

ADULTS' HEALTH, ADULTS' CARE AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2017

PRESENT:- Councillors Claire Ellis (Chair), Ray Ballman, Mary Friend, Eric Shaw, Caryl Sydney-Smith and Robert Wright and Tori Jones (Healthwatch).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Alan Bishop, Emma Bushell, Steph Exell and Julie Wright and from Michelle Howard (Equalities Advisory Forum) and Kate Moore (Tenant Scrutiny Panel).

Also present: Councillor Brian Ford, the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Councillor Cathy Martyn, the Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety.

22. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting. No declarations were made.

23. Minutes

Resolved -That the minutes of the meeting held on 19th September 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

24. Public Question Time

No public questions were asked or submitted for this meeting.

25. NHS Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group Update

Ms Gill May, Executive Nurse at NHS Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), presented a report providing an update on performance and key issues relating to the service. She referred to the approach being undertaken by partner agencies in preparation for the winter period and to the investment made to increase bed capacity following the NHS's loss of beds to Delay Transfer of Care (DTOCs).

Following her introduction of the report, Ms May responded to members' questions and comments on the following issues:

- The challenges faced by services in preparation for the winter months.
- Factors determining whether patients were transferred to a care home or their own home following discharge from hospital.
- How patients were supported following discharge from hospital and that this included domiciliary services.
- The availability of alternate provision to home and residential care homes.
- The steering group set up to address deaths of those with learning disabilities.
- Reintroduction of annual health checks by general practitioners.
- The availability of specialist orthodontist services in Swindon and the impact on patients who travel to Oxford for their treatment.

- Accountable care in Swindon and how this was integrated into the Local Plan.
- The decline in the number of nurses at the Great Western Hospital.

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That information regarding the membership and terms of reference of the Learning Disabilities Steering Group be circulated to the members before the next meeting of the Committee.

26. Update on Work of Dementia Steering Group

The Director of Public Health submitted a report on the work of Cabinet Member's Advisory Group (CMAG) on Dementia and provided a summary of the Swindon Dementia Steering Group's work over the last 18 months. She advised the meeting that the Dementia Strategy was being updated and also provided statistical data on the number of people affected locally. The Committee noted the work undertaken by the recently appointed dementia friendly co-ordinator and on the actions being undertaken by the Dementia Steering Group which oversaw the strategy's delivery.

Councillor Bob Wright advised the Committee of a particular case he was aware of concerning ambulance response time to a person described as having dementia who had fallen on the pavement. It was agreed that members be provided with details of the particular case referred to by Councillor Bob Wright and its outcomes.

The Director and the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, responded to members' questions and comments on the following issues:

- Raising public awareness to ensure the needs of patients with dementia were understood.
- Availability of equipment to diagnose people with dementia.
- The assessment and review of processes for patients with dementia.
- The use of technology in ensure the safety of dementia patients when out in the community.
- Timescales for diagnoses.

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That Councillor Bob Wright be requested to submit the case referred to at the meeting to the Cabinet Member's Advisory Group for their consideration.

27. Housing Performance Report

The Head of Housing and Community Safety submitted a report providing the Committee with updated information relating to the performance of Council's Housing Service. The report highlighted key challenges and successes and, in particular, responded to members' request for information on accommodation for Keyworkers and Homelessness. It was noted that the Council's draft Homelessness Strategy was currently being reviewed in the light of the new responsibilities placed on Councils by the provisions of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 and that it was anticipated that this would be completed once a new Homelessness Code of Guidance and details of the funding arrangements for the new responsibilities under the Homelessness Reduction Act have been published in Spring 2018. It was further noted that Councillor Bob Wright had submitted questions to the Head of Housing and Community Safety regarding the report.

Following his introduction of the report, the Head of Housing and Community Safety, responded to members' questions and comments on the following issues:

- Definition of key workers.
- The amount of income needed for families to meet affordable rent.
- The continued implementation of the Homelessness Strategy until the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 was enacted in April 2018.
- Winter provision for those who were homeless.
- Support available for those who involuntarily become homeless.

Resolved - (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the Head of Housing and Community Safety be requested to circulate the responses to the questions submitted by Councillor Bob Wright to the Committee.

