Board, would be making strenuous efforts to rectify the situation. Comment from Cllr Harvey, Deborah had only joined the Trust as CEO in June this year so the failings did not happen on her watch but it has been clear from the two meetings she has given evidence at the HOSC that she is committed and determined to resolve the issues.

Investigations had been set in motion to determine how the deficit had occurred, they will be in two phases and have already started. Big internal and External Auditors will be involved and oversight will be by an independent Auditor. It is too early at this stage to say exactly how the funding was mismanaged and it would not be appropriate to speculate but the deficit did not happen overnight and appears to have been masked in reports to the Board, who would have acted sooner had they known. Numerous HOSC Members expressed their disappointment at the situation, I won't repeat some of the intemperate rhetoric which the CEO refuted, and hoped to hear from the CEO again in January 2017.

Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP)

We received verbal reports from most of the CEOs and Senior County Officers involved in this huge piece of National work. Unusually, the geographical area of responsibility under the STP for our County was uniquely the County boundary. Many other STP geographical area crossed county lines and this was causing mixed reactions across the country because of the different funding lines and services that needed to be joined up. The Gloucestershire STP teams worked very well together as they were all within our County delivering services already and their teams were well known to each other. Members asked about when the first phase of the STP would start and were told it was already underway because of this unique position that Gloucestershire finds itself in.

Cllr Steve Harvey  
CBC rep on Glos CC HOSC