

Health Select Committee

A meeting of Health Select Committee was held on Monday, 5th September, 2011.

Present: Cllr Mohammed Javed (Chairman), Cllr Paul Baker, Cllr Evaline Cunningham, Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr Elliot Kennedy, Cllr Ray McCall, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley, Cllr Mrs Mary Womphrey.

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

Also in attendance: James Newton (Stockton LINK), Louise Featherstone, Paul Jarvis (Stockton Helps All); Paul Willows, Philip Worn, Christopher Boddy.

Apologies: was submitted on behalf of 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.

Councillor McCall declared a personal/non prejudicial interest further to being a Governor of Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust and a Member of New Horizons Teesside.

3 Draft Minutes-11th July 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

4 Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation (EIT) Review of Learning Disability Services

Members were asked to receive feedback on current services from a group of learning disability service users, and evidence from Durham County Council.

Members were also provided with background information to the key work streams which form the basis for the EIT Review of Learning Disability Services and were also provided with a detailed Project Plan.

The advocacy group Stockton Helps All arranged for a small group of learning disability clients to attend the meeting and provide their views to Members.

The Service Improvement Manager (Learning Disability Services) from Durham County Council was in attendance at the meeting in order to provide evidence on how Durham County Council had transformed the commissioning of learning disability services.

Members were provided with an overview of the Stockton Helps All service which was an independent organisation that facilitates self advocacy for people with learning difficulties in Stockton on Tees.

Each of the three advocates in attendance provided an overview of the views of learning disability service users which had been collected with the help of Stockton Helps All as part of the phase 1 consultation that was intended to gather views on current services. One of the advocates was unable to make the meeting so the representative from Stockton Helps All highlighted his main points in his absence. The group provided their views in relation to what they liked about their current services, what they did not like, and what they would like to change. This mirrored the approach taken with carers.

Members were then provided with a presentation on Commissioning Services for People with a Learning Disability by Darron Nixon, Service Improvement Manager at Durham County Council. The main points were as follows:-

- Clear Vision of Service
- Person Centred, Flexible, Fast Services
- Maximising existing services
- Identifying trends and considering future demands particularly in relation to housing needs

Discussion was held on commissioning and de-registering of services. Members discussed the different housing needs of people with learning disabilities. The development of housing provision, the identification of suitable properties, and the importance of training for independent living were discussed. It was noted that the ongoing changes to housing policy, including housing benefit, would have an impact on the ability of people to pay, and work may be needed to develop affordable solutions.

In relation to commissioning it was suggested that developing a call-off framework that included a list of quality assured providers could be examined. It was suggested that a database of the current users, the different types of services they use, and assistance the users receive, would be useful, and it was confirmed that this was being created as part of the review.

In relation to the phase 1, Stockton Helps All were assisting with some of the consultation events. Information had been put in the staff newsletter and informal consultation was being carried out. An event was due to be held at Abbey Hill School on 13th and 15th September with transitions. A presentation would also be provided to the Clinical Commissioning Group.

It was agreed that the review be extended to bring the final report to the Cabinet meeting in July 2012 as a phase two, 3 month consultation period would need to take place early in the new year in order to gather views on the options for change once these had been formulated.

AGREED that the information be noted.

5 Monitoring the Implementation of Previously Agreed Recommendations

Consideration was given to the assessments of progress contained within the attached Progress Updates on the implementation of previously agreed recommendations. There were outstanding recommendations from the reviews of EIT Adult Service Structures, EIT Fair Access to Care, and Audiology.

AGREED that the Progress Updates be noted and the assessments for progress be confirmed.

6 Work Programme

The next meeting would be held on 17th October, 2011. Site Visits would be organised for September. A special meeting would be arranged for June 2012 in order to agree the final report; Members would be notified of the detail in due course.

AGREED that the work programme be noted.

7 Member Development

Members were requested to inform the Scrutiny Team if they had any training needs.

AGREED that Members report any training needs to the Scrutiny Team.

8 Chair's Update

The Chairman reported the following:-

- Tees Valley Health Committee would be held on 12th September, 2011.
- The Regional Health Committee would be held on 20th September, 2011.
- Letter received from PCT regarding three medical practices amalgamating into one practice in Billingham and the transfer and opening arrangements.

- JSNA Stakeholder Event- Email sent to Members on the latest flu advertising.

AGREED that the update be noted.