

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 23 MARCH 2011 FROM 7.00PM TO 9.41PM**

Present: Tim Holton (Chairman), Malcolm Armstrong, Andrew Bradley, Gerald A Cockroft, Kay Gilder, Kate Haines, Charlotte Haitham Taylor and Emma Hobbs

Also present:

Bev Searle, Director of Partnerships and Joint Commissioning, NHS Berkshire West

Janet Maxwell, Director of Public Health, NHS Berkshire West

David Townsend, Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust

Christine Holland, LINK Steering Group

Tony Lloyd, LINK Steering Group

Mike Wooldridge, Development and Improvement Team Manager, Community Care Services, Wokingham Borough Council

Stuart Rowbotham, Strategic Director of Commissioning, Wokingham Borough Council

Rachel Masters, Partnership Development Officer, Wokingham Borough Council

Ella Hutchings, Principal Democratic Services Officer, Wokingham Borough Council

Kathie Smallwood, Member of the Public

Bill Smallwood, Member of the Public

67. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 24 January 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

68. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence submitted.

69. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Charlotte Haitham Taylor declared a personal interest with regards to her having used the Maternity Unit at the Royal Berkshire Hospital in the last few years and having written the Member Report about the visit to the Unit later on the Agenda.

70. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no public questions.

71. MEMBER QUESTION TIME

There were no Member questions.

72. JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT (JSNA) SUMMARY

Janet Maxwell, Director of Public Health, NHS Berkshire West, attended the Committee to give a presentation, explaining the process, findings of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JNSA) and how they were using the results.

The JNSA assessed the health needs of the population and was a collaborative process between the three Local Authorities in the area, NHS Berkshire West and the Joint Commissioning Board. The assessment focused on key areas to help inform commissioning priorities for the area.

The presentation, which had been included in the Agenda papers, covered the following information:

- Future population changes predicted;

- Life expectancy and deprivation information, including causes of death;
- Dementia information as an example of a key issue arising from the JNSA;
- Summary of the key issues that had emerged;
- Early intervention in maternity, and infant mortality, showing the differences between the three Local Authority areas, the key issues and gaps, and the commissioning recommendations for these topics;
- A diagram showing the related risk factors for Coronary Heart Disease causing death in people under 75 years old;
- Information about physical activity in the area, the key issues and gaps, and the commissioning recommendations;
- Finally, a slide listing the key findings and recommendations for commissioning, which were:
 - Ageing population;
 - Inequalities in morbidity and mortality (although this was less marked for Wokingham than other areas in the JNSA);
 - Rising prevalence of Long Term Conditions;
 - Unhealthy lifestyles;
 - Focus on prevention;
 - Increase in primary and community care;
 - Invest in good start to life;
 - Invest in good end to life.

Janet Maxwell explained that summary results were available on the NHS Berkshire West website, consultation was taking place with relevant groups, such as the LINKs, and Janet was going to each of the Local Authorities to give presentations on the results. Once this work had been completed the information would be available publically as well as to professionals. All commissioning would then be driven by the work of the JNSA, although work would continue in all these areas, as it was a rolling programme and areas would be revisited as the need to update them arose.

The Committee discussed the information and asked a number of questions for clarification. The Chairman thanked Janet Maxwell for presenting the findings and it was suggested that an update be brought to the Committee on this work as and when appropriate.

RESOLVED: That:

- 1) the presentation be noted;
- 2) Janet Maxwell, Director of Public Health, NHS Berkshire West, be invited back to the Committee to give an update on this area of work when appropriate.

73. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PREVENTION

Janet Maxwell, Director of Public Health, NHS Berkshire West, attended the Committee to give three presentations, explaining the forthcoming changes to Public Health and Prevention work arising from the 'Healthy Lives, Healthy People' Public Health Strategy which had come out of central Government and was being consulted on at the current time (see Minute 74 below).

The first presentation the Committee received on this subject was from the Department of Health and it had been emailed to Committee Members as well as being tabled at the meeting. The presentation covered issues such as the health background for England, the new approach proposed, how the Strategy planned to deal with health and wellbeing

throughout life, how the new Public Health System would work under Public Health England and the proposed role for the Director of Public Health (the role that Janet Maxwell held).

