

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting: 10 October 2006
At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Brian Leck (Chair) in the Chair Roy Driver (Vice-Chair); Councillors Walter Brett, Susan Ingham, Joan Kidd, John Smith, June Somekh and Craig Wright.

Mike Lappin (Adviser – Patients' Forum)

1. MINUTES

The minutes (copies of which had been circulated) of the meeting held on 22 August 2006 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. CALL-IN

There were no items to consider.

4. MODERNISING NON-ACUTE OLDER PEOPLE'S SERVICES

The Director of Clinical Services, (Stockport PCT) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) summarising the Strategic Business Case which reviewed Older People's non-acute services in Stockport and developed proposals for service reconfiguration and modernisation ensuring that best value and consistency was achieved. The business case contained an overview of existing service provision, gave consideration as to why services needed to be changed and detailed a new service model upon which the PCT intended to consult.

It was reported that, as yet, no service model had been agreed upon. The use of a phased approach within a steady process for developing the service model with 'fail safe' systems was emphasised and the PCT recognised that consultation with the public was essential in order to develop a predominantly non-hospital based service.

In addition, it was reported that Ward 5 at Cherry Tree Hospital had been providing respite care and that no negative feedback had been received from patients.

The Committee asked a number of questions and answers were given in respect of:

- The retraining of existing staff;
- The provision of 24 hour family care support;
- The need to evaluate outcome measures and to create a performance framework within the new service;
- The need to constantly evaluate the relationship with the independent sector in order to achieve and retain the best possible care.

- Improved measures to address lesser mental health problems in respect of elderly people.

It was noted that the PCT, The NHS Foundation Trust and Stockport Council were endeavouring to initiate a new model of service provision as part of an overall improvement of services for older people. A wider integrated approach between the three organisations was being sought and it was said that lessons from the past should be recognised when planning a way forward.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

5. STOCKPORT PCT ANNUAL REPORT 2005/06

The Director of Clinical Services, (Stockport PCT) submitted the Stockport PCT Annual report (copies of which had been circulated) detailing the PCT's performance results for 2005/06. The report focussed upon the positive aspects of the PCT's service provision but also outlined areas where improvements could be made.

The Committee asked a number of questions in respect of:

- The provision of integrated treatment and clinical assessment services;
- Current and future dentistry provision in Stockport;
- The provision of child speech and language therapy services in Stockport, and Children's mental health services provision and problems in respect of the provision of CAMS services for people with learning disabilities;
- The increase of alcohol related hospital admissions;
- The funding of Heald Green Health Care Centres and similar in Stockport and "renting back" property arrangements with private developers.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted and that the issue of the effects of extended public house opening hours be considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

6. STOCKPORT NHS FOUNDATION TRUST ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2005/2006

The Director of Modernisation, (Stockport NHS Foundation Trust) submitted the Stockport NHS Foundation Trust Annual Report (copies of which had been circulated) detailing the Trust's performance results for 2005/06 and future aims and objectives for the Trust.

Several members of the Committee expressed their appreciation of their personal experience of the high standard of services provided by the Trust.

Further comments were made with particular regard to:

- Inadequate parking provision and the possible introduction of a train station access at Stepping Hill Hospital;
- The standard of hospital food and the introduction of a 'Red Tray' system to ensure that patients were properly fed;
- The closure of Foundation Trust Board meetings to the public; and

- How the local involvement network would react to the new arrangements.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted and that arrangements be made for a site visit to the new Stepping Hill Hospital Cardiac Centre.

7. RESPONSES TO THE SCRUTINY REVIEW “HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN BRINNINGTON”

The Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy, Performance and Governance) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) setting out responses to the Scrutiny Review of Health Inequalities in Brinnington carried out by the Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee in 2005/06.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

8. HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

The Stockport’s Patients Forum representative submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) updating the Committee on the work of the Forum in respect of its preparations for a review of hospital discharge issues and procedures.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

9. HEALTH SCRUTINY PROTOCOLS

The Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy, Performance and Governance) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) informing the Committee of arrangements to develop Health Scrutiny Protocols in Stockport.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

10. 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 the Committee at previous meetings during the current municipal year.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm.