

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting: 6 June 2006
At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Brian Leck (Chair) in the Chair Roy Driver (Vice-Chair); Councillors Walter Brett, Sylvia Humphreys, John Smith, June Somekh and Chris Baker.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. CALL-IN

There were no items to consider.

3. REVIEW OF HOSPITAL BASED NON ACUTE SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE

The Associate Director, Acute Services Commissioning, Stockport Primary Care Trust, submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated), detailing a review of demand and capacity issues and proposals for a new service model by the PCT for Stockport's non-acute Older People's Services. The review was commissioned in March 2006 to move forward the work around specifying a new model of service. The work built on a range of previous progress across Stockport to redesign Older People's Services and could be traced back to the original proposals to close St Thomas' Hospital

The report was designed to establish the need for change and the nature and shape of the future service model. Particular focus was given to existing service investment, comparisons with elsewhere, together with conclusions from the Demand and Capacity Review. Also detailed within the report were risks to implementation, future steps in progressing the new model and proposals for managing transition and procurement.

Councillors made a number of comments;

- The lack of sign up to the new model from partnership organisations;
- How the proposed increase in the provision of nursing homes would be funded;
- The implications for Stockport Council of providing increased back-up services in the community as a result of the proposal to reduce hospital beds;
- The need to consider long term care needs and to support people at home for as long as possible;
- Existing access into intermediate care;
- The need for basic and reliable data/information which could be built upon;
- The development of a systems approach and the need for comprehensive consultations between the key organisations involved in order to promote a high level co-ordinated approach;

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- That need for the Scrutiny committee to act as an “honest broker” in respect of the proposals and help to facilitate the review.
- The need for careful communication/consultation in respect of the proposals with the older population in Stockport.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted and that a future progress report be submitted at an appropriate time.

4. RESPITE CARE

The Director of Clinical Services, Stockport Primary Care Trust, submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) providing an update on the review of the Respite Service currently provided at Cherry Tree Hospital, which was being undertaken in line with an overall plan to modernise services for older people.

Councillors commented on the consultation process with patients and expressed concern with regard to the “inequitable methods” of referral into the service, which needed reconsideration. In addition, Councillors also commented on the single point of access to the service and suggested that consultations be held with former patients in order to gain more informed results.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted and that a future report be submitted following development of service specifications and reprovision of service in August 2006.

5. SOUTH MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST FOUNDATION TRUST APPLICATION

(Note: The Chair was of the opinion that this item, although not included on the agenda, should be considered as a matter of urgency in accordance with Section 100 (B) (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972, in view of the need to consider the Trust’s application prior to its imminent submission).

Mr Peter Morris (Chief Executive, South Manchester University Hospitals NHS Trust) gave an oral report in respect of the Trust’s forthcoming application to become a Foundation Trust. He outlined the details and reasons for the application together with future plans and timetable of submission.

Councillors asked a number of questions in respect of constituency arrangements, the electoral make-up of the organisation and its future relationship with the people of Stockport.

RESOLVED – That the South Manchester University Hospitals NHS Trust Foundation Trust application be supported so far as this Committee is concerned.

6. SCRUTINY REVIEW PROGRAMME 2006/07 : SELECTION OF FIRST REVIEW

The Assistant Chief Executive (Scrutiny) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) requesting the Committee to (i) choose one of two topics (Services for Older People or Preventative Services) to adopt as their first scrutiny review this

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year and (ii) agree the broad shape of timescales for that review. In addition, the Committee was requested to appoint a Scrutiny Review Panel to carry out the review.

RESOLVED - (1) That Services for Older People be adopted as the Committee's first scrutiny review for 2006/07 encompassing the progress report requested on the issues raised during Agenda Item 3.

(2) That the Panel for the Scrutiny Review on Services for Older People be agreed as follows:-

Councillors Walter Brett, Roy Driver (Provisional) Brian Leck, Sylvia Humphreys (Provisional) John Smith (and one further Councillor to be agreed at a future date)

7. AGENDA PLANNING

The Chief Executive (Scrutiny) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) setting out planned agenda items for the Committee's next three meetings, forward plan items which fell within the remit of the Committee and progress with the resolutions made by Committee at previous meetings during the current municipal year.

RESOLVED - That the Stockport Health Improvement Partnership be requested to present a report to a future meeting of the Committee focusing upon the Integrated Clinical Assessment and Treatment Service, with particular focus upon the referral process and patient choice.

RESOLVED - The report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.35 pm.