The Committee were shown a diagram which laid out how Public Health funding and commissioning would work under the new system, some examples of how the commissioning responsibilities would work, the role of the NHS in Public Health, information about funding allocations and how the health premiums would work and the accountability for Public Health. The presentation also gave information about the Public Health Outcome Framework Vision, explanation of the criteria used to develop the proposed indicators and a diagram showing how the Public Health Outcome Framework would align with the NHS and Adult Social Care.

Janet Maxwell ran through the timetable for the Strategy, subject to Parliamentary approval of the legislation, and the picture for the overall transition to the new system. The 'Healthy Lives, Healthy People' consultation deadline was 31 March 2011 and the Committee would be submitting a response as per Minute 74 below.

The Committee then went on to receive two presentations that had been included in the Agenda, one giving more details about the funding the commissioning routes for Public Health and one giving more information about the Public Health Outcomes Framework, both as proposed in the Healthy Lives, Healthy People Strategy. These presentations went into more detail about what was being proposed, including tables about the proposed areas of Public Health and who would have a role in each area – the Local Authority, the NHS, Public Health England, GPs, NHS Commissioning Board and so on. The presentations also detailed the five domains covered by the proposed Public Health Outcomes Framework and the potential outcome measurements that could be used as indicators for these by which the work would be monitored.

The Committee discussed the three presentations and suggested that Janet Maxwell be asked to come back to a future Committee meeting, in six to nine months time, to give an update on the situation. The Chairman thanked Janet Maxwell for the wealth of information she had provided.

RESOLVED: That:

- 1) the presentations be noted;
- 2) Janet Maxwell, Director of Public, NHS Berkshire West, be asked to give the Committee an update on the situation with Public Health, in six to nine months time, as appropriate.

74. HEALTHY LIVES, HEALTHY PEOPLE: CONSULTATION ON THE FUNDING AND COMMISSIONING ROUTES FOR PUBLIC HEALTH – COMMITTEE RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION

The Committee considered the consultation paper on 'Healthy Lives, Healthy People' that had also been presented to the Committee at its last meeting on 24 January 2011, and the suggested responses that had been compiled by Charlotte Haitham Taylor that were included in the Agenda papers. Charlotte Haitham Taylor explained to the Committee that she had been to a number of events related to the consultation and had worked on the suggested responses with Madeleine Shopland, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Wokingham Borough Council. The responses presented to the Committee were to be

used as a starting point for discussion, following which the final responses agreed would be submitted formally by the deadline of 31 March 2011.

The Chairman informed Members that whilst he wanted the Committee to submit an agreed formal response as a whole Committee, and reach a consensus on the responses submitted, if Members had other comments to make they could also submit their own response directly.

The Committee discussed the suggested responses and made the following changes, which would be incorporated into the formal response:

- Question 6 to have an additional bullet point to address the fact that Public Mental Health was proposed to be just with the Local Authority in the future which concerned Members. It was felt this responsibility should be with both GPs and the NHS as well;
- Question 12 to have smaller groups and LINKs added into the list of those who needed to be represented;
- Question 13 to include some of the wider determinants listed in the presentation earlier in the meeting on the Public Health Outcomes Framework, under Domain 2 such as children in poverty, NEETS, people in long term unemployment, green space and community safety.
- Question 14 - Stuart Rowbotham, Strategic Director for Commissioning, Wokingham Borough Council, also commented that it seemed strange that the money for the Public Health Premium was not awarded until health outcomes had been improved, yet if an area of deprivation needs to address health outcomes it would need the money to be able to improve.

The Chairman thanked Charlotte Haitham Taylor and Madeleine Shopland for the work they had put into interpreting the consultation and bringing the Committee some suggested responses to start the discussion.

Ella Hutchings, Principal Democratic Services Officer, Wokingham Borough Council, was asked to submit the formal response on behalf of the Committee by the deadline of 31 March 2011.

