

Health Select Committee

A meeting of Health Select Committee was held on Monday, 28th November, 2011.

Present: Cllr Mohammed Javed (Chairman), Cllr Evaline Cunningham, Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr Elliot Kennedy, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley, Cllr Norma Wilburn, Cllr Mrs Mary Womphrey

Officers: Fiona McKie, Peter Mennear (LD).

Also in attendance: James Newton (LINK); Khalid Azam, Richard Harrety (PCT).

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Cllr Paul Baker, Cllr Ray McCall.

H Evacuation Procedure

31/11

The evacuation procedure was noted.

H Declarations of Interest

32/11

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

H Minutes for Signing - 5th September, 2011

33/11

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th September, 2011 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

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

H Draft Minutes - 17th October 2011

34/11

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 17th October, 2011.

AGREED that the minutes be approved.

H Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation (EIT) Review of Mental Health and Learning Disability Services - to consider an update on progress

35/11

Members were requested to consider the progress update, and note the preparations for the meeting of 9th January, 2012.

As previously noted, a key area for this review was to achieve value for money for learning disability services. At the previous meeting Members received a report that outlined both national benchmarking information, and data that compared Stockton to those authorities who were in the top quartile for low cost services.

Information on the development of services including day services, autism and respite care would be brought to the Committee in January, and this would be used to assist the Committee in identifying its proposals for change. Initial findings from the sample approach to the Care Funding Calculator should also

be available. Members were keen to ensure that quality was maintained or improved in relation to the future provision of services.

AGREED that the update be noted and a further report be considered on 9th January, 2012.

**H
36/11** **North Tees Clinical Commissioning Group - Development of Clear and Credible Plan**
- to consider update and information on the consultation process

A presentation was provided by Khalid Azam and Richard Harrety, NHS Tees in relation to the progress of the North Tees Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), and its consultation as it developed its Clear and Credible Plan. Members were also provided with a briefing note and engagement plan.

As part of the NHS reform process, commissioning of local health services would be led primarily by locally based, GP-led Clinical Commissioning Groups. These were previously known as 'GP Consortia', and would work in partnership with the Health and Wellbeing Boards.

The CCG has pathfinder status and was currently 'shadowing' the PCT prior to assuming their functions from 2013. In order to become fully authorised, it must submit a Clear and Credible Plan to the national NHS Commissioning Board. This plan should demonstrate the early commissioning intentions of the CCG.

In line with the other CCGs across the Tees area, North Tees CCG was currently raising awareness of its role, and consulting with the public to gain views on the top health priorities for the local area.

The CCG's initial findings surrounded the need to ensure that good practice was standardised, use GP's knowledge to improve patient experience, reduce reliance on hospital admissions, and review Community Services.

The CCP would be a three year plan and needed to be completed by end of December 2011. However, due to the tight timescales they would be focussing on the next 12 months and continuously reviewing and assessing the plan.

Members would be presented with a copy of the finalised document in January 2012.

AGREED that the presentation be noted and that a finalised copy of the CCP be presented to Members of the Committee once approved.

**H
37/11** **Local HealthWatch Consultation**
- to consider information on the development of Local HealthWatch

The Committee were requested to consider the information in relation to the Local HealthWatch consultation.

Members were aware that as part of the NHS reform process, Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) were being replaced by Local HealthWatch.

Local HealthWatch would be commissioned by each relevant local authority, and would provide advice and information to residents, influence the shape of local health and social care services, and provide complaints and advocacy services in due course.

Representatives of Local HealthWatch would have a statutory right to be part of the membership of the local Health and Wellbeing Board. Each Local HealthWatch would be independent but would be linked to a national body, HealthWatch England, which itself would be part of the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

As part of the commissioning process, the Council was currently undertaking a consultation in order to gain views on how HealthWatch should operate in Stockton Borough. This consultation would end on 17 January 2012.

Members were provided with a briefing note outlining the consultation process. Members requested that the issue be considered in more detail at the meeting in January.

It was felt important to build a good working relationship with the CQC and the Committee requested that the local contact for CQC be asked to attend and brief Members in the near future.

AGREED:-

1. That Members receive the information on the Local HealthWatch Consultation and the issues be considered in detail at the meeting of 9 January, 2012.
2. The CQC be invited to a future meeting.

**H
38/11**

Update on Regional and Tees Valley Health Scrutiny

Members were provided with an update on the Regional Health Scrutiny Committee who had met on 20 September, 2011.

Members were also provided with the minutes of the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee of 12 September, 2011.

A verbal update of the meeting held on 21 November, 2011 was provided.

Members noted that the Regional Committee would be meeting in the new year in order to discuss ambulance service proposals, and patient transport service eligibility criteria. Discussion was also held on the plans to designate specialist centres for children and young people with cancer. The Scrutiny Officer would circulate a note on this matter.

The issue of consultant-led orthodontic services had been considered by the Tee Valley Joint Committee. Members were disappointed that Orthodontic Services would no longer be available from North Tees. If Members wished to make any further formal comments they should submit them to the Scrutiny Officer.

AGREED that the update on the Regional and Tees Valley Health Scrutiny be noted.

**H
39/11** **Monitoring the implementation of previously agreed recommendations
- to consider Quarterly Progress Updates**

Members considered the assessments of progress contained within the Progress Updates on the implementation of previously agreed recommendations. There were outstanding recommendations from the EIT reviews of Adult Service Structures and Fair Access to Care, and the scrutiny review of Audiology.

Members requested that the Fair Access to Care savings target be monitored further.

AGREED that the Progress Updates be noted and the assessments for progress be confirmed subject to the amendments outlined above.

**H
40/11** **Work Programme**

The next meeting would be held on 9th January, 2012 and would consider the EIT Review of Mental Health and Learning Disability Services and an update on the HealthWatch Consultation.

Suggestions for future scrutiny work programme topics were requested. Members felt that the quality of home care could be a possible future topic.

Members requested an update on the future of Lustrum Vale from Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust. A letter had been received from Sue Smith that would be circulated to the Committee in relation to the numbers of patients with dementia using services at North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust.

AGREED that the Work Programme be noted.

**H
41/11** **Chair's Update**

Members were provided with a leaflet on the New Ambulance Performance Measures.

AGREED that the Chair's Update be noted.