

Minutes of the Meeting of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 16 September 2010 at Shire Hall, Warwick

Present:

Members of the Committee

Councillor Martyn Ashford
“ Penny Bould
“ Les Caborn (Chair)
“ Jose Compton
“ Richard Dodd
“ Jerry Roodhouse
“ Dave Shilton
“ Sid Tooth
“ Angela Warner
“ Claire Watson

District/Borough Councillors

Sally Bragg, Rugby Borough Council
Bill Hancox, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
Michael Kinson OBE, Warwick District Council

Other County Councillors

Councillor Bob Stevens (Portfolio Holder for Health)

Officers

John Bolton, Interim Strategic Director for Adult, Health and Community Services
Denise Cross, Occupational Therapy Wheelchair & Specialist Falls Services Manager
Rebecca Davidson, Communications Officer
Monica Fogarty, Assistant Chief Executive
Kim Harlock, Head of Strategic Commissioning and Performance Management
Chris Lewington, Carer & Customer Engagement Service Manager
Ann Mawdsley, Principal Committee Administrator
Richard Maybey, Assistant to Political Group (Labour)
Michelle McHugh, Overview and Scrutiny Manager

Also Present:

Nigel Barton, Executive Director of Operations, Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Partnership Trust (CWPT)
Roger Copping (Warwickshire LINKs)
John Linnane, Director of Public Health, NHS Warwickshire
Rachel Pearce, Assistant Chief Exec NHS Warwickshire
Lorraine Roberts, General Manager, CAMHS, CWPT

1. General

(1) Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Helen Haytor (Stratford-on-Avon District Council), Councillor Wendy Smitten (North Warwickshire Borough Council), Councillor Kate Rolfe (replaced by Councillor Jerry Roodhouse for this meeting), Councillor Izzi Seccombe and Geoff King.

(2) Members Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Councillor Penny Bould declared a personal interest as a recipient of support services and in relation to Item 6 in her capacity as a practitioner making referrals to the CAMHS Service.

Councillor Richard Dodd declared a personal interest as an employee of the West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse declared a personal interest as a member of Age Concern Advisory Rugby and in his capacity as a carer for elderly people.

Councillor Bob Stevens declared a personal interest In connection with his association with Galanos House Care Home, Southam.

Councillor Angela Warner declared a personal interest in her role as a GP.

(3) Remit of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Noted.

(4) Minutes of the meeting of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 14 July 2010

The minutes of the meeting of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 14 July 2010 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

There were no matters arising.

(5) Chair's Announcements

The Chair reminded Members of the visit that had been arranged to the West Midlands Ambulance Control Centre at Briarley Hill and Stafford on 24 September. Members were asked to respond directly to Michelle McHugh.

2. Public Question Time

Question from Roger Copping

Roger Copping set out the background to the proposed closure of Helen Lay House at Blackdown, near Kenilworth, which is of four national specialist respite care centres for people with multiple sclerosis. Following their decision made on 9 June 2010, the MS Society made an announcement that they would no longer directly provide residential respite care and would move to a more personalised system of support.

Roger Copping made the following points:

- People in Coventry and Warwickshire had contributed £3m towards setting up the Centre originally, and a new wing had been opened in 2006.
- The Centre cost approximately £500,000 a year to run and provided respite for people from Coventry, Warwickshire, West Midlands, Wales, Lancashire and the South.
- The Centre had 24 respite beds, with 93% occupancy, as well as 10 permanent beds and a staff of 113, including physiotherapists, occupational therapists, 24 hour nursing and chaplaincy.
- The 18 month consultation had been carried out largely with young people and young carers.

Roger Copping asked whether Warwickshire County Council would make any representation on behalf of Helen Lay House. He added that the County Council was involved in terms of the permanent residents who would have to be re-homed and the staff who would become unemployed and urged them to take decisive action before the deadline date of 25 October 2010.

The Chair noted that Warwick District Council had set up a Working Group to look into this issue and undertook to forward to members of the Committee a copy of their briefing note. John Bolton added that the County Council had responsibility for 2 of the current users of the Centre and responsibility for their care would be met. Other residents would remain the responsibility of their placing authorities.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse stated that LINK had been in contact with the Centre and this correspondence could also be shared with the Committee.

He added that the position locally and nationally on this decision were very different.

The Committee agreed to receive the information as set out above and to monitor the situation.

