

At a meeting of the HEALTH AND WELL-BEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on WEDNESDAY, 8th DECEMBER, 2010 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Walker in the Chair

Councillors Fletcher, Maddison, Padgett, Shattock, D. Smith and Snowdon.

Also in Attendance:-

Councillor Tate	-	Chairman of Management Scrutiny Committee
Councillor Morrissey	-	Observing
Karen Brown	-	Sunderland Council
Nonnie Crawford	-	Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust
Sharman Cummings	-	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Anne Dingwall	-	Sunderland Council
Emma Hindmarsh	-	Sunderland Council
Ian Holliday	-	NHS South of Tyne and Wear
Norma Johnston	-	Sunderland Council
Alison O'Neill	-	Sunderland Council
Russell Patton	-	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Tony Railton	-	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Jim Usher	-	Sunderland Council

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Chamberlin, A. Hall. Old and N. Wright and on behalf of Mr. A. Patchett

Minutes of the last Meeting of the Committee held on 15th September, 2010

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10th November, 2010 be confirmed and signed as correct record.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Performance Report Quarter 2 (April – September 2010)

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Committee with a performance update relating to the period April to September 2010 to include:

- Progress in relation to the LAA targets and other national indicators.
- Progress in relation to the Home Care Provision Policy Review, Dementia Policy Review and Health Inequalities Policy Review Recommendations.
- Results of the annual MORI residents survey which took place during May to July 2010

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Sharon Lowes, Strategic Commissioning Manager presented the report in relation to adult social care, Dr. Nonnie Crawford commented on the health inequalities aspect and Ms. Johnston and Ms. O'Neill were in attendance to respond to any questions regarding environmental health and sport and leisure respectively.

With reference to health inequalities, Dr. Crawford reiterated comments she had previously made that the performance information did not place enough emphasis on children's health and there was too much focus on the adult model. She reminded the committee that within the headings of the Marmot Review 'giving every child the best start in life' was the highest priority recommendation and a life course perspective was central to the Review.

Councillor Shattock questioned what was being done in the city to ensure that those people who needed support to live independently were not left isolated.

Ms Lowes advised that it was very important to get the balance right when supporting people to live at home within the wider preventative agenda. Alongside the Telecare service, voluntary and community services were funded for such schemes as befriending and telephone companionship. Sunderland had a range of responses and services to meet the needs of its residents.

In response to a further question from Councillor Shattock regarding how services had coped during the recent bad weather, Ms. Lowes advised that the Business Continuity Plan had been successfully initiated.

With reference to Direct Payments, Councillor Shattock enquired whether individuals could still buy council services and was advised that there had been a prohibition on buying council services but it had now been lifted.

In relation to the statistics relating to satisfaction with Children's playgrounds, Councillor Smith questioned whether the statistics were gathered on a ward by ward basis. Ms. O'Neill agreed to find out and respond to Councillor Smith directly.

Councillor Shattock queried why the figures for alcohol related issues were increasing and was informed by Dr. Crawford that more services had been developed and consequently more people were being referred to those services. The four tier strategic framework reflected increasing intensities of intervention; enhanced services and more education work meant that the increase was not a bad news story on one level, however, the increase was only slight given the increase in services.

The Chairman noted that the number of pharmacies offering NHS Health checks would increase from 11 to 13 by the 1st of January 2011 and questioned whether there were any plans to roll this initiative out further.

Dr. Crawford advised that all GP's delivered health checks and those checks that were offered in pharmacies were in low uptake areas. There were further plans to also target these hard to reach groups effectively using other community locations such as supermarkets and Working Men's Clubs

Having thanked the officers for their contribution it was:

2. RESOLVED that the committee acknowledges the continued good progress made by the council and the Sunderland Partnership and those areas requiring further development to ensure that performance is actively managed.

Pride Project Update

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide members with the outcome of the Public Consultation seeking views on Options and Locations and the subsequent Option Evaluation process concerning PRIDE (Providing Improved Mental Health and Learning Disability Environments in Sunderland and South Tyneside.)

(For copy report – see original minutes)

The Chairman welcomed Tony Railton, Associate Director Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust and Ian Holliday, Commissioning Lead for Mental Health / Learning Disabilities NHS South of Tyne and Wear to the Committee and invited them to present the report.

Mr Railton reminded the Committee of the three potential sites that were identified for consultation and the four options for consideration. Mr Railton explained how the scoring process worked - a widely used method of weighted scoring endorsed in Government guidance. Measurement criteria defined as benefits, were allocated a value (weighting) out of a total value of 100 – the greater the defined or perceived value, the greater the weighting.

