

**At a meeting of the HEALTH AND WELL-BEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the HOUGHTON PRIMARY CARE CENTRE on WEDNESDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2011 at 1.30 pm.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Walker in the Chair

Councillors Francis, Padgett, Shattock and Snowdon, together with Ms. V. Brown, Ms. E. Inglesby and Mr. R. Price

**Also in Attendance:-**

Ms. K. Brown	-	Sunderland City Council
Mr. A. Cormack	-	NHS South of Tyne and Wear
Ms. S. Cummings	-	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Ms. K. Graham	-	Sunderland City Council
Mr. R. Green	-	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Mr. I. Holiday	-	NHS South of Tyne and Wear
Mr. M. Lowe	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. S. Lowes	-	Sunderland City Council
Mr. G. King	-	Sunderland City Council
Mr. D. Noon	-	Sunderland City Council
Mr. J. Padget	-	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Mr. R. Patton	-	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Ms. H. Wardropper	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. J. Whitehouse	-	Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust

**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 Fletcher, Hall, Maddison, Miller and N. Wright, together with Carol Harries, Nonnie Crawford, Nichola Fairless and Dr. J. Dean.

## **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

## **Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2011**

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Shattock, Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer, advised that the Portfolio Holder for Health and Well-Being had been unable to attend today's meeting as it clashed with a meeting of Cabinet. He would however be present at the Committee's next meeting in January 2012.

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2011 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **The Redesign and Improvement of the Adult Learning Disability Services South of Tyne**

The Chairman welcomed and introduced Russell Patton of Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust who provided the Committee with a detailed presentation in respect of the above matter.

(For copy presentation – see original minutes).

Members were informed of the key drivers for change, namely:-

- the PRIDE Project
- the National Context and Good Practice Guidance
- Local Service provision/demand
- the Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Trust, Service Model Review Proposals

In conclusion Members were informed of the following timeline for the project:-

- Joint review with Commissioner colleagues initiated – August 2011.
- Commenced engagement on the review of LD services South of Tyne – August 2011.
- Full series of engagement events held during the past 3 months.
- Formal staff consultation taken place.
- Formal approval from Commissioners to be sought – December 2011.
- Approval from NTW Trust Board to be sought – January 2012.
- Enhancement of current community services (universal crisis team, expanded hours of LD specialist team).
- Closure of Treatment Unit.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Francis regarding the South side of the current Monkwearmouth site, Mr. Patton confirmed that this would be used for the Specialist Dementia Centre for Sunderland and South Tyneside.

Mr. Patton acknowledged that enormous pressures were often placed on families but reassured Councillor Shattock that crisis intervention teams would be able to deliver outside the hours of 9 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday. As with any change the Service would be monitored and Mr. Patton offered to return to the Committee in 3 to 5 months time to receive feedback from Members on the redesign and improvement of the South of Tyne Adult Learning Disability Service.

The Chairman having thanked Mr. Patton for his presentation, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the presentation on the redesign and improvement of the South of Tyne Adult Learning Disability Service be noted, and
- (ii) Mr. Patton be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee to receive feedback from Members on the implementation of the project.

### **Performance Report, Quarters 1 and 2 (April – September 2011)**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with a performance update for the period April to September 2011 with regard to the areas within the purview of the Health and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mike Lowe, Head of Performance Improvement presented the report informing Members that for 2011/12, the Council's aim was that performance reporting should be focused on the key priorities for the people, place and economy of Sunderland and should continue to be a robust appraisal of the situation resulting in actions. It should cover the main strengths, areas for improvement, outstanding risks and how these were being addressed. This was a move away from simply reporting all performance indicators with no weighting to reflect their relative importance to the Council. Instead, the aim was to draw attention to the areas that matter most and maximise improvement to deliver Value for Money.

In this regard Mr. Lowe highlighted the key performance issues in respect of Adult Social Care, Health Inequalities, Sport and Leisure and Environmental Health as detailed in paragraphs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 of the report.

Mr. Lowe and Mr. King (Head of Strategic Commissioning) proceeded to address questions and comments from Members in relation to:-

- (i) the operation of local self regulation with regard to performance.
- (ii) the move towards the gradual replacement of traditional residential care with 'Extra Care'.
- (iii) the lack of impact of the measures taken to reduce the number of delayed transfers of care.

- (iv) the need to improve the provision of service information to enable people to make an informed choice with regard to Personalised Budgets.

Members having welcomed the clarity of the format used to present the performance information, the Chairman thanked Mr. Lowe for his report and expressed his wish to see a greater percentage of the red indicators make the progression to green.

3. RESOLVED that the areas of good progress made by the Council and the Sunderland Partnership and those areas needing further improvement be noted.

### **Social Care Contributions Policy**

The Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an overview of the consultation process being undertaken on proposed changes to social care contributions policies and processes.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Graham King presented the report highlighting:-

- (i) the 3 main drivers for change i.e.
  - To support personalisation and the ongoing implementation of personal budgets;
  - To bring the Council in line with national trends, and policy developments;
  - To simplify the policy and process for the customer.
- (ii) the current position, and
- (iii) the proposed new policy

Mr. King then proceeded to address questions and comments from Members in relation to:-

- (i) the mechanisms of the consultation process and support provided for people in completing the questionnaire.
- (ii) fears that the questions were leading and that the consultation may not elicit a balanced response.
- (iii) the need to provide people with an illustrative indication as to how the changes would affect them.
- (iv) how the changes in Sunderland would compare to those in neighbouring Local Authorities.
- (v) the ability to provide exemptions in certain cases.

The Chairman thanked Mr. King for his report, and Mr. King having advised that a Members' seminar on the issue had been arranged for Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Southern Cross Transfer Update**

The Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which updated Members on the transfer of residential and nursing care homes from Southern Cross to new providers.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Sharon Lowes (Strategic Commissioning Manager) presented the report and advised Members that as at 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2011 all 14 homes in Sunderland had transferred to their new care provider. Of the 7 care providers 2 had previously been operational in Sunderland.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Shattock, Ms. Lowes confirmed that the Service was aware of the financial difficulties concerning Four Seasons as reported in the Guardian newspaper. In addition and with regard to an enquiry from Victoria Brown, Ms. Lowes confirmed the Dementia Care Services contract would transfer over to the new provider.

The Chairman having thanked Ms. Lowes for her report, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Review of Rehabilitation and Early Supported Discharge from Hospital**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with a summary of evidence received from patients, patients' representatives and carers at a consultation session held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2011 with regard to the review of Rehabilitation and Early Supported Discharge from Hospital.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer, presented the report drawing Members attention to the key issues arising from the evidence summary as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

6. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Community Covenant with the Armed Forces**

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, drawing Members attention to paragraph 3.2 which highlighted the requirement to establish a Covenant prior to any application for Government match funding.

7. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **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).

Helen Wardropper, Scrutiny and Area Support Officer, having briefed the Committee on the current position regarding activities which had taken place since the last meeting, it was:-

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

### **Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the Period 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2012**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide Members with an opportunity to consider the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2011.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Helen Wardropper, Scrutiny and Area Support Officer, having presented the report, it was:-

9. 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.