

Health and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2009

Present:

Councillor Cooley – In the Chair

Councillors Boyes (present for items 1-8), Cowan, Fisher, Lyons, E Newman, O'Callaghan (present for items 1-10), O' Connor, O'Neil and Swannick.

Local Involvement Network (LINK): Mr. M Kelly, Ms A. Young

Present by Invitation:

Councillor Curley – Executive Member for Adult Services

Councillor M. Murphy – Assistant Executive Member for Adult Services

Debbie Nixon – Director of Commissioning, NHS Manchester

Zoe Cohen – Director of Corporate Affairs, NHS Manchester

Janet Butterworth – NHS Manchester

HWB/09/11 Interests

Councillor Boyes declared a prejudicial interest on item 11 with regard to the section on Out of Hours GP Surgeries as an employee of a GP Surgery which had tendered for the out of hours contract.

HWB/09/12 Minutes

The minutes of the Committee meeting on 8 January were submitted for consideration. The Committee noted that it was explained at the last meeting of the Committee that the Risk Management Panel associated with monitoring high situations consisted of members of the Adult Social Care Management Team and it was not possible to appoint a member of the Learning Disability Board. It was agreed to remove recommendation number three from minute HWB/09/06 'To recommend that a member of the Learning Disability Board be invited to sit on the Risk Management panel' from the minutes.

It was announced that the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Group had agreed, at their meeting of January 22nd, that Scrutiny Committee minutes should record apologies. The minutes should record who has submitted apologies to the Committee officer and which items of business members of the Committee were present for.

Decision

1. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2009 as a correct record subject to the above amendment.
2. To note the decision of the Overview and Scrutiny Co-Ordinating Group.

HWB/09/13 Information and Overview Report

A report of the City Solicitor was submitted providing information about relevant issues affecting the Committee's remit and including the Work Programme for comment. Members were also invited to note the responses to previous recommendations by the Committee.

Decision

1. To note the report.
2. To agree the work programme for the Committee.

HWB/09/14 LINK Update

An oral update report was received from a LINK representative stating that the first meeting of the LINK Steering group was to take place on Wednesday 11 February. The first meeting would appoint a Chair and Deputy Chair of the Steering group as well as reviewing the LINK Work programme and items referred to the LINK from the Health and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Decision

To note the report.

HWB/09/15 The Local Improvement Finance Trust Initiative (LIFT)

The Principal Programme Manager of the Joint Health Unit and the Programme Director of NHS Manchester presented a report detailing an overview of the Local Improvement Finance Trust Initiative (LIFT) and an update on its ongoing development to support the development of primary care and community facilities in Manchester. Members were informed that a total of six new Manchester LIFT schemes had been delivered since 2002 including new purpose built health centres in Ancoats, Cheetham Hill, Brunswick, Openshaw, Wythenshawe and Benchill, with a total investment of £29.7 million in the Manchester health economy.

Members sought clarification on how any new LIFT schemes would benefit from lessons learned from previous schemes following problematic issues highlighted with individual health centres. Members were advised that a project assurance system was in place however this had not initially been enough to deal with the problems that arose. This had recently been the subject of a National Audit Office inspection, which had flagged up a number of issues. Consequently, the project management of LIFT schemes had been strengthened to identify methods of extensive engagement processes with stakeholders and the community. This was now working more effectively to ensure the same problems did not occur with other centres.

A Member of the Committee queried whether there was a list identifying the priority order of where primary care centres would be built in the future. NHS Manchester officers advised

that the 2008 Strategic Service Development Plan (SSDP) set out the vision for the development of primary care and community facilities in Manchester and mapped out provision of service across the city. It looked at need, premises condition and model of care and suggested priorities on the basis of these conditions although this was still a work in progress. It was noted that the SSDP did not set out a specific programme of work. It was estimated that the highest priority schemes would be identified within the next two months. These priorities would be taken forward through LIFT or other suitable procurement routes.

A Member of the Committee expressed concern that there was a lack of disabled access at the Cheetham Hill Health Centre and sought clarification on whether there were any measures in place to improve access. Council Officers responded that the project was subject to a number of problems due to the close proximity to the highway. The Chief Executives of Manchester City Council and NHS Manchester were now involved to resolve the issue and this would be reported to the Council in due course.

There was some discussion around how to ensure LIFTCO provides value for money in the long and short term. Officers informed the Committee that LIFT was purely a financial mechanism to enable the provision of high value primary care services at the best cost. NHS Manchester was required to benchmark value for money against other service providers as part of the procurement process. NHS Manchester was able to find an alternative service provider where LIFTCO did not provide the best value for money. The costs of maintenance and repair to the health centres was built into the LIFTCO tender bid to provide long term value for money ensuring no additional costs to the NHS. It was also noted that the LIFT scheme was independent of the staff selection process and day-to-day management of the health centres which was undertaken by the GP practice providing the service.

A Member of the Committee reported that they were not aware of the extended range of services on offer to the local community at one of the new centres. It was agreed to request that Officers from the Joint Health Unit would collate a full list of services provided by each of the centres and distributed to all Members. Members of the Committee were also invited to visit any of the health centres and were advised to contact the Joint Health Unit to arrange a suitable time for the visit.

A representative of the LINK expressed the importance of involving the local community in deciding what services and facilities were provided at each of the Centres. It was also noted that many local residents were not aware of the services available to them. NHS Manchester Officers highlighted that effective promotion of LIFT schemes within the local community was still an issue. Community engagement processes had now been built in to the project management framework of new LIFT schemes as a result of lessons learned from the six centres.

