

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER, 2015 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)

Allt, Mrs. A.	Hoare, M.W.A.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Johnson, J.P.
Cartwright, Mrs. S.M.	Johnson, T.B.
Dudson, Miss. M.J.	Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.
Foley, D.	Sutton, Mrs. H.M.
Grocott, M.R.	

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

**16. Apologies**

An apology for absence was received from Mr. Andrew Donald, Chief Officer, Cannock Chase Clinical Commissioning Group.

**7. 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.

**8. Minutes**

Page 2, Work Programme 2015-16, Paragraph 2

Mr. Rob Lamond, Policy and Performance Manager referred to Pg. 2 Work Programme 2015-16 and reported on the data analysis work which he was currently undertaking.

He advised Members that he would be making a presentation at the next meeting on 1 December, 2015 on key areas of work using the most recent

information available. He explained and referred to a document published by the NHS (the NHS Atlas of Variation) which provided information around District and County health indicators. He indicated that the information which would be presented would only be available at Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) level, although he would endeavour to base the information as much as possible around Members requirements.

Members then discussed this in further detail.

#### Page 4, Work Programme 2015-16, Culture and Sport

Members referred to culture and sport now being included within the Health Scrutiny Committee remit. They were keen to see items being included on the Work Programme which were connected to the health aspect. This included items such as GP referrals.

Steve Shilvock, Head of Environmental Health indicated that the Quarters 1 and 2 performance reports would be made available for the next meeting, and Members could then decide if there were any areas that they wished to explore further.

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 September, 2015 be approved as a correct record subject to an apology being recorded for Mrs. H. Parsons, Healthwatch.

### **9. Cannock Chase Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)**

The Chairman and Members welcomed Mr. Paul Simpson, Director of Finance and Deputy Chief Officer to the meeting who gave a presentation on the Long Term Financial Recovery Plan.

Mr. Simpson explained that whilst he could provide information concerning the CCGs Financial Recovery Plan, he was unable to provide information on the other items the Committee had requested.

The main points of the presentation were:

- Summary Financial Statement  
In year position is deficit of just over £8million
- Jan 2015 – Financial Implications  
Total savings of £26.6 million would not be sufficient to pay back the historical debt. An extra £11.2 million would be needed in 2018/19
- Transformation Board  
Incorporates all 6 CCGs in Staffordshire and it is hoped this group will build on plans which will help deliver savings

He also reported that the Government had announced that extra funding

would be allocated to the NHS but was unsure how this would be distributed.

Following the presentation, Members were invited to ask questions.

The Chairman asked questions around repaying back the deficit and the cost for the setting up of the Transformation Board.

Paul Simpson responded and advised Members that Rita Symons the former Accountable Officer of South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG had been appointed as the Transformation Director to lead the programme, with Andrew Donald taking on the extra responsibilities for this CCG.

A Member was keen to know if there had been any external organisation that had considered the information prior to it being presented to the Health Scrutiny Committee.

Paul Simpson advised that KPMG had been involved to support the CCG. He commented that as far as NHS England was concerned, the CCG was in an improved position.

In response to a question raised by a Member, Paul Simpson advised that the current system of purchasing goods and services on a large scale was not sustainable and spending more than was allocated was not acceptable.

A Member referred to the Minor Injuries Unit at Cannock Chase Hospital and asked if there was going to be any further cuts given the current reduced opening hours and staffs cuts. She was also keen to know further details about the new GP arrangements within the hospital.

Paul Simpson responded and advised that there were no current plans at this time to make any further cuts but could make no promises for the future. With regard to the GP arrangements he was unable to provide the Committee with information; however he would liaise with his colleagues and provide a response.

The Member referred to the CCG Governing Body meeting which would be taking place on Thursday 5 November, 2015 and asked if there was likely to be anything discussed that the Committee could be made aware of. She also commented that there was a need for these meetings to be better advertised.

In response to this, Paul Simpson was not aware of anything and would pass the comments on concerning the advertising of the Governing Body meetings.

A Member referred to the projected forecasts and in particular that of community health services/care and asked about funding for additional care services.

Paul Simpson advised that cuts made to social care services had an impact upon the NHS in terms of cost. He was of the opinion that part of the funding allocated by the Government to the NHS should be distributed to care services.

Members were concerned with both the cost of drugs, over prescribing by GPs and repeat prescriptions. Concern was expressed that the price for certain drugs had almost doubled which had an impact on some patients in certain areas in receiving the drugs they needed.

In response to this Paul Simpson advised that whilst the cost of drugs was an issue, GPs were being urged to use cheaper alternatives rather than branded drugs and had been issued a tool to help them identify the different products. He also accepted the problem with over prescribing drugs and indicated that whilst there were problems, further work was required as people were now living longer and living with long term conditions.

Members agreed that an email be circulated and forwarded to the CCG with a request for updates on the following:

- An update on local healthcare commissioning by the CCG (to include the Minor Injuries Unit at Cannock Chase Hospital)
- GP provision within Cannock Chase and how current and projected shortages will be addressed

Paul Simpson reported that he would be happy to attend a further meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee in the Spring to give Members further updates.

The Chairman and Members thanked Paul Simpson for attending.

#### **10. Staffordshire County Council's Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee – Update**

The Chairman circulated a document to all Members which provided information on an Accountability Session which was held on 14 October, 2015 with North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust at Staffordshire County Council.

#### **11. Healthwatch Staffordshire – Update**

Hester Parsons, Healthwatch reported on the Carers Project run through People First which went live on 1 October, 2015. She reported that the membership of the Staffordshire Carers Partnership included John Bentley who was a carer and Vice-Chair of the Healthwatch Advisory Group.

It was reported that Healthwatch was currently conducting stage 3 reviews of carers and professionals, the GP report was now available to view on the Healthwatch website and work was being undertaken across Staffordshire on the Better Care Fund.

She reported that work was continuing regarding the UHNM transition of services and the Advocacy Service had now been contacted by over 100 people with regard to complaints about the NHS.

## **12. Work Programme**

Steve Shilvock circulated an updated Work Programme for 2015/16

### Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust

Steve Shilvock reported that he had discussed with the Staffs County Council Health Scrutiny Manager the need for an Accountability Session with the Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust. Following discussions on the matter he was advised that due to certain legislation which included the Trust being located in Wolverhampton, Health Scrutiny was required to be undertaken by a joint board formed by Staffordshire County Council and Wolverhampton City Council. These arrangements may take some time to put in place and advised that Local issues regarding Cannock Chase hospital could continue to be discussed.

### Contribution of District Council's to Health – Report by the Kings Fund

It was reported that a draft of the report would be made available towards the end of November and a presentation given to Members shortly after.

It was agreed that Rob Lamond email the draft to Members of the Committee as soon as practicably possible.

### NHS Hearing Aid Service Provision

Steve Shilvock reported that this would be considered by the Staffs County Council Healthier Staffordshire Select Committee.

### Mental Health and Wellbeing Provision within the District

A Member advised the Committee that a working group had been established by Staffs County Council who had been looking into mental health and wellbeing over the past few months.

### Better Care Fund

Steve Shilvock advised that he would try to arrange for a representative to attend a future meeting, failing this; he would make a request for a briefing note. Furthermore, although the Better Care Fund would be available in 2016/17, there was no provision in place after this.

Although there were many Work Programme items, Members of the Committee were also keen to see the inclusion of culture and sport within the remit of the Health Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the updated Work Programme for 2015/16 be agreed.

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CHAIRMAN

The meeting concluded at 5.25 p.m.