

**At a meeting of the HEALTH AND WELL-BEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on WEDNESDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2012 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Walker in the Chair

Councillors Fletcher, Francis, Hall, Maddison, F. Miller, Padgett, Shattock, Snowdon and Waller, together with Ms. V. Brown, Dr. J. Dean 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. S. Cummings	-	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Ms. K. Graham	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. R. Grainger	-	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Dr. D. Hambleton	-	NHS South of Tyne and Wear
Ms. C. Harries	-	City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust
Dr. G. Lawson	-	City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust
Mr. G. King	-	Sunderland City Council
Mr. D. Noon	-	Sunderland City Council
Mr. R. Patton	-	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Mr. N. Revely	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. L. Topping	-	NHS South of Tyne and Wear
Mr. J. Usher	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. H. Wardropper	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. S. Winfield	-	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 Councillor N. Wright, together with Ms. E. Inglesby.

## **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Hall declared a personal interest in item 4 on the agenda (Health, Housing and Adult Services 15 Year Strategy) as an employee of Anchor Trust.

## **Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2011**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2011 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **Change in the Order of Business**

The Chairman advised that he would take the following item of business at this juncture to allow the NHS representatives to leave thereafter.

## **NHS South of Tyne and Wear Acute Paediatric Services – Consultation**

The Director of Commissioning and Reform submitted a report (copy circulated) which informed the Committee of the public consultation being undertaken to allow health professionals, patients and the general public to give their views on the future of services for acutely sick and injured children across Gateshead, Sunderland and South Tyneside.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

To complement the report, Dr. David Hambleton, provided Members with a comprehensive powerpoint presentation on the process together with Dr. Geoff Lawson who provided the Committee with a clinical perspective.

Members were advised of:-

(i) the following two options for change

Option One:

Implementation of a range of service developments including:

- walk-in services available to children of all ages
- children's community nursing team support for acutely ill and injured children and young people
- children's short-stay assessment units in hospitals in Gateshead, Sunderland and South Tyneside, available for limited hours, eg 8.00am - 10.00pm
- inpatient care available at Sunderland Royal Hospital and the Great North Children's Hospital at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle.

## Option Two:

Implementation of a range of service developments including:

- walk-in services available to children of all ages
- children's community nursing team support for acutely ill and injured children and young people
- children's short-stay assessment units in hospitals in Gateshead, Sunderland and South Tyneside, available for 24 hours each day
- inpatient care available at Sunderland Royal Hospital and the Great North Children's Hospital at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle.

- (ii) the drivers for change,
- (iii) the engagement work carried out with parents and young people together with the feedback received,
- (iv) the data reviews undertaken in Sunderland, South Tyneside and Gateshead,
- (v) financial support provided by the PCT to support services for children,
- (vi) the clinical evidence base for change including illustrative case studies showing how care would be provided following the reforms,
- (vii) the next steps in the review process.

Dr. Hambleton and Dr. Lawson proceeded to address questions and comments from Members in relation to:-

- (i) the provision of training to Walk in Centre staff to help them deal with the concerns of anxious parents,
- (ii) the availability of appropriate public transport information in the treatment facilities,
- (iii) examples of where the preferred model of operation (Option 2) had been successfully introduced elsewhere in the UK,
- (iv) the overall percentage of bed losses under the proposal,
- (v) concerns from residents that community nursing was not operating as effectively as hoped,
- (vi) options available for teenagers to be treated in either paediatrics or mainstream adult services,
- (vii) implications of the reforms for GP practices.

Consideration having been given to the matter, Members indicated that they would be minded to support Option 2 with regard to the proposed reform of acute health services for children and young people.

The Chairman having thanked, Dr. Hambleton, Dr. Lawson and Ms. Winfield for their report and presentation, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee endorsed Option 2 as detailed in 'Getting Better Together' the NHS South of Tyne and Wear public consultation document on acute health services for children and young people.

### **Health, Housing and Adult Services 15 Year Strategy – Update**

The Executive Directors of Health, Housing and Adult Services and City Services submitted a joint report (copy circulated) which updated the Committee on the Directorate's 15 Year Strategy and implementation of the 3 year delivery plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Neil Revely, Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services presented the report and submitted apologies from Councillor Allan, the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing who was unable to attend the meeting.

