Questions from Anna Pollert to Adult Social Care and Health OSC and Draft Responses

1) Has the ASCHOSC been provided with Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust's current Estates Strategy. If so, please can I have your response and if not, can you require the details?

No, the County Council hasn't received the Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust (CWPT) estates strategy. Simon Gilby, Chief Executive of CWPT has been asked to provide details of this to the Committee at its meeting on 30 January 2019.

2) In particular, does the ASCHOSC have details of the plans for:

- St. Mary's Lodge adult mental health outpatients' psychiatry and psychotherapy ((St. Mary's Rd, Leamington).
- Whitnash Lodge learning disability (Heathcote Lane, Warwick).
- Warwick Resource Centre run by community mental health teams and specialising in psychosis (Cape Rd, Warwick).
- Ashton House early intervention and psychosis, run by community mental health teams. This is currently rented (George St. Leamington).

Please can you provide your response to these plans?

As above, the Committee will seek a response at its meeting on 30 January.

3) Will the ASCHOSC require Mr. Gilby to provide the valuation of each of the buildings planned for sale and what CWPT intends to do with the proceeds, if the sales go ahead?

Mr Gilby will be asked for this information.

4) Simon Gilby, CE of CWPT, has stated, in a letter to a concerned member of the public enquiring about these plans, that buildings are being reviewed 'to ensure that they are fit for purpose and cost effective to run'.

Will the ASCHOSC require Mr. Gilby to explain why some of these buildings have not been maintained to safety standards, as several mental health staff observe, thus making it easier to justify selling them?

Yes this question will be included.

5) It has been suggested that some of these outpatients' services are to be relocated to St. Michael's Hospital, Warwick. Will the ASCHOSC have these plans verified and ensure that, before plans proceed further, a risk assessment of negative health outcomes for vulnerable outpatients recovering from mental health crises in having to attend outpatients' support in a psychiatric hospital setting? Risk assessment must include the impact of perceived stigma and trauma of a psychiatric hospital on outpatients' wellbeing.

The Committee will use this line of enquiry to Mr Gilby, to ascertain the facts regarding any estates review.

6) At present, the buildings providing outpatients' care are ordinary residential buildings in community settings. Will ASCHOSC, in scrutinising relocation plans, consider the very complex needs of mental health patients and the vital importance for both recovery and crisis prevention (e.g. self harm) of keeping care within the communities in which people live, and not moving to 'hubs' or general walk-in centres?

This question will be included in the meeting with Mr Gilby, to understand the rationale for the Trust's estates review.

There are some more general points to add for context. The Committee scrutinises a range of services, including mental health services, but it is not the commissioner for these services. During the last year for example, the Council has held a focused scrutiny group to review the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service delivered by CWPT and it continues to monitor the Trust's progress against targets. Other areas of work have included a focus and scrutiny of dementia, suicide prevention and a visit to the St. Michael's Hospital in Warwick. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a broad remit covering both health and social care and its work programme of all health and social care services has to be balanced and within the resources available.