

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting: 24 February 2010
At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Tom McGee (Chair) in the chair; Councillor Hazel Lees (Vice Chair); Councillors Walter Brett, Christine Corris, Chris Gordon, Sylvia Humphreys, Bryan Leck and June Somekh.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes (copies of which had been circulated) of the meeting held on 27 October 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3. CALL-IN

There were no items to consider.

4. HEALTH AND WELL-BEING PARTNERSHIP PERFORMANCE UPDATE

Sarah Clarke, Public Health Specialist from NHS Stockport, attended the meeting to outline to Members the smoking cessation programme (NI 123 refers).

The following comments were made/issues raised:-

- Whether any information existed on those who took up smoking compared to those who quit.
- Whether there had been a discernible difference in the number of people smoking since the legislation was introduced prohibiting smoking in indoor public places.
- What methods were used to help people to stop smoking.
- The number of young women who smoked relative to young men and the number of pregnant women who smoked. NI 123 Local 3 (proportion of mothers smoking in pregnancy) had scored red status, however quarter two had seen a small improvement on quarter one.
- The benefits of the smoke free homes scheme in Stockport.

A representative of the Service Director, Adults then submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) presenting the Health and Well-Being Partnership's Performance Management Framework for Quarter Two of the reporting year (July – September 2009).

The following comments were made/issues raised:-

Health Scrutiny Committee – 24 February 2010

- Concern was expressed that the prevalence of chlamydia in under 20 year olds (NI 113a) had red status.
- With regard to NI 136 (people supported to live independently through social services (all ages), whether there was any monitoring of partners who acted as carers.
- Concern was expressed that SSc3.8a (Total Cash Gains of clients aged 60+ for Attendance Allowance, Disability allowance, Pension Credit, Council Tax Benefit and Housing Benefit) had red status.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

5. SERVICE REDESIGN OF CERVICAL CYTOLOGY SERVICES

A representative of the Association of Greater Manchester Primary Care Trusts submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) in connection with the background to the proposed service redesign of cervical cytology services, outlining the major stages of the programme and highlighting its primary aim, namely to commission a redesigned service, proven to be of high quality and to be both clinically sustainable and cost effective. The Committee discussed the proposed reconfiguration from a local perspective, including the potential impact on service delivery and implications for patients.

The following comments were made/ issues raised:-

- The only changes would be in the analysis of the tests. Women wouldn't notice any difference in terms of where they went for the tests etc.
- The reasons why screening was falling were discussed.
- Developments in new technology were discussed.
- The need for suitably trained staff was important, especially if members of staff were nearing retirement age and replacement staff were not in post.
- How the message regarding screening was conveyed to the appropriate age groups (25-39 year olds).

In summary, the Committee was supportive of the quicker receipt of test results which would result from the proposals. Although the analysis of the results would change, the women tested would not notice any difference to the procedure. The Committee was supportive of the process underlying the review and understood the reasoning behind it. The Committee expressed concern regarding the women who were not accessing the service.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

6. COMPLETED SCRUTINY REVIEWS: PROGRESS UPDATE

A representative of the Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy & Democracy) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) setting out progress on the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committee and agreed by the Executive with regard to Scrutiny Reviews.

Health Scrutiny Committee – 24 February 2010

Duncan Weldrake, Public Health Specialist from NHS Stockport, updated the Committee on progress with the recommendations with regard to the review into Supporting Younger People's Healthy Lifestyles in Secondary Schools.

The following comments were made/issues raised:-

- Members welcomed the fact that representatives from MOSAIC continue to visit schools and offer specialist support.
- Information was needed on how many young people were admitted to the accident and emergency department at the hospital.
- The importance of relationships education was stressed.

Vince Fraga, Head of Modernisation, Adult Social Care Directorate, updated the Committee on progress with regard to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review on Older People's Preventative Services.

The following comments were made/issues raised:-

- The advertising campaign to promote the services provided by adult social care had been successful.
- There was an issue when people had to go to hospital for treatment and there was no-one to look after the children.
- The fact that the Equipment and Adaptation Service was running a 'bathing assessment centre' in conjunction with Disability Stockport was highlighted. This had removed the waiting list for an assessment of a person's need for bathing equipment or an adaptation.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

7. RÉSUMÉ OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP

RESOLVED – That the résumé of the meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Partnership held on 21 December 2009 be noted.

8. AGENDA PLANNING

A representative of the Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy and Democracy) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) setting out the planned agenda items for the Committee's next meeting and Forward Plan items which fell within the remit of the Committee.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm

