

At a meeting of the HEALTH AND WELL-BEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on TUESDAY, 19TH OCTOBER, 2011 at 5.00 pm

Present:-

Councillor Walker in the Chair

Councillors Fletcher, Francis, Hall, Maddison, Shattock and Snowdon, together with Ms. V. Brown, Dr. J. Dean, Ms. E. Inglesby and Mr. R. Price

Also in Attendance:-

Ms. B. Atkinson	-	South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust
Mr. P. Berry	-	North East Primary Care Services Agency
Ms. K. Brown	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. S. Bulmer	-	South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust
Ms. S. Cooper	-	NHS South of Tyne and Wear
Ms. P. Corner	-	Sunderland City Council
Mr. B. Craddock	-	Member of the public
Ms. N. Crawford	-	Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust
Ms. R. Davison	-	Member of the public
Mr. M. Girvan	-	NHS South of Tyne and Wear
Ms. K. Graham	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. J. Gray	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. K. Henderson	-	South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust
Ms. C. Lewis	-	Sunderland City Council
Mr. M. Lowthian	-	Sunderland LINK
Mr. A. McLellan	-	South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust
Mr. D. Noon	-	Sunderland City Council
Mr. C. Ranson	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. C. Robb	-	North East Primary Care Services Agency
Ms. H. Wardropper	-	Sunderland City Council

Welcome and Introductions

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited them to introduce themselves.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Miller, Padgett, Waller and N. Wright, together with Carol Harries.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Snowdon declared personal interests in items 4 (End of Life Facilities) and 6 (Barmston Medical Centre) as a resident adjacent to one of the proposed sites for the Hospice reprovion and as a patient of Barmston Medical Centre respectively.

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 6th September, 2011

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6th September be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

End of Life Facilities

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter which:-

- i) provided an update to the Committee on progress to date, highlighting current priorities and timescales regarding the project to secure a sustainable, future proofed hospice facility within Sunderland;
- ii) sought member support in taking forward the project, and
- iii) introduced Mark Girvan, Project Manager and Sheila Copper, Strategic Lead, Planned Care, from NHS South of Tyne & Wear who provided the Committee with a detailed presentation on the St Benedict's Hospice Business case, a full copy of which had been circulated to members with the agenda papers.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Girvan and Ms Cooper addressed questions and comments from members with regard to :-

- access arrangements given the hilly nature of the site
- public transport links
- facilities to be provided within the hospice
- proposals for the current site at Monkwearmouth (there were none presently); and
- the criteria for selecting the preferred site options.

Members welcomed the report and expressed support for the project to provide the new hospice facility. The Chairman thanked Ms Cooper and Mr Girvan for their presentation and in particular welcomed the impressive layout / user friendly nature of the Business case document.

Accordingly it was:-

2. RESOLVED that

- i) the report be received and noted,
- ii) the project going forward be welcomed and supported; and
- iii) arrangements be made to undertake a Committee visit to the new St Benedict's Hospice in due course.

Meals at Home Service

The Executive Directors of Health, Housing and Adult Services and City Services submitted a joint report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an update on the Meals at Home Service.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Pippa Corner, Head of Personalisation, presented the report highlighting the background to the review of the Meals at Home Service, the Policy Context in which the review was undertaken, the review process together with the current situation following the outcome of the review.

Julie Gray, Head of Community Services, and Colin Ranson, Assistant Head of Community Services (Facilities Management) were also present to assist Ms. Corner in addressing the following questions and comments from Members:-

- i) Councillor Hall highlighted the reference in paragraph 5.3 that "...the transition had not been as smooth as we would have hoped..." and asked for details of the problems encountered. She also expressed concern that this was the first occasion that Members had been informed of the review and believed the matter should have been presented to the Committee prior to implementation. Councillor Shattock endorsed Councillor Hall's concerns regarding the lack of consultation with the Committee.
- ii) Councillor Fletcher stated that the growth of personalisation worried her, and that other Councils in the region still managed to provide meals at home for £2.50.
- iii) Councillor Shattock referred to paragraph 4.3 of the report which stated reviews were concluded on 30th September, 2010. It was confirmed that this should have read 2011.
- iv) Councillor Shattock contrasted the current issue with the way the Committee had been able to carry out an indepth review of the proposals regarding the implementation of frozen meals four years previously. She believed there was a growing perception that personalisation was being used as a mechanism to cut services.

She stated that the Committee had only recently undertaken a major review of malnutrition in hospital and asked if there were any figures available for community malnutrition rates.

In addition, Councillor Shattock asked whether people were aware of alternative services available, were service users capable of arranging

alternatives and whether it was possible for Sunderland to have entered a partnership arrangement to enable the service to continue.

- v) Councillor Francis stated that he was not comfortable with what he'd heard in the report and sought assurances regarding provision, training, monitoring and assessment.
- vi) Councillor Fletcher asked that Members be supplied with a list of those private providers operating within their wards.
- vii) Councillor Maddison asked for details regarding the numbers of Black, Minority Ethnic residents who were able to access the arrangements.
- viii) Councillor Shattock read out a statement from Councillor N. Wright who had been unable to attend the meeting owing to her undertaking Mayoral duties. Councillor Wright stated that although she fully understood the reason for the decision she was concerned that the Committee was not informed that the service was being stopped. She believed that at the least the Portfolio holder should have brought the matter before the Labour Group. Councillor Shattock suggested that perhaps the Portfolio holder should be asked to come to the Committee to explain the decision-making process and why the Committee had not been informed about the matter.
- ix) The Chairman asked why a social enterprise was not considered to run the service. He expressed concerns that personalised budgets and direct payments could not be used to access Council provision even when the Local Authority was in the position to deliver the best service. He believed that this was an issue the Committee should look to investigate including its impact on other aspects of Council service provision.

3. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the report be received and noted; and
- ii) the Portfolio Holder for Health and Well-being be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee to explain the decision-making process around the Meals at Home Service.

Barmston Medical Centre Procurement

The Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust submitted a report (copy circulated) which aimed to provide Members with information relation to the process for procuring a long term contract for the delivery of primary medical care services for patients registered with the Barmston Medical Centre in Washington.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Peter Berry and Carol Robb, GP Contract Managers from the North East Primary Care Services Agency presented the report, briefing Members on the background to the process, patient engagement and the timescales for the procurement process.

As a patient of the practice Councillor Snowdon noted that it was now much easier to arrange an appointment and the process ran in a much more efficient manner.

The Chairman having thanked Mr. Berry and Ms. Robb for their report, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Policy Review: Hospital Discharge – Evidence from Community Health Services

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which introduced a presentation from Bev Atkinson, Managing Director of Community Health Services for NHS South of Tyne and Wear on how Community Health Services support hospital discharge services in Sunderland.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Atkinson provided the Committee with a detailed Powerpoint presentation which included:-

- i) an overview of the following range of services:-
 - District Nursing Service
 - Intermediate Care Team
 - Urgent Care Team
 - Community Matrons
 - Specialist Palliative Care Services: In Patients, In Reach, Day Care and Community Team
 - Respiratory and Diabetes Nurse Specialists
 - Tissue Viability Specialists
 - Cardiology Community Teams

- ii) other Enabler Supporting Initiatives, including:-
 - Telehealth
 - Telecare linkage to the Community Teams
 - Retinal Screening Services
 - Continence Services
 - Falls Co-ordinator
 - Farmborough Court Nursing Element
 - HELP Team
 - Pulmonary Rehabilitation
 - Galleries Day Services
 - Infection Prevention and Control Services
 - Nurse Practitioner – Nursing Home (Sycamore Lodge)
 - Continuing Health Care Assessment Team
 - Minor Injuries and Illness Units
 - Lymphoedema Services
 - Carer and Patient Experience Team

- iii) Work undertaken by the District Nursing Services including planned and unplanned care.
- iv) Work undertaken by the Intermediate Care Team, Community Matrons, the Specialist Palliative Care Teams and the Urgent Care Team.
- v) Changes made in the operation of Community Services since 2002.

Ms. Atkinson, having addressed comments and questions from Members regarding co-morbidity, transfer delays caused by unavailability of community equipment or adaptations, equipment tracking systems and future intentions regarding the provision of support for nursing, the Chairman thanked Ms. Atkinson for her attendance and informative presentation.

5. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted as part of the evidence to support the Committee's ongoing policy review of hospital discharge.

Policy Review – Hospital Discharge – Issues Highlighted by the 2010 Survey of Patients on Leaving Hospital

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer, presented the report, highlighting some key issues arising from the report which the Committee might wish to consider as its Policy Review progressed.

6. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted as part of the evidence to support the Committee's ongoing policy review of hospital discharge.

Annual Work Programme 2011-12

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) appending an updated copy of the Committee's work programme for Members' information.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer, briefed the Committee on the current position regarding the following activities which had taken place since the last meeting:-

- Children's Heart Services Reconfiguration
- The Veterans Review Action Plan
- The Any Qualified Provider (AQP) briefing.

In addition the Chairman informed Members of an evidence gathering event in relation to the Committee's Policy Review which was to be held on Wednesday, 23rd in Committee Room 1 from 9.15 am until approximately 2.30 pm.

7. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted.

Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the Period 1st October, 2011 to 31st January, 2011

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide Members with an opportunity to consider the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1st October, 2011 to 31st January, 2011.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer, presented the report to the Committee.

8. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted.

The Chairman then closed the meeting, having thanked Members and Officers for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

(Signed) P. WALKER
Chairman