RESOLVED: That:

- 1) the consultation responses be noted;
- 2) Ella Hutchings, Principal Democratic Services Officer, Wokingham Borough Council, submit the Committees formal response to the 'Healthy Lives, Healthy People' consultation by the deadline of 31 March 2011.

75. CHANGES TO PROVIDER SERVICES

The Committee considered a report which had been included in the Agenda papers, by Stuart Rowbotham, Strategic Director of Commissioning, Wokingham Borough Council, and Bev Searle, Director of Partnerships and Joint Commissioning, NHS Berkshire West, about the Changes to Provider Services.

Bev Searle explained that the changes from the NHS side were coming about because the provider functions were being separated from the commissioning functions of the Primary Care Trust and so the vast majority of the provider services were now transferring to Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust. Palliative Services would be transferring to Sue Ryder.

Stuart Rowbotham updated the Committee on what was happening with Adult Social Care at Wokingham Borough Council, including reminding the Committee about the Putting People First Initiative which the Committee had received information about on a number of previous occasions and gave service users more choice and control over their care packages by using personal budgets. Due to these changes it became apparent that the old structure at the Council did not fit this new way of working and so the Council had re-shaped its social care pathway, which was attached to the report at Appendix 2.

Stuart Rowbotham went on to inform the Committee that from 6 June 2011 the Council would no longer provide these services and instead all the current staff would transfer to a Local Authority Traded Company to carry out the services on the Council's behalf. The Company would be wholly owned by the Council, but this would allow the Company to respond to commercial needs and offer service users the care they wanted. As part of this work, Stuart Rowbotham reported that the Council had managed to reduce the number of Managers, realising a saving of £100,000.

The Committee discussed the report and asked a number of questions. Stuart Rowbotham confirmed to Members that the Company could make a profit and it was in fact in the business case that it would over the course of five years do so, although profit would not be made from those who were receiving care at the critical needs level, only from those who were choosing to use the Company to buy services privately. It was explained that there would be robust monitoring and checking of services taking place, including that carried out by the Care Quality Commission and service users would still have a case manager in the Council who would oversee their whole care package. The Board of the Company was also going to have two Borough Councillors appointed to it.

The Company would be registered at Companies House and corporate governance arrangements had been adopted and been through the Executive. The Committee were informed that proper insurances were in place for the Company. The finances of the Company would be part of the Council's annual accounts and the relevant Executive Member and Strategic Director would still be responsible and accountable in terms of any harm caused to vulnerable people.

The Chairman thanked Stuart Rowbotham and Bev Searle for the report and update.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

76. LINK UPDATE

The Committee considered a report from the Wokingham LINK that had been included in the Agenda on page 30 - 31 updating the Committee about the current work of the LINK. Christine Holland, Chair, and Tony Lloyd, Finance Officer, from the Wokingham LINK Steering Group also gave some further information about the projects they had been working on. The current contract with the Host organisation, Help and Care, was due to expire on 31 March 2011 and the Steering Group had been trying to finish the projects that were on the current work programme, however they had been approached by some stakeholders to continue some of the work into the next year.

Tony Lloyd also gave the Committee an update on the Neurological Project that the Wokingham LINK had been involved in and was led by the West Berkshire LINK (for which Tony Lloyd was the Steering Group Chair). It was suggested that Members would like to know more about this project once the report had been reviewed by providers and so an update to the May meeting would be appropriate.

Members asked a number of questions about the projects and noted the progress being made. One Member also queried where things were with Health Watch England and how it would affect the LINKs. It was explained that Local Health Watch would replace LINKs from April 2012, but as yet it was unclear who would run them as Royal Assent was still needed for the Health and Social Care Bill which contained these changes. It was expected this would happen in December 2011, after which more information would be available, however that did not give much time for work to be tendered for if that was what was required. The Chairman confirmed that the Committee Work Programme already had updates on this issue scheduled for later in the Municipal Year and information would be brought to the Committee as soon as it was available.

RESOLVED: That:

- 1) the update be noted;
- 2) Tony Lloyd be asked to give the Committee an update on the Neurological Project at the 31 May 2011 meeting.

