

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

16th July 2009 – At a meeting of the Committee held at 11.30 a.m. at County Hall, Chichester.

Present: Mrs Field (Chairman), Mrs Bennett, Dr Bloom, Mr Coleman, Mrs Knight, Mrs Mills (left at 12.35 p.m.), Mr A. R. H Smith, Mrs Waight, Dr. Walsh (arrived at 12.35 p.m.), Mrs Whitehead (WSCC); Cllr. Hotton (Adur District Council), Cllr Mrs Smee (Arun District Council), Cllr. Weekes (Chichester District Council), Cllr. Gilroy (Crawley Borough Council), Cllr. Mrs. Landriani (Mid Sussex District Council), Mr Davies, Dr. King and Miss Smith (LINK).

Apologies for absence were received from: Cllr Dr. Skipp (Horsham District Council). Cllr Dr Mercer was not present.

Chairman's welcome

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Committee since the County Council elections in June.

Declarations of Interest

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

- Dr Bloom as a salaried GP working in Crawley. His wife is also employed by West Sussex PCT.
- Mrs Knight as a member of the Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.
- Dr Walsh as a part time GP in West Sussex (see para. 25).
- Cllr Mrs Smee as an employee of West Sussex PCT.
- Mr Davies as a lay member of the North East Review Panel and a member of the Patient Reference Panel for Maternity (PCT Review of Commissioning Intentions) (see para. 10).

Minutes

3. Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27th April 2009 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

East Grinstead Out of Hours Service

4. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Policy & Performance and Head of Democratic Services (copy attached to the signed minutes). The report provided an update on the proposed closure of the weekday Out of Hours (OOH) service and a reduced service at weekends in East Grinstead. The pilot had been implemented due to low usage figures - only 30-43 appointments taken per month out of 374 available. The service had not operated on week-days since August 2008 and weekend opening hours had been reduced by 2.7 hours.

5. The Committee discussed the report. Members asked questions and made comments including those that follow. Members: -

- Were concerned at the apparent lack of public awareness of the OOH service and poor local engagement by the West Sussex PCT.
- Suggested that the PCT should be invited to County Local Committee meetings to help publicise OOH and other services.
- Suggested that future consultation needed to be more robust.
- Raised concerns about swine flu and the impact on this of a reduced service.
- Commented that the figures showed that people did not misuse the service and commended the good service provided by GPs locally.
- Emphasised that it was important to find ways to provide services without having an expensive service manned by GPs which was not being fully utilised.

6. Sarah Creamer, Director of Strategy, West Sussex PCT, explained that if a person called the OOH service or their GP they would be automatically directed to the OOH service. The call was then triaged and if necessary an appointment with a GP nearby would be offered or the person would have a home visit. Ms Creamer said she was confident with the OOH service provided by Harmoni, although she said the PCT accepted that there were lessons for the PCT and its contractors (including Harmoni) regarding its consultation.

7. Resolved – That the Committee: -

- (1) Notes the report and the report by the West Sussex PCT, including the usage figures and feedback from stakeholders;
- (2) Supports the permanent change to the opening hours of the Out of Hours service in East Grinstead;
- (3) Recommends that West Sussex PCT be invited to County Local Committee meetings to help publicise Out of Hours and other services.

Fit for the Future / Joint HOSC Update

8. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Policy and Performance and Head of Democratic Services (copy attached to the signed minutes). The report provided an update on the West Sussex PCT's review of its Fit for the Future (FFF) decisions, as well as setting out the role of the West Sussex HOSC and Joint HOSC.

9. Ms. Creamer, Director of Strategy, West Sussex PCT, advised that the timescale for the PCT's review of commissioning intentions had changed since the report was written. She confirmed that the PCT Board was due to agree its commissioning intentions at its meeting on 30th July, however, the three key acute providers had asked the PCT to give them more time following this to respond to the commissioning intentions and develop their clinical/delivery plans. This meant that the key PCT Board meeting at which any decisions regarding the location of services/lifting of the original FFF suspension would not be until at least October/November.

10. Mr Davies declared a personal interest as a member of the Maternity Patient Reference Panel for the PCT's Review of Commissioning Intentions.

11. The Committee discussed the report. Members asked about the reference in the report to public engagement over the summer. Ms Creamer pointed out that all previous FFF public engagement and consultation feedback still stood and was being taken into account. There were also three Patient Reference Panels for Maternity, In-patient Paediatrics and Emergency Surgery which would feed into the process. She also confirmed that the PCT was planning a deliberative event in the Autumn.

12. The Committee agreed to appoint Dr Bloom, Mr Coleman, Mrs Field, Mr A.R.H. Smith and Dr Walsh to the Joint HOSC. It was suggested that members should indicate their interest in becoming a substitute on the Joint Committee to officers.

13. Resolved – That the Committee notes the report and appoints Dr Bloom, Mr Coleman, Mrs Field, Mr A.R.H. Smith and Dr Walsh to the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Fit for the Future.

