



Joint Health Scrutiny Committee - Clinical Services Review

Minutes of the meeting held at on Thursday, 27
October 2016

Present:

Ronald Coatsworth (Chairman)
Ros Kayes, Bill Batty-Smith, Vishal Gupta, David d'Orton-Gibson, Rae Stollard and
Roger Huxstep.

Officer Attending:

Jason Read (Democratic Services Officer) and Ann Harris (Health Partnerships Officer), Kath Florey-Saunders, (NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group), Eugene Yafele (Dorset Healthcare University NHS Foundation Trust), Elaine Hurlll (NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group), Dr Paul French (NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group) and Diane Bardsley (NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group).

Others in Attendance:

Mr Simon Williams (Public Speaker).

(Notes: These minutes have been prepared by officers as a record of the meeting and of any decisions reached. They are to be considered and confirmed at the next meeting of the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee – Clinical Services Review).

Apologies for Absence

9 Apologies for absence were received from Jennie Hodges (Borough of Poole), Phillip Broadhead (Bournemouth Borough Council), Chris Carter (Hampshire County Council), David Harrison (Hampshire County Council), John Parham (Somerset County Council), Hazel Prior-Sankey (Somerset County Council) and Linda Vijeh (Somerset County Council).

Code of Conduct

10 There were no declarations by members of disclosable pecuniary interests under the Code of Conduct.

Cllr Ros Kayes added that she was employed in the mental health profession outside of Dorset. As this was not a disclosable pecuniary interest she remained in the meeting.

Minutes

11 The minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2016 were confirmed and signed.

Public Participation

12 Public Speaking

There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(1).

Mr Simon Williams, Chairman of the Hughes Unit Group Supporters, addressed the Committee in relation to the Mental Health Acute Care Pathway Review. Mr Williams supported the majority of the proposals in the report, but expressed his concerns with access issues, patient safety and bed numbers, which he felt had all been inadequately addressed in the report.

Petitions

There were no petitions received at the meeting in accordance with the County Council's Petition Scheme.

Mental Health Acute Care Pathway Review

- 13 The Committee received a presentation led by the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) which updated the Committee on the Mental Health Acute Pathway Review. The presentation reminded the Committee of the purpose and aims of the review and gave an overview of the work that had been undertaken to achieve these aims as well as some detail around the preferred way forward.

Some Councillors raised concerns around how the proposals could be achieved without increasing the budget or staffing levels. It was clarified that budget and staff implications had been considered when forming the proposals, but much of the work would rely on continuing the strong relationships with voluntary sector services.

Concerns were raised over travel distances and duration and how patients in the rural areas of Dorset would access services if they did not have access to a vehicle. The CCG confirmed that funding had been put aside to investigate this area of concern and they would be testing access for all parts of the county. Although not the preferred option, it was acknowledged that patients in some areas may need to be made entitled to a taxi service if they did not fall within the distance and duration guidelines set out in the report.

Further concerns were raised in relation to the potential closure of the Linden Unit in Weymouth. It was suggested that Weymouth and Portland currently had a higher level of need than anywhere else in Dorset and therefore closing the Linden Unit would be detrimental to patients. It was noted that the Linden Unit was an isolated facility with associated staffing difficulties, not currently fit for purpose and would require significant funding to bring it up to the expected and required standards. The community front rooms and proposals around retreats would help to address much of the demand in the Weymouth and Portland area and in rural Dorset.

The final business case would be prepared for the CCG's governing body for July 2017. The Committee felt confident that the CCG would take their comments under consideration when preparing the final business case.

Noted.

Dementia Services Review

- 14 The Committee received a presentation from the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on the Dementia Services Review. The presentation outlined what Dementia was and how it impacted the community.

Updated national targets for Dementia services had recently been released. The new targets along with the need to review current services would help shape the review and identify potential areas for change.

Councillors asked what the expected outcome of the review would be and what changes would likely be implemented as a result. The CCG explained that it was difficult to predict at such an early stage and it would depend heavily on the feedback received from the community. However, improved and more efficient services were the overall aim of the review.

The review was scheduled to run until 2018. It was asked that with the current pressures and challenges the CCG were faced with, could services be sustained in the current way for that amount of time. It was noted that many of the challenges were

currently caused by workforce issues. Some inpatient units were currently closed on a temporary basis due to staff shortages. It was hoped that the review would help to mitigate some of the challenges, but as with any review of this kind, it would take time to ensure it was completed correctly. The need for health and social care services to work together was emphasised.

The CCG would come back to the Committee at a later date to provide an update on how the review was going.

Noted.

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 12.35 pm