Mr. Railton advised that Option 3 had been ranked in first place.

Option 3 involved the following proposals:

Ryhope: Sunderland adult and older people's functional illness services
Monkwearmouth: Sunderland and South Tyneside older people's organic illness service
South Tyneside: South Tyneside older people's functional illness

Looking at consultation alone, option 4 was ranked higher than option 3, however, the total sum of weighted scores for all other criteria was greater in option 3. Therefore, option 3 was ranked in first place overall.

Option 3 was duly considered and approved for business case preparation. Mr Railton advised that work was now underway to prepare a Business Case, which would be submitted for consideration to the Trust's Board of Directors in 2011.

In response to an enquiry from the Chairman regarding whether the project would be delivered on schedule, Mr Railton advised that the target to vacate the Cherry Knowle site by summer 2013 and move into the new facilities by January to March 2014 was realistic.

Councillor Shattock was very keen to see new facilities as soon as possible but expressed concerns regarding capacity and forecasting bed numbers. She cited the recent emphasis the Justice Secretary, Kenneth Clarke had placed on mental health and the justice system - the need to start diverting people with mental illness away from police stations, courts and prison. Councillor Shattock questioned whether this would result in a need for more bed numbers.

Mr. Russell Patton, Director of Adult Services, NTW NHS Trust advised that if the Green Paper advocated the transfer of prisoners with mental illness, they would be accommodated in a different type of facility to those currently provided by the Trust. Durham was well resourced in secure facilities, however if as an organisation the provision of low/medium secure facilities was a good business proposition then it could be considered in the future.

Mr Holliday stated that it was acknowledged within the model of mental health that people were spending too much time as inpatients. There needed to be reinvestment in supported accommodation as well as a focus on prevention so that in patient beds were used most effectively.

Councillor Tate welcomed the improvements.

3. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted and the Committee receive regular updates on progress.

Improvements to Out of Hours Provision within Sunderland

The Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to update the Committee following a decision in February 2010 when the committee agreed 6 recommendations to improve access to Out of Hours (OOH) Provision within Sunderland, and to the creation of a Task & Finish Group to progress these. This report detailed;

- how these actions had been implemented
- how any remaining issues were to be progressed

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Mr. Jim Usher, General Manager, Health, Housing and Adult Services presented the report and outlined what improvements had been made to make access to OOH provision better. Mr Usher also detailed planned/ ongoing activity.

Councillor Maddison noted that additional emergency housing provision had been arranged with 2 Crash Beds being located within Salvation Army premises and questioned whether their use was monitored. Mr Usher advised that the beds had been used on three separate occasions and their availability was ongoing.

Councillor Shattock stated that the Local Authority and North Tyne and Wear NHS Trust had provided an excellent response to the issues raised to progress the recommendations from the Task and Finish Group. She enquired whether there had been a noticeable reduction in complaints.

Mr Usher advised that since the recommendations had been progressed there had been few if any complaints.

Councillor Shattock queried whether she would be able to attend the workshop that was being arranged to engage with all stakeholders. Mr Usher agreed to invite Councillor Shattock.

Councillor Shattock requested that an item on the new care management system was brought to a future meeting of the Committee. Ms. Lowes agreed to provide a report in the early part of 2011.

Mr Patton apologised for an error in the appendix to the report in relation to Crisis Resolution Service referral criteria which should read 'the resident does not need to be known by the team already'.

4. RESOLVED that the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee receive the report for information and agree that;
- i) the Task and Finish Group has met its initial remit and should be discontinued
 - ii) Further analysis of OOH demand is undertaken periodically by HHAS / the Contact Centre – and a further report on this and any other OOH issues be provided to committee in 6 months time. This will determine the need for any further actions.

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to inform the Scrutiny Committee about a consultation on a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for Sunderland.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Brown advised that the full consultation document had previously been circulated to Members for their consideration.

The Chairman proposed that individual Members forward their comments to Karen Brown to enable her to compile a response on behalf of the Committee.

At the suggestion of Councillor Maddison, Ms. Emma Hindmarsh, Democratic Services Officer agreed to arrange for the consultation document to be placed on the Members Ward Bulletin Service.

5. RESOLVED that Members forward any comments on the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment based on the questions outlined in paragraph 4.2 of the report to Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer.

Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the Period 1st December, 2010 – 31st March, 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 December, 2010 – 31st March, 2011.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

6. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted and additional information be provided to Members.

Annual Work Programme 2010 - 11

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) for the Committee to receive an updated work programme for the 2010-11 Council year.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

7. RESOLVED that the Committee note the updated work programme.

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

(Signed) P. WALKER,
Chairman.