

## **HOSC Public Questions 15 July 2020**

### **1 Dr Yok Chang**

"It seems that HOSC has not met because NHS bodies have been charged with the following tasks, but were not ready with responses yet:

- An evaluation of the local Covid response across the health and care system.
- An explanation of the changes made to NHS services in recent months made under urgency powers (i.e. service changes that in normal circumstances would have required consultation with HOSCs).
- Plans for recovery across the local health and care system – i.e. returning services to 'normal' including dealing with the backlog of elective procedures etc."

Please would you clarify what service changes were made under the corona crisis and are these changes permanent or reversible if now open to scrutiny."

*(This Q has been submitted as a written question and will receive a written response which will be included in the minute of the meeting.)*

### **2 Janet Strang**

"At the beginning of the current pandemic, local MP Peter Kyle was expressing dismay at the vulnerability of patients and staff in care homes. At the same time, the GMB trade union was reporting that at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, BAME staff were being bullied, discriminated against, and pressured to work without adequate PPE.

"Does the HOSC share my concern about the high proportion of BAME deaths due to Covid-19, and if so, will the HOSC invite a senior officer to appear at its next meeting to provide the relevant statistics for Brighton & Hove?"

### **3 Valerie Mainstone**

"The founding ethos of the NHS was that it would provide healthcare for everyone, free at the point of need. Now, voluntary organisations such as Medact, and Docs Not Cops, are extremely concerned about migrants who are unwilling to access NHS services, for fear of being charged sums of money that they cannot afford, and/or of being deported if NHS staff report them to the Home Office.

"Does this HOSC deplore the fact that current rules deter some people from seeking NHS help during the pandemic, and agree that NHS services throughout the country should be free and available to all at the point of need, regardless of ethnicity/nationality/immigration status?"

#### 4 Madeleine Dickens

"Various Government initiatives to deal with Covid- 19 have proved tragically ineffectual. Net result one of the highest death tolls. One such failing was the guidance issued that "**negative tests are not required prior to transfers / admissions into the care home**", contributing to a public health disaster. HOSC members are no doubt extremely concerned about the Government failure to liaise and share intelligence with Local Authorities which has exacerbated the crisis. With so many unnecessary deaths and grieving families across the city, will members call on the Full Council to convene public enquiry into this issue to ensure concerns and questions can be answered and guidance developed to avoid any re-occurrence?"

#### 5 Chris Tredgold

'Care Home residents have been the most severely affected by Covid-19 - accounting for over 40% of England's high death rate. Age and undiagnosed infected patients discharged from hospital have been causes of this - but so have a lack of testing and adequate PPE. Testing is at last planned - weekly for the staff, monthly for the residents. Homes and Local authorities need the results quickly. How will the HOSC ensure that all staff and residents in Care Homes receive clear test results and that all staff have access to adequate PPE?'

#### 6 Ken Kirk

Does the HOSC share my concern that the government's Test and Trace system run by Deloitte, see the answer to a parliamentary question, does not require Deloitte to pass positive cases to local authorities. Do you agree that the HOSC should require B&H director of public health to its meeting to ensure scrutiny of his planned response to a possible second Covid wave?

<https://www.theyworkforyou.com/wrans/?id=2020-05-19.48980.h>

Stella Creasey MP: To ask the [Secretary of State](#) for Health and Social Care, whether the contract with Deloitte for covid-19 testing requires that company to report positive cases to [Public Health England](#) and to local authorities.

Nadine Dorries (Minister of State): As an existing professional services provider to the public sector, Deloitte's expertise is being used to supplement in-house resource to deliver significant programmes of work, which currently includes the national response to [COVID-19](#). The contract with Deloitte does not require the company to report positive cases to [Public Health England](#) and local authorities.