In addition Mr. Revely provided Members with a comprehensive presentation highlighting:-

- (i) the following successes of the first 3 year delivery plan
  - Reviewed care management and assessment process – locality working and focus on self-directed support
  - Introduction of Reablement at Home Service
  - Further development of extra care schemes
  - Widened opportunities for accessing universal services e.g. Aquatic Centre Staff
  - Jointly funded (NHS/LA) projects within voluntary and community sector via grants assistance process
  - Introduced and developed Quality Standards for Care Home for Older People
  - Transferred responsibility for commissioning learning disabilities services to the Council
  - Put in place outcome based specifications and contracts for services
  - Delivered significant levels of efficiency for the Council through reinvesting in key services
  - Continue to deliver services across all four Fair Access to Care bands
- (ii) the main themes of the current three year plan, i.e. prevention, reablement and personalisation,

- (iii) the main policy drivers from central government with regard to the direction of adult social care,
- (iv) how the future customer experience would appear e.g.
  - Initial contact will be through the customer service network
  - Universal Services increasingly being the response to customer need
  - Reablement will provide intensive support for short periods
  - Further accommodation choices will provide the alternative to institutional care
  - Fewer customers will need long term support
  - Personal budgets in place for all customers

Councillor Padgett related a case of a constituent having to wait 3 months for an assessment. Mr. Revely replied that the care management and assessment process had been reviewed to improve the end to end process. Clearly 3 months was an unacceptable period of time and Mr. Revely asked Members that any problems of this nature were brought to his attention.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor F. Miller, Mr. Revely outlined the role of advocates and carers with regard to the provision of personal budgets to people who had difficulty with decision making.

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

3. RESOLVED that the update report and presentation on the Health, Housing and Adult Services 15 Year Strategy be received and noted.

### **Update on the Development of the HealthWatch Sunderland**

The Deputy Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with information on the Government's HealthWatch Transition Plan, an update on HealthWatch Transition in Sunderland, together with information for future consideration regarding the relationship between the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee and HealthWatch Sunderland.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Neil Revely, Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services presented the report, and with regard to local progress advised that a dedicated HealthWatch Transition workstream had been developed with delivery via a working group with representatives from Key Stakeholders. The transition was being led by Sue Winfield, Vice Chair of NHS South of Tyne and Wear supported by Jean Carter, Deputy Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services. The working group would continue to develop the service specification for a local HealthWatch taking into account the views collated to date. As national guidance became available this would be included within the workstream plan.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Shattock regarding who would hold HealthWatch to account, Mr. Revely advised that this was still to be worked through. It would however be accountable to the Local Authority as commissioner via contractual arrangements, by the Scrutiny Committee with regard to social health care aspects. Health Care England would also hold it accountable at a professional level.

The Chairman welcomed that both he and the Vice Chair would have the opportunity to meet with Mr. Revely and the link officers to discuss the role of the Committee within the new arrangements.

The Chairman having thanked Mr. Revely for his report, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Improvements to Out of Hours Provision in Sunderland**

The Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which briefed Members on continuous improvements made to the Out of Hours provision (OOHs) with regard to Adult Social Care following the last report submitted in December 2010.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Jim Usher, General Manager, Disability Services presented the report highlighting the following improvements to the Out of Hours Service.

- (i) the routing of all OOHs calls through the Customer Contact Centre enabling an improved analysis of demand,
- (ii) planned training with Northumbria University to increase the number of Approved Mental Health Practitioners (AMHPs),
- (iii) the increased use of agile working to allow Social Care practitioners to work alongside Contact Centre staff to enable issues to be resolved in a more timely way,
- (iv) improved communications with housing colleagues to ensure a better use of emergency accommodation.

In response to an enquiry from Dr. Dean, Mr. Usher advised that he felt the service was currently operating at 75% of where he would ideally like it to be.

With regard to an enquiry from Ms. Brown, Mr. Usher advised that the list of emergency accommodation vacancies was held by the Housing Options Team.

The Chairman having requested that the Committee continue to be kept informed of progress, thanked Mr. Usher for his report, and it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted and that further progress reports be submitted in due course.

### **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:-

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

### **Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the Period 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2012 to 30<sup>th</sup> April, 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> January, 2012 to 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2012.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

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

7. 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.