

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

5th November 2009 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 10.30 a.m. at County Hall, Chichester.

Present: Mrs Field (Chairman), Mrs Bennett, Dr Bloom, Mr Coleman, Mrs Knight, Mrs Mills, Mr A.R.H Smith, Mrs Waight, Cllr Hotton (Adur District Council), Cllr Gilroy (Crawley Borough Council), Cllr Dr Skipp (Horsham District Council), Cllr Mrs Landriani (Mid Sussex District Council), Cllr Ms Bradley (Worthing Borough Council), Mr Davies, Dr King and Miss Smith (LINK).

Apologies for absence were received from: Dr Walsh and Mrs Whitehead (WSSCC), Cllr Mrs Smee (Arun District Council) and Cllr Mr Weekes (Chichester District Council).

Declarations of Interest

81. In accordance with the code of conduct, members declared the following personal interests:

- Dr Bloom as a part time salaried GP in Crawley. His wife is also an employee of NHS West Sussex (formerly West Sussex PCT).
- Cllr Mrs Landriani as an employee of Care UK (Item 4)
- Cllr Dr Skipp as a part-time GP and that his wife is an employee of the West Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust
- Mrs Knight as a member of the Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust
- Mrs Bradley as a member of the Adur and Worthing Health and Wellbeing Group (Item 5a)
- Mr Davies as a member of the North East Review Panel (Item 5a)

Minutes

82. Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 8th October 2009 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Fit for the Future (FFF)

83. The Committee received a report by the Director of Policy and Partnerships and Head of Policy and Democratic Services on the timetable for scrutiny of Fit for the Future (copy attached to the signed minutes).

84. The Chairman reminded members that the West Sussex HOSC had delegated its power of scrutiny of FFF to the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Joint HOSC). The Chairman reported that briefings for Joint HOSC members would be organised if needed. The venue for the NHS West Sussex Board Meeting on 26th November had been changed from Burgess Hill to the Avisford Park Hotel, near Arundel at 2 pm.

85. Resolved – that the Committee notes the report.

Health and Wellbeing

86. The Committee received a presentation from Judith Wright, Director of Public Health and Wellbeing, which outlined her role and responsibilities and the key public health issues facing West Sussex. Key points from the presentation included: -

- Key driver: to improve the overall health of the population. There is a need to prolong a good quality of life, reduce inequalities in the health of communities and prevent disease.
- There are benefits of investing in good public health ' further upstream' (i.e. through preventative measures). Treating the public with ill health ' further downstream' is very expensive.
- Public health challenges for West Sussex were: obesity, alcohol, teenage pregnancies, health inequalities, cardiovascular disease, looked-after children and an ageing population. Overall West Sussex is a healthy place to live but there are areas where the standard of public health is lower, there is therefore a need for a coherent overall strategy to address health inequalities.
- The West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board has been set up to provide countywide leadership on tackling Health Inequalities and wellbeing services. The Board's current priorities are: alcohol harm reduction, increasing access to employment for those with mental health problems and supporting people to retain independence at home.
- There are key health-related targets with the Local Area Agreement and these are monitored by the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board.
- The seven priorities for Local Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (LNIAs) were: parenting, education, health inequalities, financial inclusion, anti-social behaviour, community cohesion and local environments.

87. Judith Wright advised that the Public Health Annual Report would be available at the end of March with a focus on maintaining the independence of older people. In addition a five year plan is being produced which will provide a clear direction of travel and an expectation about achievement in improving the population's health.

88. The Committee discussed the presentation. Members asked questions and made comments, including those that follow: -

- Asked for clarification and information about the membership, role and reporting arrangements of the West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board and how it relates to the work of the Districts and Boroughs. *Mike Link, Head of Planning and Partnerships, West Sussex Council* explained that *John Marsland, Chief Executive Chichester District Council* was leading the 'Better Health for All' Group that exchanges experience and good practice on local wellbeing work

by the Districts and Boroughs. Mike Link (on behalf of the Partnership Board) John Marsland and Judith Wright were co-ordinating the work of this group and the Partnership Board. The Board is one of the thematic partnerships which report to the Public Service Board and the Cabinet Member for Adults' Services is Chairman and the County Council's primary representative on the Partnership Board.

- Asked why there was a lack of correlation between the key public health challenges, the priorities for the Partnership Board and the priorities for the LNIAs. *Mike Link advised that the three priorities for the Partnership Board had been chosen as they demonstrated the greatest challenge, were not being led by an existing body and would benefit most from a co-ordinated approach. Judith Wright advised that closing the gap on inequalities on 'upstream' issues like improving parenting skills was an important part of addressing inequalities and that 'Better Health for All' would allow more streamlining of effort.* Members suggested that there needs to be more effective scrutiny of the outcomes of the work to address health inequalities.
- Asked how addressing the priority issues for the LNIAs would be assessed and whether there was a monitoring role for HOSC. *Judith Wright advised that the Five Year Plan would include a range of indicators and progress made against these indicators would be reported to HOSC.*
- Considered that the HOSC agenda had been dominated by NHS service change and reconfigurations and that work programmes in the future should include more scrutiny of 'upstream' issues such as the alcohol abuse, teenage pregnancy and obesity.
- Suggested that data on alcohol-related attendances (i.e. not just admissions) to A & E would be useful to help understand the issue.

