

Report to O and S from HOSC Meeting 15th June 2021

This meeting was set up as a training session rather than a normal meeting. HOSC's Terms of Reference were explained. There were three presentations giving an important introduction to aspects of health care in Gloucestershire. Sarah Scott, Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health, also updated the committee about the vaccination and Covid situation.

The presentations were about –

Healthwatch Gloucestershire – the county's independent health and social care's champion.

One Gloucestershire – the Integrated Care System.

Fit For the Future – the recent proposals for developing specialist hospital services in the county.

Full recordings of this meeting, and previous ones, are available and can be found in the "Online meetings" section of the Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) website. The link for this meeting is

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/online-meetings/health-overview-scrutiny-committee-tuesday-15-june-2021-1000-am/>

Minutes of meetings can also be found on the GCC website.

Of concern, but not covered at the HOSC meeting as the Report was not published until 17th June 2021, are the critical comments made by the Care Quality Commissioning Group Report (CQC) on the A and E in Gloucester. This report followed an unannounced visit on 30th March, 2021 and rated the Urgent and Emergency services as "Requires Improvement." Of course this inspection took place before the reopening of the A and E in Cheltenham.

In particular are mentioned concerns about staffing, delays in accessing the department with patients waiting in ambulances, and problems with bed blocking leading to delays in transferring patients onto wards.

This report is available on the Care Quality Commissioning website – it is worth reading the full report. The link is <https://api.cqc.org.uk/public/v1/reports/ec30348b-1be9-4790-a966-777369553713?20210617070305>