

HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 5 JUNE 2013

PRESENT:- Councillors Nicky Sewell (Chair), Steve Allsopp, Alan Bishop, Wayne Crabbe, John Haines, Derique Montaut, Julie Wright, Roderick Bluh, Michael Bray (Vice-Chair) and James Robbins.

John Gilbert (Board Director Commissioning, SBC), Sue Wald (Head of Commissioning (Children and Adults), SBC), Jan Trethewey (SEQOL), Paul Bearman (Clinical Commissioning Group), Dr Peter Crouch (Clinical Commissioning Group), Kevin McNamara (GWH NHS Foundation Trust), Cherry Jones (SBC), Val Vaughan (Healthwatch).

Councillors Brian Mattock, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, was also in attendance.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rochelle Russell, Rex Barnett and Andrew Bennett.

1. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting.

2. Public Question Time

Ms Karyse Day, a resident of Chiseldon, referred to the Committee's previous discussions around the topic of complementary and alternative medicines (CAMs) and asked if the Committee might consider including in its work programme a study around statistical data concerning the sometimes fatal side effects of prescription drugs.

On behalf of Pauline Mather, a local osteopath, Ms Day put questions regarding the use of acupuncture and spinal manipulation for the treatment of back pain and the ability of NHS physiotherapists to provide such treatments effectively.

Ms Day concluded her questions by inviting members to attend the Bristol Homeopathic hospital first anniversary celebrations and to speak to GPs who practice homeopathy.

The Chair thanked Ms Day for the invitation and for her questions and asked her to forward these to the Scrutiny Officer for the preparation of written responses.

Mr Jo Osorio, Healthwatch Swindon, asked the Committee to consider inviting the Area Team of NHS England to report to the Committee on its primary care commissioning activities and, similarly, to invite the Ambulance Service to also report to the Committee on its performance in delivering an ambulance service for Swindon.

The Scrutiny Officer responded to Mr Osorio's questions, advising on the current

position with regard to arrangements for the effective scrutiny of these regional services. Dr. Peter Crouch added that it was his view that it was crucial to effective health scrutiny that NHS England should be represented at meetings of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3. Minutes

Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting held on 21st March 2013 be confirmed and signed.

4. Appointment of Co-optees

The Committee received a report on the appointment of co-optees to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Municipal Year 2013/14, in accordance with the Council's Constitution. In order to represent the public and patients' voices, and to meet its equality and diversity policy, the Committee was invited to confirm the appointment of the following non-voting representatives:

- a nominated member of Healthwatch Swindon
- a representative of the Equalities Advisory Forum

Resolved – (1) That the appointment of non-voting co-opted members to the Committee, representing Healthwatch Swindon and the Equalities Advisory Forum, be agreed.

(2) That Val Vaughan be confirmed as the non-voting representative of the Equalities Advisory Forum on the Committee. That Healthwatch Swindon advise the Scrutiny Officer of its nominated non-voting representative in due course.

5. Adults Performance Report

The Committee received a report providing an update on performance in Adults Services and Health to end March 2013, where data is routinely reported and available, and inviting the Committee to identify priority performance measures for report and consideration as part of its work programme for 2013/14. It was noted that the report particularly addressed community health services commissioned by the Clinical Commissioning Group, through joint commissioning arrangements with the Council and, in particular, services commissioned from SEQOL. The report was presented by Sue Wald, the Council's Head of Commissioning (Children and Adults), who placed the report in the context of significant improvements in community health services in the past year, particularly in the area of single point of access and the treatment of increased numbers in the community and the "tele-health" service, and the major service improvement issues, including delayed transfer of care.

Following her presentation of the report, the Head of Commissioning responded to members' comments and questions on the following issues:

- the recognised resource issue in primary care and the implications for home visiting and the consequent pressures on hospital services
- performance monitoring, "stuck reds" and the implications of the current incompatibility of the IT systems used by SEQOL and the Secondary Users Service database
- the reform of the NHS and health service commissioning

- the NHS England regional structure and the area team covering Swindon

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the Adults Performance report be submitted twice-yearly to the Committee for consideration.

6. NHS Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group

Paul Bearman, the Executive Director of Commissioning (NHS Swindon), supported by Dr Peter Crouch, presented a progress report of the NHS Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group, providing the Committee with an update of national and local health related issues, with a particular focus on:

- the implementation of the NHS 111 service
- urgent and emergency care pressures
- the memory assessment service
- the significant impact on all health services of the outcomes and recommendations of the Francis Inquiry report into the Mid-Staffordshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
- the implications of the under diagnosis of dementia cases
- pressures on the Accident and Emergency service and the attainment of the four hour operational standard
- the additional pressures on health care services generally resulting from an increasing number of alcohol and drug abuse cases
- the quality of the memory assessment service
- the key recommendations of the Francis Inquiry report and the development of an action plan for the local response to the issues
- the increasing number of dementia cases diagnosed each year and the remodelling of service to provide early diagnosis and to respond to the escalating demand for the service
- the effect of the injection of additional financial resources by the Clinical Commissioning Group into the Avon and Wiltshire Partnership on reducing the waiting list for memory services