3. Questions to the Portfolio Holder

Councillor Bob Stevens

Councillor Bob Stevens stated that the health scene was moving quickly with enormous transitions of different areas across the Health service proposed, including:

- PCTs to be discontinued
- devolution of responsibility for commissioning services to GPs
- transfer of responsibility for Public Health to the County Council
- a new overarching Health and Wellbeing Board, with scrutiny powers.

The co-ordination of the health matters in respect of the County Council would be set up through the Transition Board and SDLT/Cabinet.

Councillor Michael Kinson OBE sought reassurance that the outcomes of the review of care homes be delivered with the utmost sensitivity, particularly in light of the vulnerability of users. John Bolton responded that the Directorate had a good, sensitive team working with older people and their relatives around their expectations and reservations. Every elderly person within the 10 Warwickshire care homes had a one-to-one interview, with support where necessary, except those with significant dementia, who had been represented by staff.

Councillor Dave Shilton asked the Portfolio Holder who would be accountable for implementing the changes from the White Paper. Councillor Bob Stevens responded that ultimate responsibility lay with the Chief Executive. Monica Fogarty added that as the transition moved forward, a report would be considered by the Cabinet and full Council, to delegate powers to the Health and Wellbeing Board, details of which were yet to be decided. Concern was raised about the possible detriment to Warwickshire of not having a dedicated scrutiny committee.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse sought assurances from the Portfolio Holder that the campaign that was starting to build up nationally in the care market by providers such as Southern Cross, around costs and sustainability would be fully monitored by the Council. He requested a future report including issues such as contractual terms, and direct comparisons of what the market place would look like in 2 years time, once the personalisation agenda had dug in. Councillor Bob Stevens agreed to forward this request to Councillor Izzi Seccombe.

Councillor Sid Tooth supported Councillor Jerry Roodhouse's comments and added that users and families were concerned at the potential 40% increase in costs as well as the change of staff, ownership and environment. He asked the Portfolio Holder to agree that these people had good cause for concern, who agreed that all of these factors contributed to concerns. He stated that he was not in a position to give any assurances in relation to staff.

Councillor Penny Bould asked what the situation was regarding consultation with the trade unions and Councillor Bob Stevens replied that these were well underway.

Health Items

4. NHS White Paper

John Linnane, Joint Director of Public Health gave an oral presentation on the NHS White Paper – Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS and the following consultations:

- Liberating the NHS: regulating healthcare providers
- Transparency in outcomes: a framework for the NHS
- Liberating the NHS: commissioning for patients
- Increasing democratic legitimacy in health.

He added that the timetable for the new arrangements for GPs commissioning of services was to start in a shadow capacity from April 2011 and to take on the budget in April 2012. Health and Wellbeing Boards would operate on the same timescales. The proposed changes would bring significant changes to the way the NHS currently governed and would require legislative changes. A Health Bill was expected late 2010 or early 2011 to give effect to the changes and a detailed Public Health White Paper was expected in December 2010.

Councillor Bob Stevens noted that the consultations were being dealt with by the Transition Board, which was an officer working group, which was currently meeting on a three-weekly basis. He undertook to ensure that the Committee received a copy of the response document in enough time to be able to make comments, before its final agreement at the Portfolio Holder Decision Making Session on 4 October at 1.00 pm.

During the ensuing discussion the following points were raised:

1. John Linnane stated that the White Paper referred specifically to "upper tier local authorities", but that Health and Wellbeing Boards would make decisions locally on issues such as membership. He added that the size and representation of the Board would have to be balanced against its potential effectiveness.

