

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 14 JANUARY, 2016 AT 4:00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors:

Gamble, B. (Chairman)	
Freeman, Miss. M.A. (Vice-Chairman)	
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Johnson, J.P.
Cooper, Miss. J. (Substitute)	Johnson, T.B.
Foley, D.	Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.
Hoare, M.W.A.	

By Invitation:

Mr. S. Mahmud, Integration Programme Director, Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals
NHS Trust

Also present:

County Councillor Mrs. C. Mitchell, Staffordshire County Council Representative
Mrs. H. Parsons, Healthwatch

Observing:

Councillor Mrs. M.A. Davis, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Leader
Councillor Mrs. C. Mitchell, Culture and Sport Portfolio Leader

22. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Miss. M.J. Dudson
and Mrs. S.M. Cartwright.

Councillor Miss. J. Cooper was in attendance as substitute for Councillor
Miss. M.J. Dudson.

**23. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters
and Restrictions on Voting by Members**

No declarations of interests in addition to those already confirmed by
Members in the Register of Members Interests were made.

24. Minutes

Members of the Committee referred to page 7, Minute 11 – Presentation – NHS Atlas of Variation and commented on how well the presentation had been presented. In response to this Rob Lamond, Policy and Performance Manager reported that the Indices of Multiple Deprivation was produced every 5 years; however the Council would publish its own document in the summer.

A Member referred to page 9, Minute 12 – Update – Cannock Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) commented on the presentation which had been given at a past meeting by Clive Cropper with regard to the improvement of patient access project. The Member was keen to see an update at a future meeting.

A Member referred to page 10, Minute 13 – Quarters 1 and 2 Performance Report and advised the Committee that tenders had been received and evaluated and an announcement would be made shortly, with work commencing this year.

A Member referred to page 10, Minute 14 – Staffordshire County Council's Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee – Update and reported that hearing aid provision had been discussed and the current contract would be extended until 2 September, 2016.

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December, 2015 be approved as a correct record.

25. Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust

Members welcomed Mr. Mahmud, Integration Programme Director to the meeting.

Mr. Mahmud reported that a Board meeting would be held on 29 January, 2016 where he would be reporting that the Trust was still continuing to achieve its plans.

A presentation was given and it was reported that the presentation would provide information on the:

- Overview of service transfers completed
- New services in place and planned for Cannock Chase Hospital
- Summary of new facilities Cannock Chase Hospital site
- Other developments

Mr. Mahmud outlined the second stage transfers to Cannock Chase Hospital and new services:

Second stage transfers

- April, 2015 – Cardiology
- May, 2015 – Paediatrics
- August, 2015 – Endocrinology
- August, 2015 – Clinical Oncology
- September, 2015 – Respiratory Medicine
- September, 2015 – Elective Orthopaedics
- November, 2015 – ENT

New Services

- October, 2015 – Clinical Haematology
- September, 2015 – GP network extended hours clinic

He provided information regarding the free bus service for patients and staff between Wolverhampton Bus Station, New Cross Hospital and Cannock Hospital. The service remained under review and its long-term viability depended on there being sufficient passenger numbers. It was expected that there would be an increase over the next few months with the new theatres coming into use.

Mr. Mahmud also advised that the Trust was continuing to liaise with the Council regarding the potential to increase car park capacity.

He provided information on new and improved facilities at the hospital which included:

- £12.5 million investment since November, 2014
- Endoscopy suite opened in April, 2015 and more than doubled the expected number of patients treated
- Rheumatology Day Unit opened in September, 2015 working in conjunction with Oncology and Haematology to provide new day case services for patients
- Refurb of Inpatient wards, Hilton Main and Fair Oak Wards completed Summer, 2015
- Suite with two new operating theatres and support facilities to provide increased capacity for Elective Orthopaedics opened 11 January, 2016
- Plans to reconfigure the Day Case facilities on Lea Hall and Hollybank wards to increase capacity and improve facilities nearing completion and works to commence in the new financial year.

Mr. Mahmud referred to the inspection which was recently undertaken by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) which showed that the Trust required improvement. He advised the Committee that the Trust believed that there were around 334 factual inaccuracies and the Trust would be challenging the inspection report.

He indicated that some of the inaccuracies reported concerned the Minor Injuries Unit which at the time was not under the management of the Trust, and other criticism was around the outpatient's service.

Mr. Mahmud reported on the Staffordshire Transformation Programme and potential future cuts in funding, which it was hoped would not affect elective services given the current deficit of £133 million per year.

A Member was keen to know if patient dialysis would be offered at Cannock Chase Hospital as people are currently travelling as far as Stoke for treatment. She also asked that GPs were made aware that Cannock Chase Hospital could perform ECGs without the need to send patients to Wolverhampton.

Mr. Mahmud advised that he would discuss dialysis requirements with Dr. Odum and if the Clinical Commissioning Group were happy to commission a service, there was no reason this could not be put in place. With regard to carrying out ECGs, he advised that GPs should be aware of this and would liaise with practices on this matter.

A Member was keen to know if the transport currently available for patients between New Cross Hospital and Cannock Chase Hospital would continue even if numbers using the service dropped. She was also keen to know if patients were still supplied with information on the bus service with their appointment letters.

Mr. Mahmud advised that the Trust had subsidised the bus service for 12 months, and it was likely that it would continue based on the increase in numbers of patients using Cannock Chase Hospital. However, if the service saw a decrease it was likely that it would not continue particularly in light of the regulator advising not to spend where not needed.

With regard to the information supplied to patients concerning the bus service, Mr. Mahmud advised that details of the service were on the Trust's website, the quarterly news magazine and on social media. This was in addition to information being sent out to patients with appointments.

A Member referred to the Prime Minister's Challenge Fund which helped GP practices in Cannock secure funding and asked if further funding was likely.

Mr. Mahmud was confident that the funding would be extended, but was unsure of the allocation for Stafford and Cannock.

In response to a question raised by a Member concerning the effectiveness of elective surgery, Mr. Mahmud referred to orthopaedics and reported that the Trust was 12% ahead of target but this figure could get better. He advised that work was being undertaken with both consultants and nursing staff from both Trusts and those that had transferred who were now becoming a team and working well together.

The Chairman discussed blood testing and confusion around where the results of a patient's test would be sent. Mr. Mahmud advised that he would look into this matter.

26. Contribution of District Councils to Public Health – Report by the Kings Fund

Consideration was given to the Briefing Note of the Head of Environmental Health (Item 5).

Rob Lamond, Policy and Performance Manager reported that the information submitted to Members was an extract from the full King's Fund report which was available to view through the District Council's Network website.

The extract which was provided to Members outlined the key messages and the ten recommendations for future action which District Councils were asked to consider.

A Member pointed out that the Kings Fund Report did not consider areas such as Environmental Health and how cost effective this type of service was.

Steve Shilvock, Head of Environmental Health explained that areas such as Environmental Health have always been considered areas where there was a statutory duty to undertake certain duties. He advised that Birmingham University was already considering housing as a key area to explore.

A Member of the Committee discussed the key area of housing and the impact poor housing could have on health. She also referred to the number of Local Authorities who had retained their own housing stock and the standard.

Steve Shilvock advised that all Local Authority housing stock would be maintained up to the Governments Decent Homes Standard, however with private rented property some landlords managed their properties very well and others required intervention to bring their properties up to a reasonable standard.

27. Staffordshire County Council's Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee – Update

Council Tax Increase

The Member for Staffordshire County Council indicated that it was still unclear whether there would be an increase in Council Tax by 2%.

“Living My Life My Way”

A Member referred to the “Living My Life My Way” strategy for disabled people and the current financial constraints on delivering services. He questioned the effects the changes would have on vulnerable people within the District as Staffs County Council's consultation on proposed changes to

the way care and support was assessed and funded.

The Chairman referred to the letter from the County Council that had been circulated to members. It was agreed that a working group of the Committee be set up in order to discuss this issue and formulate a response to the consultation on behalf of the committee. It was suggested that the County Councils District Commissioning Lead be invited to the working group in order that further information concerning care could be provided.

The working group would consist of three Members, those Members being Councillors T. Johnson, Mrs. A.F. Bernard and Mrs. M.A. Davis.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That a working group of the Health Scrutiny Committee be convened to discuss the Staffs County Council consultation on proposed changes to the way care and support is assessed and funded.
- (B) That the working group consist of three Members, those Members being Councillors T. Johnson, Mrs. A.F. Bernard and Mrs. M.A. Davis.
- (C) That an invite be extended to the County Councils District Commissioning Lead to attend the Working Group to provide further information concerning care and charges.
- (D) That the working group draft a response to the consultation and circulate to other committee members for final comment.

(At this point Councillors Miss. M. Freeman and Mrs. P.Z. Stretton left the meeting – 5.15 p.m.).

28. Healthwatch Staffordshire – Update

Hester Parsons, Healthwatch referred to the survey recently undertaken by Keele University regarding community services and what the public perceived them to be. She advised that a second phase had been undertaken with GPs and indicated that 12 responses had been received (Newcastle area), with the final results of the survey being presented to Keele Medical School.

With regard to the mental health survey, the first phase was now complete and further work would be carried out in the future. She indicated that end of life care was still in its early stages.

She referred to the service provided by CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) and expressed concern that there was a lack of support offered to educational establishments such as colleges and schools.

It was reported that Healthwatch would be undertaking an evaluation of support offered to carers, and a report would be submitted to the Carers Association in March outlining the results.

It was reported that there were now 170 members of Healthwatch with 5 champions who were volunteers and 74 organisations involved.

With regard to the Complaints Advocacy, Hester Parsons reported that 373 members of the public had requested some form of support or information to help them through the process of making a complaint about an NHS service.

29. Work Programme

Steve Shilvock reported that there were no changes to the Work Programme, although he confirmed that Dr. Mo Huda, Chair of the Cannock CCG had accepted the invitation to attend a future Health Scrutiny Committee.

CHAIRMAN

The meeting concluded at 5.30 p.m.