89. The Committee received a presentation from Jacqueline Clay, Shared Intelligence Project Manager, which provided background and a definition of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and highlighted key health issues affecting West Sussex. Key points from the presentation included: -

- Differences in life expectancy are higher in West Sussex than in other parts of the Strategic Health Authority.
- In the most deprived wards in West Sussex, the impact of the recession on rate of unemployment has overtaken the national rate.
- The wider issues of wellbeing and that a key role for communities is to give more emphasis to prevention and protection – identifying risks and reducing them by building resilience into communities.

90. The Committee discussed the presentation. Members asked questions and made comments, including those that follow: -

- Asked how the JSNA reflects the needs of local people in their community. *Jacqueline Clay advised that it was important to collect*

data systematically and to work within the existing structures for engagement that already exist. Mike Link explained the County Council's role working with West Sussex LINK.

- *Asked why areas of rural deprivation were not represented by LNIAs. Jacqueline Clay explained that in rural areas it was possible to find solutions to community problems by working with people with the necessary skills who could help and support the population e.g. Action in Rural Sussex. This level of skill may not be found in the population of deprived urban areas.*
- *Questioned how the assessment data was used by the NHS. Jacqueline Clay advised that the data was used to aid robust decision making by commissioning managers.*

91. The Chairman thanked Judith Wright and Jacqueline Clay for their informative presentations.

92. Resolved – (a) that the presentations be noted,
(b) that the Director for Public Health and Wellbeing should be invited to present her 5 Year Plan to HOSC in March/April 2010
(c) that the Committee's Business Planning Group (BPG) should consider how scrutiny of partnership working relating to health and wellbeing be incorporated into the HOSC work programme.

2008/2009 Annual Health Check Results – Care Quality Commission

93. The Committee received a report on the Annual Health Check Results 2008/09 by the Director of Policy and Partnerships and Head of Policy and Democratic Services (copy attached to the signed minutes).

94. Helen Kenny (Scrutiny Officer) introduced the report and identified those NHS Trusts which were giving cause for concern due to lack of progress with performance, in particular Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (SaSH), the former Royal West Sussex (St. Richard's) now part of Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust and South East Coast Ambulance NHS Trust (SECamb).

95. Helen Kenny referred to the issue of delayed discharge (bed blocking) which was regaining prominence as an issue at Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals (BSUH). This issue was already on the HOSC work programme for consideration by the BPG. The Committee raised concern about some poor performance at BSUH which could have implications for FFF decisions to move some services for children in hospital from St. Richards to BSUH.

96. Helen Kenny advised that the format of the Annual Health Check was changing to a rolling programme of assessment. The implications of this for HOSC will be considered at the next BPG.

97. SaSH Liaison members reported their concerns about the difficulties of arranging a meeting with the Chairman and Chief Executive (CEO) of SaSH.

98. Resolved- (a) that the Annual Health Check report be noted
(b) that letters outlining the Committee's key concerns will be sent to all NHS Trusts
(c) that HOSC Liaison Members for all NHS Trusts will follow up on any areas of concern with their respective Trusts through their regular meetings, feeding back to the HOSC. The Committee will then decide whether any further scrutiny or action is required
(d) that the HOSC BPG will consider the future Annual Health Check process at its meeting in December 2009 and will report to HOSC in January 2010.

Liaison Member Reports

99. The Committee received a feedback liaison report following a meeting with the BSUH HOSC Liaison members and the Chief Executive and Assistant Director of Clinical Governance of BSUH.

100. The Chairman reported that she and Helen Kenny had been invited to attend meetings of some of the District and Borough Overview and Scrutiny Committees to explain the role of the District and Borough representatives on HOSC.

101. Resolved – That the Committees notes the Liaison Members Report.

Business Planning Group (BPG) Report

102. The Committee received a report of the HOSC BPG held on 5th October 2009.

103. A member of the BPG requested the following correction (in bold italics) to paragraph 2.1, bullet point 2. Members asked about patient/public involvement and it was confirmed that the Chief Executive's of NHS West Sussex and SDH NHS Trust had attended the last meeting of the ***Interim Patient Council of NHS West Sussex***.

104. Resolved – subject to the above amendment to paragraph 2.1, that the Committee notes the report.

Date of Next Meeting

105. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 10.30 a.m. on Friday 4th December 2009 at County Hall, Chichester. The agenda is likely to include: -

- Integration of West Sussex Health and South Downs Health NHS Trust
- Out of Hours Service
- NHS West Sussex Strategic Commissioning Plan
- Primary Angioplasty

The meeting ended at 12.35 p.m.

Chairman