2. Councillor Jerry Roodhouse stated that the LINKs contract would end in April 2011 and would be replaced with HealthWatch. HealthWatch would continue to promote patient and public involvement and seek views on local health and social care services, but the proposal was for HealthWatch to have additional advocacy responsibilities. A report was currently being prepared and a Conference Day was being planned for 25 November at Benn Hall, Rugby to look at the future role.
3. Concern was raised about proposals for payment by results and a national tariff for the acute sector and the potential for resources to be consumed by the acute sector or for GP consortia to be trapped into particular timeframes. John Linnane added that there was a timetable in place for all Acute Trusts to become Foundation Trusts and these would be regulated by the new "Monitor", who would control the National Tariff.
4. John Bolton noted that the NHS had published a draft operating framework in July 2010, which included some proposals around National Tariffs with reference to hospital discharges, giving the responsibility for the care of people discharged from hospitals to the Acute Trusts.
5. Government had committed to increase spending to the NHS in real terms and through efficiency savings and a reduction of management costs. The details of this would only become available as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review. Once resources were agreed, these would be allocated to GP consortia (for commissioning of services for the local population as PCTs currently do, including Acute Trusts, Community and Mental Health Services), the National Commissioning Board (for some specialist services) and to Local Government (for health improvement and public health).
6. It was currently not clear how many GP consortia would be formed in Warwickshire, although the expectation was for 3 to 5. There would also need to be a renegotiation of GP contracts and discussions were taking place in respect of levels of management, risk management, etc. Rachel Pearce added that there would be a requirement for GP consortia to be statutory organisations in order to meet the statutory obligations, of which PCTs currently had 75.
7. In response to a query regarding the debts of the PCTs, Rachel Pearce noted that PCTs had a statutory responsibility to balance their books year on year and while there was a current overspend of £1.9m, it was anticipated that the books would be balanced by the end of the year. It was also noted that no decision had been made regarding monies owed to the County Council by the PCT.
8. Councillor Bob Stevens stated that if there was public money being spent, that there would be a scrutiny mechanism in place, and this was expected to be through the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Chair thanked John Linnane for his presentation and asked that details of the Portfolio Holder Decision Making Session in October be forwarded to all members of the Committee.

5. Best Health for Older People in Warwickshire: Joint Director of Public Health Annual Report

John Linnane, Joint Director of Public Health gave a PowerPoint presentation to support his report on Best Health for Older People in Warwickshire, which had been agreed by the NHS Warwickshire Board on 15 September and would be considered by the Cabinet in October. John Linnane thanked his staff and officers in the Observatory for their assistance in gathering evidence.

During the discussion that following it was noted:

1. A series of local meetings were being organised, where members of the public and invited stakeholders such as Community Forums, would receive a presentation outlining the challenges and be given an opportunity to engage in discussions and contribute to future planning. The meetings were being organised through Nick Gower-Johnson, and Area offices had circulated dates to all stakeholders on their mailing lists.
2. John Linnane undertook to send an e-mail to all members of the Committee setting out End of Life figures broken down into the following:
 - The total of resident population receiving end of life care in Warwickshire, providing separate information of people that live outside of Warwickshire but use services within Warwickshire.
 - Those receiving end of life care in Warwickshire by Acute Trusts in Warwickshire including residents attending the University Hospital in Coventry, care at home, nursing/residential homes, hospice or other settings e.g. community hospitals & hospices in outlying areas (Solihull)
 - Those receiving end of life care broken down by district - by acute trust including the University Hospital, care at home, nursing/residential home, hospice or other settings e.g. community hospitals & hospices in outlying areas (Solihull).
3. Information on fuel poverty was available in Councillor Claire Watson's report as Chair of the Winter Deaths and Fuel Poverty joint review carried out with Coventry and Solihull and reported to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 9 June 2010.
4. John Linnane agreed to provide to Members a breakdown of the information given on the Main Causes of Death for aged over 50 in Warwickshire, 2008 (page 17 of the Annual Report) into ages 50-65 and 65 and over.

The Chair thanked John Linnane for his presentation and added that the recommendations set out in the covering report (page 5) would be used to inform the work programme of the Committee.

6. Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Joint Scrutiny Review

The Committee considered the report of the Councillor Martyn Ashford, Chair of the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Joint Scrutiny Review.

Councillor Martyn Ashford thanked the Joint Scrutiny Review Group as well as Richard Maybey and Michelle McHugh for their support.

A discussion followed and it was noted:

1. Nigel Barton, Executive Director of Operations, CWPT made the following comments:
 - CWPT welcomed Recommendation A and stated that they were on path to deliver the benefits of the implementation of the Choice and Partnership Approach CAPA, which had been introduced in Stratford.
 - Action had already been taken in terms of Recommendation B and CAMHS was working on a programme with schools to improve communications within limited resources.
 - CAMHS were working towards the best possible mechanism to enable parents/guardians to give permission for case information to be shared, within confidentiality restrictions.
 - The Service continued to work towards and improved level of provision of comprehensive CAMHS in North Warwickshire.
2. Lorraine Roberts noted that CAPA had identified CAMHS' true capacity to deal with referrals. She added that specialist CAMHS in South Warwickshire currently received approximately 954 referrals a year and were managing within the current resources. North Warwickshire received 1,350 referrals a year on the same resources and would not be able to sustain the position of no waiting lists. Work was being done towards achieving consistent thresholds and services across the county.
3. Kate Harker commissioned the Kooth.com service from the CAMHS grant.
4. Members congratulated Councillor Ashford on the report and manner in which the review was conducted.

