

Health Select Committee

A meeting of Health Select Committee was held on Monday, 11th July, 2011.

Present: Cllr Mohammed Javed (Chairman), Cllr Paul Baker, Cllr Evaline Cunningham, Cllr Elliot Kennedy, Cllr Ray McCall, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley, Cllr David Wilburn (vice Cllr Norma Wilburn), Cllr Mrs Mary Womphrey.

Officers: Sean McEneaney (CESC); Julie Nixon, Stephen Shaw (DNS); Fiona McKie, Peter Mennear (LD).

Also in attendance: James Newton (Stockton on Tees LINK); David Brown (Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS).

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr Norma Wilburn.

1 Evacuation Procedure

The evacuation procedure was noted.

2 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Javed declared a personal/non prejudicial interest further to being employed by Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust.

Cllr Ray McCall declared a personal/non prejudicial interest further to being a Governor of Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust.

Julie Nixon, Head of Housing, declared a personal/non prejudicial interest in relation to the EIT Review of Mental Health and Learning Disability Services further to a family member attending the Steps Service.

3 Minutes for Signing - 21st February and 8th March 2011

The minutes of the meetings held on 21st February and 8th March 2011 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

AGREED that the minutes were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4 Draft Minutes - 13th June 2011

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 13th June 2011.

AGREED that the minutes be approved.

5 Lustrum Vale Mental Health Unit

The Chairman had been notified of a temporary closure of the Lustrum Vale unit that provides older people's mental health care in Stockton.

Members were provided with a copy of the letter to the Chair, the related press release, and a question and answer sheet. As the information stated, a period of full consultation would take place prior to a decision on the permanent future use of the unit being made.

Representative of Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust were in

attendance at the meeting in order to brief Members on the issues. It was stated that the numbers requiring beds had dropped significantly and therefore the decision had been made for a temporary closure. Staff had been deployed to other areas. A review would take place in October by the Board and then a full consultation process would begin if full closure was to be considered.

Members raised issues including training needs for staff who may be working in community for first time, the need to take into account carers views, the amount of investment in the unit and ensuring it continued to be utilised, the increasing need for dementia services over the next few years (and what is the appropriate mix of community/acute teams to deal with this), and length of stay.

AGREED that the information be noted and that a further update be provided in the Autumn.

6 Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation (EIT) Review of Mental Health and Learning Disability Services **- to consider the baseline report on Learning Disability Services**

Consideration was given to the baseline report for the Learning Disability element of this review. The report included standard information as required by the EIT process, along with further relevant detail. In particular the result of the CSED assessment of Stockton's learning disability services from Autumn 2010.

Members were requested to consider and challenge the baseline information as appropriate.

Members were reminded of the recent Fair Access to Care Services (FACS) Review where the 'moderate' banding was removed leaving the 'critical' and 'substantial' bands. There were currently 507 clients using the service but some of these may not be eligible due to the changes in the bandings. A review of the users would need to be carried out to identify where they would be placed.

Discussion was held on the various services currently on offer which tended to be of the traditional day centre nature some of which had better outcomes than others.

The national direction of travel was towards increased independent living with links to appropriate services and activities. However, it was noted that some clients may require a residential setting. The importance of assistive technology, safeguarding, and employment opportunities were all discussed.

A consultation plan would be drawn up and presented to members.

The baseline information in relation to mental health services would be provided at a later stage of the review.

AGREED that the baseline information and comments be noted.

7 Work Programme **- to consider the work programme for forthcoming meetings**

Consideration was given to the scope and project plan and it was noted that

evidence would be provided at the meetings to be held on 5th September, 17th October and 28th November, 2011.

AGREED that the Work Programme be noted.

8 Chair's Update

None