77. MEMBER REPORT ON VISIT TO THE MATERNITY UNIT AT THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE HOSPITAL

The Committee considered a Member report by Charlotte Haitham Taylor about the visit by Members of the Committee to the Maternity Unit at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. The visit took place on Monday 14 March 2011 and the Members involved were Charlotte Haitham Taylor, Gerald Cockroft and Kate Haines.

The report had been circulated to Members by email and was tabled at the meeting due to the short timeframe between the visit and the Committee meeting. Gerald Cockroft also commented that unfortunately they had not been given hard copies of the slides from the presentation they were given on the visit, and whilst they had been told these would be sent over to them electronically the following day, it had been several days before they had been received. This meant that it had been hard for Charlotte Haitham Taylor to complete her report any sooner. A suggestion was therefore put forward that in future, when Members of the Committee go on official visits, copies of any paperwork/presentations are provided to them in advance so that they can formulate questions beforehand.

The report contained the following information:

- Introduction;
- Facilities;
- Staffing;
- Initiatives to encourage women to give birth naturally;
- Vaginal birth after caesarean section;
- Breastfeeding;
- Infection control;
- Information about the number of births at the Hospital by women who were born outside the UK and the services offered to them, such as the use of an interpreter, and information about how the Hospital deal with perinatal mortalities;
- Areas for improvement moving forward and plans to install a dedicated midwifery birthing centre at the Hospital;
- Finally, the report listed a number of recommendations.

The report was very detailed and gave the Committee a good understanding of the Maternity Unit and the work that it undertook. The Committee discussed the content of the report and Members who had been on the visit highlighted a number of points. Charlotte

Haitham Taylor said that it had been a very interesting visit, but it was a shame that they had not been given a tour of the Unit, which was a therefore one of the recommendations for the future. It was also noted that it was a very busy hospital, but that it was hard to predict when the busy times would be, which had meant that it had unfortunately had to shut eight times during 2010. This was of concern to the Committee and so a recommendation based on this was also put forward.

The Committee had concerns about the way that perinatal mortalities were dealt with by the Unit. They felt that whilst some improvements had been made, mothers who would be delivering known stillborn babies still had to give birth in rooms right next to those where women were giving birth to live babies. Also, after the birth there was a specialist room, but it was still on a ward where mothers and their live babies were also staying. This concerned the Committee, who felt that more should be done to look into the alternatives in terms of providing more separation, or facilities such as sound proof rooms or separate access to areas so that they did not have to pass lots of babies. It was noted that this had been achieved at other hospitals.

RESOLVED: That:

- 1) if the move towards two 12 hour shifts within the Maternity Unit was agreed, the Committee would review the new shift working, one year on, to see if there had been any detrimental safety impacts on the patients within the care of the Maternity Unit. Item to be added to the Committee work programme;
- 2) in light of the Maternity Unit needing to close for admissions at various points during 2010, the Committee review the number of times the Maternity Unit had needed to close again in six months time. Item to be added to the Committee work programme;
- 3) in view of the fact that one to one care for mothers in established labour was currently only being achieved 97% of the time, the Committee to review the matter again in one year's time. Item to be added to the Committee work programme;
- 4) in 2011 so far 6.7% of women giving birth were current smokers at the time of delivery. Although this rate was average, with Local Authorities being given more responsibilities for Public Health matters such as smoking and drug prevention, the Committee recommend that the Health and Wellbeing Board, and other appropriate agencies, continue to run campaigns targeting this issue;
- 5) the Committee establish whether the Maternity Unit's new Early Labour Triage Telephone Service has led to any mothers giving birth prior to admission to the Unit, on account of being advised to remain at home for too long. As the service had only recently been introduced and it was only moving to 24 hour access in a few months time, the Committee would review the situation in one year's time. Item to be added to the Committee's work programme;
- 6) if conditions allow, Members of the Committee receive a short tour of the Maternity Wards during their next visit to the Maternity Unit. Democratic Services discuss the matter with the Maternity Unit and if possible arrange a date for the visit;
- 7) the Committee request that the Royal Berkshire Hospital review arrangements for women who give birth to known stillborn babies to allow full separation from the normal labour ward and to give grieving patients the privacy they require;

- 8) a copy of the Members report be sent to the Royal Berkshire Hospital Maternity Unit, with the Committee's thanks to the Unit's staff for their kind assistance during an informative and interesting visit.

78. CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

The Committee considered the Chairman's Annual Report 2010/11 which had been included in the Agenda papers. Following the item on the visit to the Maternity Unit at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, see Minute 77 above, information about this would be included in the final version.

The Chairman confirmed that the Annual Report would be submitted to Annual Council in May 2011, and thanked Members and Officers for the work they had put into the Committee over the past Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman's Annual Report 2010/11 be submitted to Annual Council in May 2011, following the inclusion of the information about the Members visit to the Maternity Unit at the Royal Berkshire Hospital.

79. POSSIBLE WORK PROGRAMME TOPICS 2011/12

The Committee considered the report and possible work programme topics for 2011/12, as included in the Agenda.

Ella Hutchings, Principal Democratic Services Officer, Wokingham Borough Council, suggested that instead of having training included in the first Committee meeting of the new Municipal Year as per the attached work programme, Members could have a longer session in the week before the meeting, to give new Committee Members the training they needed to carry out their role on the Committee, and provide information to all Committee Members about some of the changes arising from the Health White Paper. The Committee felt this would be a good idea and a date would be agreed outside of the meeting. The Centre for Public Scrutiny would be asked to put forward a suitable trainer, who would work with the Council and Bev Searle, NHS Berkshire West, to provide a valuable session for Members.

A request for information about Clinic Waiting Times at the Royal Berkshire Hospital had been put forward by a Member through the Chairman of the Committee, and as a result this item was to be added to the Agenda for the 31 May 2011 meeting. The Neurological Conditions Report by the West Berkshire LINK was also added to 31 May 2011 Agenda.

An update had been requested previously from the Chief Executive of the Royal Berkshire Hospital on his last visit to the Committee and so this was to be added to the appropriate meeting.

The Committee also discussed suggestions for Member visits during the 2011/12 Municipal and the following ideas were put forward:

- Care for the elderly/end of life care – possibly visiting Age Concern Woodley;
- Eating Disorders;
- Infection control/cleaning contracts – commissioning side but also physically at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. It was suggested that an item be brought to the Committee at its September 2011 meeting, after which Members could decide whether a visit was also required. Democratic Services be asked to follow this up;
- As per Minute 77 above, a second visit to the Maternity Unit at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, to include a tour of the Unit if possible.

RESOLVED: That the possible topics for the 2011/12 Work Programme be agreed, including those suggestions made at the meeting.

80. HEALTH CONSULTATIONS

The Committee considered a letter from the Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust that had been included in the Agenda pages, about the consultation it had previously seen on the location of inpatient psychiatric beds for the population of East Berkshire. The letter listed the options again and gave the results for each:

- Option 1: All beds to be relocated to Prospect Park Hospital in Reading – this option was being progressed by the Trust to an Outline Business Case to allow the detail to be worked up. Only once this had been done would a final decision be made;
- Option 2: Beds for older people to be at St Mark's Hospital in Maidenhead and for working age adults in Prospect Park – this option was not supported as it meant older people would continue to be mixed with people who had functional illnesses and those who had organic problems;
- Option 3: For the 2008 decision of a new unit on the Upton site to proceed – this option was thought to be unaffordable in the current and future economic environment, but until the final decision was made would still continue to be examined should a new investment stream become available.

The final decision on this matter was due to be made in June 2011.

RESOLVED: That:

- 1) the outcome of the consultation be noted;
- 2) the Committee be informed of the final decision when it has been made in June 2011.

81. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman thanked Dave Gordon, Senior Democratic Services Officer, for the help he had given the Committee whilst he worked for the Council earlier in the Municipal Year, and Ella Hutchings, Principal Democratic Services Officer who had taken the role back on after being on secondment elsewhere in the Council temporarily. The Chairman thanked Members for the work they had put into the Committee and hoped to see as many of them as possible back next Municipal Year with all the same enthusiasm. The Chairman also thanked all the Officers and members of the public who had contributed.

These are the Minutes of a meeting of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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