Decision

1. To note the report.
2. To request that Officers from the Joint Health Unit would collate a full list of services provided by each of the LIFT health centres to distribute to all Members.
3. To agree for Members of the Committee to contact the Principal Programme Manager of the Joint Health Unit to arrange a site visit.

4. To emphasise the importance of community engagement and effective promotion of prioritising services offered at LIFT Health Centres to ensure the needs of the local community were met.

HWB/09/16 Oral Report on Unclaimed Benefits

The Director of Adult Social Care updated the Committee on the Macmillan Cancer Support Project aimed at offering assistance to patients to claim benefit entitlements. In November 2008, the Committee expressed concern that that no long-term funding had yet been identified to keep the project going beyond June 2009. The Director for Adult and Social Care informed the Committee that Macmillan were currently in negotiations to secure ongoing funding. The funding position would be clarified to a future meeting of the Committee once it had been agreed.

Decision

To note the report.

HWB/09/17 Oral Update of NHS Manchester Commissioning Strategic Plan

The Director of Corporate Affairs, NHS Manchester provided an oral update on the background to the Commissioning Strategic Plan. The Plan sets out the vision, objectives, priorities and strategy for commissioning NHS services to improve health in Manchester between now and 2014. In October 2008, Councillor Barbara O'Neil was nominated to work as this Committee's link person with the Trust to meet on a 3 monthly basis to look at progress of the Commissioning Strategic Plan. Councillor O'Neil advised that an initial meeting had taken place with the Director of the Joint Health Unit. The Committee would be kept up to date with further developments.

Decision

To note the report.

HWB/09/18 NHS Manchester Update

A report of the Director of Corporate Affairs at NHS Manchester detailed the monthly update on a range of topics relating to the Committees work.

Future development of community health services

The Department of Health had recently published a new guidance document, called *Transforming Community Services: Enabling New Patterns of Provision*, which would have an important influence on the community health services delivered by NHS Manchester. In line with this guidance, NHS Manchester was expected to submit to the strategic health authority a plan for transforming community services, with priorities for improvement and service development and plans for enhancing choice, quality and value for money by

October 2009. It was noted that this work was at a very early stage and the Committee requested to be kept informed of progress over the coming months.

Manchester exceeds target on longer GP practice hours

More than 70% of GP practices in the city were offering longer opening hours to make more convenient appointment times available to patients. This exceeded the target of 50% set by Government.

A representative of the Link commented that much of the out of hours provision was during extended daytime hours and with very little provision in the early morning and weekend. Members sought clarification on whether residents could access alternative out of hours access where their surgeries did not participate in the scheme. The Director of Commissioning stated that the out of hours provision met all of the national requirements and was opened to all GP practices. However, the scheme could not yet guarantee equitable access to out of hours' provision.

Members sought clarification on how residents were made aware of the extended open hours scheme. The Director of Corporate Affairs responded that residents were provided with a leaflet drop to their front doors. Members requested a further information report to be brought at a later date outlining the number of GP surgeries that were providing out of hours services to residents and where it was making a difference to residents.

Roll-out of award-winning mental health service

An award-winning project to identify and support offenders with mental health and drug-related problems was being extended throughout Manchester. The new service, commissioned by NHS Manchester from Greater Manchester West Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust, would allow the police and courts to call on expert assessments for people in custody so that they can quickly be put in contact with specialist services. A pilot of the £500,000 initiative won the National Nursing Times Mental Health Award 2008 for successfully addressing mental health and drug-related problems.

Members noted the project and commented that this may be something to be referred to the Mental Health Services Sub Group at a later date.

National GP Patient Survey

Manchester patients were being asked for their views on how to improve family doctor services in a new national GP patient survey. Results from the annual survey would be used to inform changes to GP services and to reward those practices that are highly rated by their patients. Members were advised that the Department for Health set the survey questions nationally and as such, we were not able to influence the questions that were included.

DREAM for a healthier Manchester

NHS Manchester launched a new programme that aimed to ensure local communities benefit from cutting edge research and training taking place in the city in January. DREAM, which stood for Developing Research and Education to Advance Medicine, would promote collaboration between local health professionals, universities, the city council and NHS to give research and teaching a much greater role in improving local people's health.

A representative of the LINK endorsed the launch of DREAM highlighting that it brought together the public health knowledge of the last 25 years.

Decision

1. To note the report.
2. To request a further information report outlining the number of GP surgeries that were providing out of hours services to residents and where it was making a difference to residents to be reported to the Committee at a later date.

HWB/09/19 Quarterly Update of the Mental Health Services Sub Group

The Chair of the Committee reported that the Mental Health Sub Group had met in January and a further meeting was due to take place on 23 February. The minutes of the last meeting would be mailed to all Members of the Committee as soon as they were available.

Decision

To note the report.

HWB/09/21 Alcohol Sub Group

At its meeting on 4 February 2009, the Citizenship and Inclusion Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to establish a Sub Group to look at the problems of excessive alcohol consumption. Membership of the Sub Group comprised three members of Citizenship and Inclusion Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Health and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Committee were invited to nominate three members to join the sub group.

It was noted that cross cutting remit of the Sub Group presented the opportunity to co-opt members from other Overview and Scrutiny Committees at a later date. The Committee agreed to appoint Councillors Cooley, Fisher and Lyons to the Alcohol Sub Group.

Decision

To appoint Councillors Cooley, Fisher and Lyons to the Alcohol Sub group.