

Health Select Committee

A meeting of Health Select Committee was held on Monday, 6th April, 2009.

Present: Cllr Mrs Ann Cains (Chairman), Cllr Paul Baker, Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Aidan Cockerill, Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr Andrew Sherris, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley.

Officers: Victoria Cooling, Joanne Heaney, Andrea Hogg, Jane Humphreys (CESC); Graham Birtle, Fiona Shayler (LD).

Also in attendance: Kamini Shah (Stockton Teaching PCT), Cllr Ann McCoy (Cabinet Member).

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Cllr Liz Nesbitt.

H Declarations of Interest

1/09

Councillor Beall declared a personal/non prejudicial interest in relation to Agenda Item No. 5 - Leisure and Sports Development Update further to being a member of Diabetes UK.

H Audiology Review - Final Report

2/09

The Corporate Director of Children, Education and Social Care and the Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health were in attendance to discuss with Members their final report following their review of Audiology. Members were invited to submit any minor amendments for correction.

CONCLUDED that the report be endorsed and forward to Executive Scrutiny Committee and to Cabinet on 14th May 2009 for approval.

H Progress Updates on Previously Agreed Recommendations

3/09

Members were provided with an update against their recommendations made during their review of Dentistry. Kamini Shah, Stockton Teaching PCT, and Victoria Cooling were in attendance to present the report and provide further information.

Members discussed the number of patients now receiving dental treatment on the NHS and it was requested that Members be provided with up to date figures.

Members were provided with progress on fluoridation of the water supply following a recent consultation process that had taken place in Southampton. It was stated that the consultation outcome was a South Central SHA request to the water authorities to fluoridate the water supplied. NHS North East were awaiting to see if there was a request for a judicial review before consideration of a consultation exercise in the North East.

Discussion was held on the fluoride varnish programme and whether School Governors could assist with encouraging parents to complete the consent forms. Members requested a timetable indicating when the programme would be carried out in Schools.

Members were updated on the School Dental Survey Programme and it was stated that one School in the Borough had opted out of the programme. It was

also stated that a negative consent form had been used this time which had proved more successful. The Scrutiny Officer would report to the Corporate Director the name of the School that had opted out to see if they could be encouraged to participate in the programme.

Discussion was held on the dental charging policy which Members felt was too complex. It was stated that Prof Steele of Newcastle University was undertaking a review of dentistry and these comments could be fed into the review.

Members were also provided with an update following their review of Alcohol Services. Members were pleased to note that the DAT (Drugs Action Team) had now become a DAAT (Drugs and Alcohol Action Team) on 1st April 2009. An Alcohol Stakeholder Event was due to be held on 13th May at 12.30pm in the Education Centre which Members were invited to attend. Members stated that this event may be difficult to attend as a planning training event had previously been arranged for this date, it was requested that the Scrutiny Officer attend if possible on Members behalf.

It was reported that £80k funding for tier 4 services, which related to detoxing services, had been awarded. A Panel would be established to produce a criteria to enable grants to be awarded. A full evaluation process would be taking place to monitor the results of the detox programme and whether it was successful in the longer term.

CONCLUDED that the updates be noted and that the information requested be supplied to Members.

H Leisure and Sports Development Update

4/09

Members were provided with a presentation from Andrea Hogg, Leisure and Sports Development Co-ordinator (Adults), to provide an update on Leisure and Sports Development.

The role of the team is to manage and develop a range of physical activity and sporting initiatives to encourage participation and tackle inequalities.

The team are supporting the national 'Change 4 Life' campaign to encourage people to "eat well, move more and live longer".

The team lead a number of projects and deliver a range of training opportunities including weight management, training volunteer walk leaders, stepometer training etc. to Nurses, Physiotherapists etc.

A Sports and Active Leisure Strategy is being devised, with specific work programmes and key performance indicators for each lifestage, and the team are also keen to establish a Strategic Sports Network.

Various leaflets were distributed which detailed all of the different activities taking place. The organised walks were proving popular and a booklet had been produced called 'Stepping out in Stockton'. Volunteer walk leader training was also being provided.

Members were informed of a new post that had been created within the team to help make exercise more inclusive and to enable activities to be more accessible.

Members were particularly concerned about the disabled and blind/partially sighted people being able to access activities.

CONCLUDED that the update be noted.

H
5/09 **Work Programme**

Members were informed that Scrutiny Training would be provided week commencing 20th April, various sessions would be provided to enable Members opportunity to attend.

CONCLUDED that the Work Programme be noted.

H
6/09 **Chairman's Update**

Members were informed that Tithebarn Primary Healthcare Centre in Hardwick had opened and would be offering an 8am-8pm service 7 days per week.

A seminar by the Burns Care Network would be held on 11th May at Wakefield.

A presentation would be provided on the Community Ahythmia Service Pilot in due course.

CONCLUDED that the update be noted.