The Committee:

- (i) welcomed the report and agreed to forward the report to the Cabinet for consideration of the recommendations

- (ii) requested that a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations be brought back in six months time.

Adult Social Care Items

7. Review of Support for Carers

The Committee considered the report of the Councillor Kate Rolfe, Chair of the Member Panel reviewing Support for Carers. Councillor Claire Watson presented the report setting out the findings, conclusions and recommendations. She thanked all Members and officers who had contributed to the Review, in particular Paul Williams for his assistance.

A discussion followed and it was noted:

1. Denise Cross stated that the County Council was fully staffed in terms of Occupational Therapy, and that some workers had been co-located with housing staff from the District/Borough Councils to avoid duplication and ensure quicker responses. She did add however that there were difficulties with allocation of funding from the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG), increasing waits. John Bolton stated that a key question for the County Council was whether they wanted to take control in this area. Denise Cross undertook to provide to Councillor Penny Bould the criteria for DFGs.
2. Councillor Bill Hancox stated that there was a need in the north of the county for extra resources to deal with the demand.
3. Members asked for clarification on what the Local Authority were doing in terms of Lifetime Home Standards, and whether these were being built into Local Development Plans. Members agreed that District and Borough Councils should be encouraged to adopt strategies within their planning guidance to ensure additional functionality and accessibility is built into homes to ensure inclusivity and access for all. It was agreed that a copy of the report should be shared with all District and Borough Councils.

The Committee agreed to forward the recommendations set out in the report to the Cabinet for their consideration.

8. Progress Report on Implementation of Recommendations from Review of Falls Prevention in Warwickshire

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director of Customers, Workforce and Governance setting out progress of the implementation of recommendations agreed by the former Health and Adult & Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Councillor Jose Compton, who had participated in the Review, noted that the Group had received evidence from professionals from across the County, including the Ambulance Trust and Physiotherapists and the

recommendations recognised that falls were a major cause of ill health and deterioration in older people. She also made reference to the success of the Sloppy Slippers campaign, which was still ongoing in Shire Hall Reception.

Members were informed that the reference to Professor Ian Philip in the report, should have been to Professor Ian Philp.

During the ensuing discussion the following points were raised:

1. Intermediate Care Teams continued to work on falls prevention, linking in with multi-agencies and working across a broad range of people. A pathway with the Ambulance Trust had not been established.
2. The incidence of falls was high in care homes and this was an area that had been highlighted for targeting.
3. Reference was made to the current BBC reality TV programme experiment, "The Young Ones". John Bolton said Warwickshire's fundamental philosophy focussing on helping older people to maintain their independence.
4. Members agreed that the messages around falls prevention and initiatives such as Sloppy Slippers needed to be continuously repeated.

The Committee:

- noted the progress on the recommendations
- agreed that a simple payment system needed to be introduced in Meet and Greet
- that attention needed to be given to continued promotion of falls prevention.

9. Work Programme

Members noted the report scheduled for 12 October to consider the findings and suggested recommendations of the Task and Finish Group set up to review proposed changes to A+E at Rugby St. Cross and consider the two options suggested by NHS Warwickshire.

In relation to the recently circulated briefing note regarding the outcome of the consultation regarding older adults mental health services in Rugby, members agreed that a further briefing be scheduled for 6 months later to consider the impact of the changes in Rugby and Nuneaton.

The Chair agreed to look into a previous suggestion to look at the effects of binge drinking, including the Ambulance Trust and all Acute Hospitals.

The Chair noted that Councillor Chris Williams had undertaken to provide relevant documentation in relation to the Lighthorne Health Surgery.

The Chair agreed that services for dementia in Warwickshire would be discussed at the next agenda planning meeting.

10. Any Other Business

None

.....
Chair of Committee

The Committee rose at 11:45 p.m.