

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 8 MARCH, 2011 AT 4.00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Davis, Mrs. M.A. (Chairman)
Adamson, G. (Vice-Chairman)

Ansell, Mrs. P.A.
Beddows, J.

Bennett, Mrs. D.J.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.

Staffordshire County Council Representative: Councillor J. Rowley

Staffordshire LINK Representative: Mr. J. Davies

37. Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor B. Williams.

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

<u>Member</u>	<u>Nature of Interest</u>	<u>Type</u>
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Member of Mid Staffs NHS Foundation Trust	Personal
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Member of South Staffs Healthcare NHS Trust	Personal
Adamson, G.	Member of Mid Staffs NHS Foundation Trust	Personal
Adamson, G.	Member of Mid Staffs Cancer User Forum	Personal
Adamson, G.	Volunteer with Age Concern	Personal
Adamson, G.	Member of West Midlands Ambulance Trust	Personal
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Member of Mid Staffs NHS Foundation Trust	Personal
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Member of Birmingham Children's Hospital	Personal
Beddows, J.	Member of Mid Staffs NHS Foundation Trust	Personal

39. Minutes

Arising from consideration of the Minutes the Chairman referred to Minute 32 and advised the Committee that there was currently no update as negotiations were currently taking place with GPs in respect of practice based commissioning.

She then referred to Minute 34 and advised that Tina Randall, Health Scrutiny Manager from Staffordshire County Council had received no reply from Sue Price of South Staffordshire PCT following the visit that had taken place in December regarding psychology services for cancer patients.

She reported that an email had been received which identified that there would be no psychology service from July 2011. The County's Health Scrutiny Committee was advised of this and a reply was forwarded to Sue Price from Steve Shilvock, Head of Environmental Health.

The Head of Environmental Health then summarised an email which had been received by Tina Randall from Sue Price regarding the position with regard to psychology services being provided.

Members discussed the content of the email and concern was raised that the situation had not improved and was the same as 12 months ago. This was not acceptable to Members of the Committee and it was suggested that the Committee write to South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) raising their concerns.

Members were also of the opinion that the Committee was meeting regularly and were disappointed that they were not being kept informed of any developments, it was suggested that Senior Officers from the PCT should now be dealing with this issue.

The Chairman advised that the Committee should wait to see the response received from Geraint Griffiths, Acting Chief Executive of the PCT. Should the Committee not be happy with the response received then this would need to be escalated to the Secretary of State.

The Chairman referred to Minute 35 and advised that a document was being circulated to the Committee from the PCT.

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 January, 2011 be approved as a correct record.

40. Items Arising from Staffordshire County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee Meetings held on Tuesday 1 February and Tuesday 1 March, 2011

Health Scrutiny Committee – 1 February, 2011

The Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust

The Chairman reported that the Trust would be seeking Foundation status to provide acute community services in order to ensure they were retained in one place, although it was unusual for both acute and community services to be combined. She did however indicate

that work had been undertaken since last year and also reported on Pathways.

Bucknell Hospital, Stock-On-Trent

The Chairman reported that the move and transfer of services was currently ongoing with a review of care needs currently being undertaken.

North Staffordshire PCT

The Chairman reported that the transfer of patients to the acute hospital would take place in around 10 months, although she advised there would be 300 fewer beds. The hospital would work to 85% capacity for most of the year which would leave 150 beds empty for acute cases during the winter period. She also advised that outpatients' appointments would be transferred to centres around Stafford.

Work Programme

She advised of a number of items on the work programme which included the Public Health White Paper and various Scrutiny reports.

Workshop on Government Proposals (Healthy Life, Healthy People) – 22 February, 2011

A workshop had taken place where groups discussed the Government's proposals. An emphasis was placed onto the work which would be transferred to Local Authorities and discussion had taken place around the roles of GPs given that public health was also an issue for them.

Accountability Session – 23 February, 2011

The Chairman reported that the first session was held on 23 February, 2011 on the future of Mid Staffs Hospital. A number of questions were raised by Councillors and it was found that the meeting was informative. She advised that the next meeting would take place the beginning of May.

Members of the Committee and representatives then discussed the current position with regard to Mid Staffs Hospital.

Health Scrutiny Committee – 1 March, 2011

Transforming Community Services

The Chairman reported that Stuart Poyner had been appointed Chief Executive of the PCT, and advised that the 3 Trusts (North/South Staffordshire and Stoke-On-Trent) would become a new NHS Trust as of July. She advised that Dr. Ratcliffe had been appointed as the interim Chairman for the proposed Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent Partnership NHS Trust, and non-executive appointments would be made at some point. Under the new arrangements community hospitals including Cannock Chase Hospital would transfer although discussions would continue.

She advised that Members discussed the new arrangements but were unhappy and

requested that they were fully involved.

Mental Health Out of Hours

She advised the Committee that a report had been received regarding mental health out of hours which contained limited information.

Podiatry Services

The Chairman advised that consultation had taken place and a full report was received from North Staffs PCT which outlined who could access podiatry services at no cost. It appeared that this service could be reduced and many people could face losing the treatment they needed. On this basis, Members requested a full report from South Staffordshire PCT.

Work Programme

The Chairman reported on a number of items for the work programme which included:-

- Cardiac Rehabilitation
- Community Malnutrition
- Enquiry into trauma services in West Midlands (centres of excellence)

Care Quality Commission

The Chairman reported that the Care Quality Commission would regulate GP providers, dentistry and other services from April, 2011.

41. Consultation on the Closure of Mental Health Day Services

Members raised a number of points in respect of the proposed closure of mental health day services which included:-

- Whether mental health patients were getting a fair deal
- A replacement of the same standard was needed and it would need to be in place before any closures of day services start
- Very vague engagement documents
- Potential problems which may arise when the Crisis Resolution Team cross over at the same time

The Chairman raised concern that the consultation period was only 6 weeks when in fact it should be 12 weeks. She advised that Members of South Staffordshire and Staffordshire County Council Health Scrutiny Committee also raised concern with the timescale.

She advised Members of the Committee that she had concern with not knowing the number of carers and GPs that had been consulted on this proposal.

Members then discussed the content of the proposal and were unhappy with it and agreed that a response be forwarded to include the following:-

- Unhappy with the short consultation period

- What their plans were
- Are teams ready to start for the transition
- What monitoring facilities there are
- What are the ages of those who are carers

A Member then commented that the Davy Unit located at Cannock Chase Hospital would close on 24 March, 2011 with a percentage of patients being transferred to Great Wyrley. The Head of Environmental Health indicated that he would speak with Social Care and Health concerning this.

AGREED:

That a response to the Public Engagement be submitted to South Staffordshire PCT in respect of the closure of mental health day services.

Manor Avenue

The Chairman reported that Manor Avenue was a drop in centre for mental health patients and was used to help patients become independent, although currently the service was not achieving this. She advised that Chase Wellbeing had been very successful in achieving this and that MIND had received a contract for 6 hours per week to provide a service for 3 hours on a Saturday and 3 hours on a Sunday or bank holiday. A referral would be made by either a GP or Mental Health Service to attend the service.

She advised that Councillor P. Corfield, Staffordshire County Council had asked if Members of the Committee would be prepared to undertake some review work and then forward a report back to him. Members requested that an additional meeting be scheduled and an invite extended to Councillor Corfield to attend to discuss this issue.

AGREED:

- (A) That an additional meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee be convened.
- (B) That an invite be extended to Councillor P. Corfield to attend the next meeting to discuss Manor Avenue drop in centre for mental health patients.

CHAIRMAN

(The meeting closed at 5.15 p.m.).