

At a meeting of the HEALTH AND WELL-BEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on WEDNESDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY, 2012 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Walker in the Chair

Councillors Fletcher, Francis, Hall, Maddison, Padgett, Shattock, Snowdon and Waller, together with Ms. V. Brown, Ms. Inglesby and Mr. R. Price.

Also in Attendance:-

Ms. K. Brown	-	Sunderland City Council
Mr. B. Craddock	-	Member of the Public
Ms. N. Crawford	-	Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust
Ms. K. Graham	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. C. Harries	-	City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust
Dr. G. McBride	-	Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group
Mr. D. Noon	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. S. Reed	-	Sunderland City Council
Councillor R.D. Tate	-	Chairman of Management Scrutiny Committee - Sunderland City Council
Ms. H. Wardropper	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. J. Whitehouse	-	NHS South of Tyne and Wear

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 F. Miller and N. Wright, together with Dr. J. Dean, Ms. S. Cummings and Mr. R. Patton.

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 11th January, 2012

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 11th January, 2012 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Development of a Sunderland Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The Head of Strategy, Policy and Performance Management submitted a report (copy circulated) which informed the Committee of the process and timetable for the development of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Karen Graham, Assistant Policy Lead for Health presented the report. Members were informed that the Health and Social Care Bill gave the Local Authority the responsibility for 5 key areas of development –

- To establish a Health and Wellbeing Board
- To complete a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- To produce a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- To set up a local Health Watch
- To transition public health responsibilities

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy had to be completed by October 2012 and needed to be a joint high-level strategy that spanned NHS, social care, public health and the wider health determinants of health such as housing and child and community poverty.

Ms. Graham advised Members that a working group had been established to oversee the drafting and editing of the Strategy and that upon completion of the full draft, a copy would be submitted to the Committee for comment.

Councillor Shattock expressed concern as to whether the Health and Well Being Board had any real powers to ensure the Commissioning Consortia implemented the Strategy. Ms. Graham replied that the Board did have powers but it still only existed in a shadow form. Nonnie Crawford advised that the Bill still needed to be enacted but it had the potential to provide additional regulatory powers for the Health and Well Being Board. The Health and Well Being Board would look to the Clinical Commissioning Group to align as it was in the best interests of both to work together to improve the health of the people of Sunderland.

Dr. McBride confirmed that close links already existed with the Local Authority. Joint Development meetings had been held with the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services to ensure the formal and informal links were in place.

In response to an enquiry from the Chairman regarding the main challenges to be faced in delivering priorities, Ms. Crawford advised that there were a number. There were currently finite resources in the system and there would be finite resources going forward. Acute services needed to be commissioned via hospitals with GPs providing primary services. There was a real need to address obesity and alcohol abuse and to identify planned need as well as addressing urgent issues. In addition Dr. McBride advised that the Clinical Commissioning Group would commission only a very small amount of GP services, the majority of which would be commissioned by the National Board.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Francis regarding checks to ensure funding was being spent rather than hoarded away, Dr. McBride advised that under statute, the Responsible Financial Officer would only be permitted a £1m carry over at the end of each year.

Carol Harries added that City Hospitals Sunderland had independent regulators who monitored the Trust on a monthly basis. Robust monthly contract discussions were held regarding the quantity and quality of service delivery.

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

2. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group Commissioning Plan 2012-2017

The Head of Commissioning Development NHS South of Tyne and Wear submitted a report (copy circulated) which appended the draft version of the Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group's (SCCG) Clear and Credible Plan 2012-2017 for the Committee's consideration and comment.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

To complement the report, Dr. Gerry McBride provided Members with a comprehensive powerpoint presentation which highlighted the following:-

- the SCCG was formed in March 2011, was made up of 54 GP practices in Sunderland who had elected 6 GPs to form an Executive Committee and appointed a practice manager;
- the CCG was established in response to the Governance changes to the commissioning of health care. CCG's would be responsible for commissioning the majority of services alongside the Local Authority and the National Commissioning Board;
- the CCG's vision and core values;

- the main challenges to be faced i.e.
 - Excess Cancer and CVD deaths
 - Fragmented healthcare
 - Health Inequalities
 - Over Reliance on Hospital Care
 - Growing elderly population
 - Financial constraints
- success so far, e.g. the single point of access to urgent care teams;
- the 'Plan on a Page' guide to the future provision of Health and Social Care in Sunderland; and
- how the CCG will engage with the public.

Mr. McBride then addressed questions and comments from Members in relation to:-

- whether the CCG had the capacity and skills sets necessary to undertake the duties it was being asked to perform;
- the status of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment;
- the need for a truly federated approach to avoid a postcode lottery;
- concern that there was an over emphasis on choice. Patients just wanted their GP to advise on the best treatment available.

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

3. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the report be received and noted; and
- (ii) a summary of the ISOP and the planned changes for 2012/13 be submitted to the Committee at its first meeting of the new financial year.

Public Health Transition

The Director of Public Health and Assistant Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update on recent publications by the Department of Health in relation to health reform and the implications for the transition of public health in Sunderland together with details of the draft transition planning.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

In addition the report also introduced a complementary powerpoint presentation from Nonnie Crawford, the Director of Public Health which highlighted:-

- the 5 themes emanating from the White Paper 'Equality and Excellence Liberating the NHS namely:-
 - Strengthening Commissioning of NHS Services
 - Increase Democratic Accountability and Public Voice
 - Liberate provision of NHS Services
 - Strengthening Public Health Services
 - Reforming Health and Care Arms-length bodies
- Local Government's New Functions under its duty to Improve the Health of the Population:-
 - Commissioning responsibility
 - Working with Clinical Commissioning Groups to integrate care pathways
 - Using Health and Wellbeing Board to integrate commissioning approaches
 - Providing population healthcare advice to the NHS
 - Duty to ensure plans are in place to protect health
- the implications of the reforms i.e:-
 - 'System leadership' for health and care would be shared across Local Authorities, and Health.
 - Local Authorities would commission Local HealthWatch as the independent consumer champion for health and social care.
 - New relationships would need to be forged with the NHS Commissioners – Clinical Commissioning Groups and the National Commissioning Board.
 - Balancing act between various spatial levels of provision and commissioning.
- the mandatory and non mandatory commissioning requirements and services.
- the Local Authority Transition Planning Process and the Budget allocations available.

Ms. Crawford and Sarah Reed, Assistant Chief Executive then addressed questions and comments from Members in respect of:-

- timescales regarding staffing and TUPE transfers.
- publicity and consultation on the changes.
- the review of existing public health contracts.

- the view that alcohol and drugs should be included in the list of mandatory rather than non mandatory requirements.
- the position of the North East Council for Addiction within the proposals.

The Chairman having thanked, Ms. Crawford and Ms. Reed for their report and presentation, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the progress on the transition of Public Health in Sunderland be noted and that it be recommended that Alcohol and Drugs should be included in the list of mandatory commissioning requirements and services.

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 and provided a reminder as to the extraordinary meeting to be held on Wednesday, 14th March, it was:-

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

Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the Period 1st February, 2012 to 31st May, 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 1st February, 2012 to 31st May, 2012.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

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

6. 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.