
Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

18 September 2024

Access to Diabetes Technology in West Sussex

Report by Director of Law and Assurance

Summary

Diabetes technology can help people live better lives, and guidance from the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) advocates the use of technology to support some people living with diabetes through both NICE guidance (NG) and Technology Appraisals (TA). Guidance has been developed with health care professionals and people who use services to help with decision making on prescribing and recommended treatment.

In February 2024 Diabetes UK wrote to the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee asking for the topic of access to diabetes technology to be reviewed, due to concerns around the local Sussex policy for access to wider technology for people with type 1 diabetes not being fully aligned with national guidance and a lack of a commissioned pathway for people living with type 2. Diabetes UK will be attending the meeting to provide evidence on this issue.

The report at Appendix A sets out the context of the current diabetes landscape, alongside providing an up-to-date position on access to diabetes technology in West Sussex.

Focus for scrutiny

The Committee is asked to assess the NHS support for West Sussex residents with diabetes. Key lines of enquiry include:

- (1) Assurance that NHS Sussex has the right policies in place to support West Sussex residents who need to access diabetes technology; and
- (2) Whether patient outcomes have been affected through current NHS Sussex policies not being fully aligned with national guidelines.

The Chairman will summarise the output of the debate for consideration by the Committee, to include any recommendations to be forwarded to NHS Sussex for response who are attending the committee to present their report.

Details

The background and context to this item for scrutiny are set out in the attached report. There are no resource or risk implications directly affecting West Sussex County Council, as this is a report by the NHS, relating to NHS services.

Members are asked to note that Diabetes UK also wrote to the East Sussex and Brighton and Hove City Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees (HOSCs). It is understood that the Brighton and Hove HOSC will also be scrutinising this matter in November 2024.

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Appendices

Appendix A: Report by NHS Sussex

Background papers

None