28. Repairs & Improvements to the Council's Housing Stock

Further to Minute 19, the Head of Housing and Community Safety submitted a report updating the Committee on the repairs and improvements undertaken on the Council's housing stock and inviting members to review the strategy for the repairs and improvements. The Head of Property Maintenance summarised the detail of the report, advising members of the total housing stock and the various geographical and design factors that influence works undertaken by the integrated team within the Council's workforce in carrying out day to day repairs, minor adaptations, gas servicing/safety checks, electrical repairs and asbestos removal in Council-owned properties.

Following the introduction of the report, the Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety, the Head of Housing and Community Safety and the Head of Property Maintenance, responded to members' questions and comments on the following issues:

- Extensive support is being put in place to manage the new contractor delivering vacant property repairs
- A process has been implemented to develop apprentices as part of the in-house workforce for day to day repairs.
- Wider options are to be considered to increase capacity for delivering Housing Revenue Account capital works

Resolved - That the report be noted.

29. Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Update

The Committee received a report by the Chief Executive of the Great Western Hospital (GWH) NHS Foundation Trust on key issues and developments at the Great Western Hospital. Mr Kevin McNamara, Director of Strategy, Great Western Hospital (GWH), presented the report and highlighted matters of significance. In particular, Mr McNamara advised the meeting of the success of the "500 Lives" initiative, confirming that the Trust was on its way to hit the target of saving an extra 500 lives before 2020 through continuing provision of safe care, and also the successful recruitment of community nurses following the integration of Adult Community Health Services in October 2016.

Following his introduction of the report, Mr McNamara, responded to members' questions and comments on the following issues:

- Information sharing between departments and its impact on referral times.
- Use of previously prescribed medication following admittance into hospital.
- Streamlining of medication allocation on discharge from hospital

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That an update on the Red2Green initiative be submitted at the next meeting of this Committee.

(3) That the Committee adds its congratulations to the personal congratulations offered by the Secretary of State for Health to staff working across the Outpatients department at GWH in recognition of the department's recent strong performance in the Friends and Family Test.

30. Avon and Wiltshire Partnership NHS Trust Update

The Committee received a report by the Clinical Lead, Avon and Wiltshire NHS Partnership Trust (AWP), on achievements of the organisation and the challenges it was facing. Ms Celia Moore, Service Manager, (AWP) presented the report and afterwards responded to members' questions and comments on the following issues:

- Mental health issues and how these contribute to homelessness and alcohol and drug addiction.
- The support provided by Clinical Commissioning Group, Housing Department and AWP to help those homeless and with addictions due to mental issues.
- The on-going recruitment drive to reduce the number of agency staff.
- Actions to maintain a high standard of service during the winter months.
- The on-going "Place of Safety" consultation, aimed at patients with mental issues.
- The use of the ambulatory care unit to support patients.

Resolved - That the report be noted.

31. Performance for Adult Social Care Commissioning

The Director, Adult Social Services, submitted a report updating the Committee on the performance of Adult Services for the period to end September 2017. The report had been structured to highlight the strengths and challenges of the work undertaken, making specific reference to the preventative work being done in collaboration with the Director of Health.

Following her introduction of the report, the Director, Adult Social Services, responded to members' questions and comments on the following issues:

- Provision of healthcare for rural and urban areas of Swindon.
- The types of networks set up for rural and urban areas to differentiate between the healthcare requirements needed.
- The use of technology to reach patients in rural areas.
- The Health Impact Assessment to be undertaken for Crowdy's Hill School following the development proposals for the area.
- The positive contribution to services provided by volunteers and

volunteer organisations.

- Areas of improvement identified within the Learning Disability Service.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

32.

Work Programme

The Director of Law and Democratic Services submitted a report on the Committee's work programme for the current Municipal year, detailing the activities that the Committee had undertaken, and would be undertaking, during the course of the year, with the aim of producing evidence based recommendations intended to provide service improvements for Cabinet and external agencies/bodies to consider.

The Committee also considered the priorities and suggestions of Cabinet as detailed in the Cabinet Work Programme and Forward Plan when considering the work programme.

Resolved – That the report be noted.