

**Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee**

1 December 2017 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 10.30 at County Hall, Chichester.

**Present:** Mrs Arculus, Lt Cdr Atkins, Mrs Bridges, Mr Edwards, Mr Fitzjohn, Ms Flynn, Mrs Jones, Dr O’Kelly, Mr Petts, Mr Turner (Chairman) and Dr Walsh (West Sussex County Council), Cllr Mr Belsey (Mid Sussex District Council), Cllr Mr Bickers (Worthing Borough Council), Cllr Mr Blampied (Arun District Council), Cllr Mr Coldwell (Horsham District Council), Cllr Mrs Neville (Chichester District Council), and Mr Pickering (Healthwatch West Sussex).

**In attendance by invitation:** Mrs Jupp (Cabinet Member for Adults and Health)

**Apologies:** Mrs Smith (West Sussex County Council) and Cllr Mr Barton (Adur District Council).

**Absent:** Cllr Mrs Sudan (Crawley Borough Council).

**Declarations of Interest**

43. No interests were declared.

**Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee**

44. Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting of the Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee held on 29 September 2017 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

**Responses to Recommendations**

45. The Committee discussed the responses to recommendations, particularly those concerning: -

- **Radiotherapy Services in England** and agreed to send the draft letter in the papers to NHS England
- **Engagement with West Sussex residents** regarding the new Patient transport Service and learned that Healthwatch West Sussex was to carry out a further survey in December of residents in part of West Sussex
- **Clinically Effective Commissioning** and heard that: -
  - In times of financial challenge it would be wrong to fund treatment for which there was no clinical evidence of improving outcomes for patients
  - The policies in Tranche 1 had been signed-off by clinical commissioning group governing bodies and it had been concluded would have minimal impact on patients as they were about consistency of approach
  - Of Tranche 2, the policies on Hernia Treatments, Varicose Veins, Carpel Tunnel Syndrome, Vasectomy, Hysterectomy of heavy menstrual bleeding and Uterine Fibroids were going through the sign-off process and would affect about 300 people, the details of which would be shared with the Committee
  - All policies were based on the best clinical evidence to get the best outcomes for patients
  - Tranche 2 should be complete by March 2018

- Tranche 2 was about making sure the clinical thresholds for surgery were correct and that clinical practice was in line with national best practice
- Proposals for Tranche 3 would be considered by the Committee when developed
- There would be communication strategies for each tranche

46. Resolved – that the Committee notes the responses

### **Forward Plan of Key Decisions**

47. Resolved - that the Committee notes the Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

### **Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2016/17**

48. The Chairman reminded everyone that although the Committee was aware of the serious allegations and investigations in connection with Sussex Health Care, this item dealt with the work of the Adults Safeguarding Board as covered by its annual report for 2016/17 only, a [copy of the Chairman's statement is appended to the signed minutes.](#)

49. The Committee considered the West Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report (copy appended to the signed minutes) which was introduced by Nicky Kentell, Adult Safeguarding Board Manager, who told the Committee: -

- The Board had improved its stakeholder engagement through use of its website, Twitter, updates for professionals and events for the independent/voluntary sector
- An increase in awareness of safeguarding had led to an increase in concerns being raised to the Council
- The graph of year on year referrals should also show the number of concerns that have not moved forward

50. Tracie Thomas, Head of Safeguarding and Adult Social Care, added that: -

- This annual report was more concise than previous years with headline information only
- A huge amount of multi-agency work was taking place, some of it through sub groups of the Board

51. Summary of responses to committee members' questions and comments: -

- Information on sources of referral for completed enquiries under section 42 of the Care Act was not required nationally, but kept locally to show where incidents were happening
- If any incidents were thought to be of a criminal nature they were reported to the police
- There was a national network of safeguarding boards that shared best practice
- The district and borough councils were represented collectively on the Board
- Information on how to raise safeguarding concerns was on the Council's website
- A Member Day might be a way to raise awareness of safeguarding issues for county councillors – the Board would also consider other ways for Members to get involved
- Closer co-operation between safeguarding services and the Fire & Rescue Service could lead to more referrals