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That progress reports from the NHS Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group be made to each meeting of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

7. Chief Executive's Report - Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

The Committee received a report of the Chief Executive of the GWH NHS Foundation Trust on key issues and developments at the Great Western Hospital. Kevin McNamara, Head of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement at the Hospital, presented the report on behalf of the Chief Executive, highlighting matters of particular significance, including:

- the Hospital's new Nursing Strategy and its additional investment in nursing
- operational performance and performance monitoring
- improving the care environment at the Hospital and the development of a new Children's Emergency Department
- the results of the recent survey of hospital staff and the placement of the hospital in the top three Trusts in the region for the second year running

Following his presentation of the report, Mr. McNamara responded to members' questions and observations on the following issues:

- nursing qualifications and the changed role of nurses
 - the use of nursing auxiliaries
- the positive results of the survey of hospital staff
 - the recruitment challenge facing the hospital
- the change of provider of the shop in the main entrance to the Hospital
 - the hours of operation of the Hospital's canteen services
 - the cost of the catering service
- the promotion of nursing as a vocation, educational attainment and the causes of the national shortage of nursing staff
- visiting hours at the Hospital
 - ward standardisation and the lack of flexibility
- the process of obtaining nursing qualifications and the subsequent placement of qualified nurses
- the ratio of qualified nurses to nursing auxiliaries on each ward
- difficulties in attracting nursing graduates to Swindon and the retention of newly graduated nurses in Swindon
 - staff car parking provision at the Hospital
- the issue of nursing recruitment and training

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That a report on the Hospital's Stroke Action Plan be submitted to a future meeting.

8. Avon and Wiltshire NHS Partnership Trust - Community Services Report

The Committee received a report of the Avon and Wiltshire NHS Partnership Trust that provided a brief commentary on the "Swindon Month 1 2013-14 scorecard" and details of progress to date. The report also provided the Committee with details of a range of issues covering service quality, safety and the patient experience.

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That, in the absence at the meeting of a representative from the Trust, members' advise the Scrutiny Officer of any questions they might have in order that written responses might be obtained from the Trust.

9. SEQOL Partner Organisation Update Report

The Committee received a report providing an update on matters relating to SEQOL, including:

- the relocation of day services for adults with physical disabilities
- the launch of the Swindon diabetes web-site
- the new community phlebotomy service
- the launch of the "I Promote Campaign" by SEQOL Infection Prevention and Control
- SEQOL's emergency planning and business resilience
- the positive outcome of a recent Energy2work networking event
- SEQOL's sponsorship of the Housing Learning Improvement Network Conference
- SEQOL's success in winning the Wiltshire Business Awards 2012, Customer

and Staff Care Award

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That a progress report on the relocation of day services be made to the April 2014 meeting of the Committee.

10. Measles Update

The Committee received a report providing members with an update on Measles and MMR vaccine uptake related issues across the borough and the actions underway to address these. It was noted that there had been some significant media coverage of the measles epidemic in Swansea and that a national 'Catch Up' campaign had been launched, targeting the parents and carers of children aged 10-16 years who have not been vaccinated, to improve the uptake of the Mumps, Measles and Rubella (MMR) vaccination to prevent the further spread of measles.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

11. Work Programme 2013/14

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Law and Democratic Services on the results of the 2013/14 Overview and Scrutiny work programme consultation exercise with partner organisations, councillors and members of the public, and the specific service priorities of health partners, and inviting the Committee to agree a rolling work programme for the Scrutiny Committee for 2013/14.

Sally Smith, the Council's Scrutiny Officer supporting the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, introduced the report, commenting on the development and content of the draft work programme and explaining that the work programme was necessarily flexible to allow the Committee to respond to issues that might arise during the course of the year. Members and health colleagues were invited to consider the draft work programme and to suggest health issues that they wished to see added to the programme, taking into consideration:

- the workload of the Committee and of individual members
- the capacity of the Scrutiny Unit and other officers to support a review
- the resource implications of carrying out a review
- the timescales for a review
- the most appropriate method of carrying out a review e.g. Committee meeting, Task Group, Member Champion review

The Scrutiny Officer also sought the Committee's view on the feasibility of grouping together "information reports" as a single agenda item for future meetings. It was anticipated that this approach would be more expedient.

Other issues suggested by members for inclusion in the work programme included:

- Adult Social Care – Demand Enquiry
- Health & Wellbeing Board – draft Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Local Safeguarding Adults Board – Annual Report
- Alternative and Complimentary medicine
- the commissioning plans for Radiotherapy services being delivered in Swindon
- NHS England – Commissioning Plans for 2013/14
- suicide audit work review

Resolved – (1) That the results of the 2013/14 Overview and Scrutiny work programme consultation exercise be noted.

(2) That the content of the draft work programme 2013/14, appended to the report, be approved, subject to changes in scheduling identified during the Committee's consideration of the report and the inclusion of the additional review topics suggested by members.

(3) That the suggestion that "for information" reports be presented to each meeting of the Committee under a single covering report be accepted.