- Anonymous referrals were regularly made to the Council
- Information about making referrals was on the Council's website and the contact centre was aware of where to direct calls
- Care home staff could use the Board's online referral system to raise concerns
- A dedicated referral line was possible, but would need extra funding
- Some referrals carried over from children's to adults' services
- A good training programme existed for care home champions, but there was only capacity to deliver to 50 care homes – it was hoped that this could be increased in the future through additional funding
- The Board did not provide training itself, but organised awareness events – training was available through the Council's learning gateway and was accessible to all agencies and voluntary organisations
- The Board's training sub group monitored agencies' training programmes and asked them to complete an annual assurance report
- As there were around 800 voluntary organisations with about 26,000 volunteers it was hard to monitor their training, so a set of safeguarding standards had been developed for the private/voluntary/independent sector
- All providers registered with the Care Quality Commission would have to provide adequate training to their staff
- Safeguarding training was mandatory for statutory organisations such as local authorities, clinical commissioning groups and acute trusts, but turnover of staff affected the figures for the percentage trained at any given time
- The Committee would like future annual Safeguarding Adults Board reports to include more information on:
  - safeguarding in prisons
  - incidents reported to the police
  - the breakdown of incidents affecting 18 – 64 year olds e.g. 18 – 30 and 31 – 64
  - incidents involving military veterans

52. Resolved - that the Committee: -

- i. Notes the West Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2016/17 and considers that sufficient action is being taken to ensure that adults in West Sussex are being protected from abuse and neglect
- ii. Agrees that the Independent Chair of the West Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board continues to provide annual updates to the Committee in respect of the strategic plan, action taken, areas of concern, and to present the next annual report for 2017/18 in the autumn of 2018
- iii. Suggests that figures included in the report, for 'the concluded section 42 enquiries source of risk figures' are broken down further to understand the type and severity of abuse which is reported
- iv. Welcomes any further information and/or training on safeguarding which can be shared with Members and asks the Cabinet Member for Adults & Health to explore this further, including how local Members can get involved

### **Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust (BSUH) Regional Sub Group Progress Report**

53. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law and Assurance and the notes of the Regional Sub Group meeting held on 4 October 2017 (copies appended to the signed minutes) and was disappointed with the slow progress

being made, although members noted that it was early days in terms of the impact of the Trust's new leadership and there were some encouraging signs.

54. Resolved - that the Committee highlights the following issues for its representatives to raise at the next meeting of the Group: -

- Failure to improve staff culture
- Non-detection of clinical deterioration
- Evidence of learning from significant incidents
- An update on recruitment and workforce issues (including reducing paperwork for frontline staff)
- Patient experiences (especially around privacy issues in A&E)
- Waiting times from referral to treatment (18 week target)
- Staff perceptions of the Trust

### **South East Coast Ambulance NHS Trust (SECAMB) Regional Sub Group Progress Report**

55. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law and Assurance and the notes of the Regional Sub Group meeting held on 17 October 2017 (copies appended to the signed minutes) and was disappointed that little progress had been made since the Care Quality Commission report, that targets were not being met and that regional information was yet to be shared with the committee.

56. Resolved - that the Committee highlights the following issues for its representatives to raise at the next meeting of the Group: -

- The Trust to be asked for evidence of what it was doing regarding staffing, training and meeting its key performance indicators
- Regional data to be supplied so the Group can consider the Trust's performance and handover delays in West Sussex

### **Business Planning Group Report**

57. The Committee considered a report by the Chairman (copy appended to the signed minutes) which was introduced by the Chairman who told the Committee that the review by Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust had been positive but any potential impact of the Sustainability Transformation Partnership should be monitored. He also said that Mrs Neville's concerns about care home closures would be covered by an item coming to Committee in January 2018.

58. It was requested that issues around primary care and mental health be considered by the Committee at a future date.

59. Resolved - that the Committee endorses the contents of the Business Planning Group report and also the work programme.

### **Possible items for future scrutiny**

60. The following topics were raised by members of the Committee: -

- Mrs Jones raised the subject of changes to hospital visiting hours at Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

61. Resolved – that Mr Pickering asks the Healthwatch West Sussex Board to consider this issue being investigated by its Enter & View Team.

**Date of Next Meeting**

62. The next scheduled meeting is on 17 January 2018, County Hall, Chichester

The meeting ended at 12.10

Chairman