Upper Gastrointestinal Cancer Care Pathway for Worthing

14. The Committee considered a letter from the West Sussex PCT to the HOSC and to the affected acute trusts and a response from the Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust to the Committee's request that it confirm its written support for the proposed change to the Upper Gastrointestinal (Upper GI) cancer service for Worthing (copies attached to the signed minutes).

15. Ms. Creamer, Director of Strategy, West Sussex PCT, provided the background to the proposed change to the service. She confirmed that cancer services were split into tumour groups (e.g. Upper GI) and that each service had to adhere to national Improving Outcomes Guidance (IOG) standards. At the time the only provider able to carry out minimally invasive surgery was the Royal Surrey County Hospital in Guildford. Ms Creamer confirmed that it was now possible for a parallel service to be provided in Brighton and the programme was looking to move an element of the service from Guildford to Brighton which would provide the funding for a fourth surgeon at Brighton. Ms Creamer confirmed that the PCT had worked with the National Cancer Team to gain assurance that the move would not destabilise the service at Guildford. She confirmed that it was a beneficial change to patients as it would provide two locations for the service to be provided.

16. The Committee discussed the letters and asked questions and made comments including those that follow. Members: -

- Asked how many patients would be affected and whether there was a possibility it would destabilise the service at Guildford. *Ms Creamer confirmed that it was a very small number of patients. She also confirmed that Professor Mike Richards, National Clinical Director for Cancer, was not concerned about the move with regard to the effect on Guildford as a significant number of people would still access the service in Guildford.*
- Were pleased that there would be two centres for Upper GI cancer surgery as it allowed flexibility and increased access, although it was understood that sufficient throughput was needed in order to maintain expertise at both sites.
- Sought assurance that the surgeon at Brighton would be appointed and in place before any change was made to the service. *Ms Creamer gave assurances that this would happen.*

17. Miss Smith commended the work of Mrs Oliver, a previous member of the HOSC, in raising this issue and moving it forward.

18. Resolved – That the Committee agrees that this issue is monitored by the HOSC Liaison Members for Western Sussex Hospitals and Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trusts.

Business Planning Group

19. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Policy and Performance and Head of Democratic Services (copy attached to the signed minutes). Helen Kenny introduced the report which provided an update on the last meeting of the HOSC Business Planning Group (BPG) on 20th April. The report covered the Horsham Minor Injuries Unit, Sussex Rehabilitation Centre, the Triggers Template for substantial variations and developments in health services and a recent item on the tender process for medical cover at Community Hospitals in West Sussex.

20. The Committee discussed the report on the Horsham Minor Injuries Unit. Members noted that the North East Review Stakeholder Forum and the LINK were also looking at the Horsham MIU as part of their work programme and that there was a need to share information if appropriate. Members suggested that the extended opening hours of the MIU should be publicised.

21. Ms. Creamer, Director of Strategy, West Sussex PCT, said the PCT wanted to seek HOSC's advice on how the pilot should be evaluated and confirmed that the PCT would be using press articles, the County Council Connections magazine and posters/leaflets in GP surgeries as methods of publicising the service.

22. The Committee discussed the report on the Sussex Rehabilitation Centre. Members suggested that the Liaison Members for the Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust monitored access and capacity.

23. With regard to the Triggers template for substantial variations and developments to health services, Members agreed that there was a need for a local emphasis, particularly considering the diverse nature of the county and the fact that many providers were based outside of county boundaries.

24. The Committee discussed the report on the tender process for medical cover at community hospitals in West Sussex (Salvington Lodge, Midhurst, Arundel, Kleinwort, Zachary Merton, Horsham). Ms Creamer confirmed that the PCT saw it as an opportunity to rationalise and standardise services at the community hospitals and because it was taking this approach, the value of the contract meant that it needed to go out to tender. Ms Creamer said it was not a criticism of the service currently provided by GPs and that the PCT was very proud of its local GPs. She advised that the tender would be structured to allow people to tender for small parts of the business or collectively as a group. She said the PCT was working closely with GPs and providing some support to those interested in tendering.

25. Dr Walsh declared a personal interest as a part-time GP in West Sussex, but confirmed that he no longer had any contractual arrangements with any of the community hospitals.

26. The Committee discussed the report. Members: -

- Advised that concerns had been raised by local GPs regarding lack of consultation by the PCT. *Ms Creamer said the PCT had been in correspondence with GPs and there had also been practice meetings.*
- Considered that continuity of care (i.e. patients being treated by their local GP in the community hospital) was vital to maintaining an effective service and

believed that providing medical cover was not the same, as patients' biggest complaint was seeing different doctors each day.

- Suggested that value for money should not be the driver. *Ms Creamer advised that the PCT would use a cost-benefit analysis.*
- Questioned why the PCT was going out to tender in this way which could be detrimental to the NHS and did not believe that the process would lead to improved clinical outputs.
- Questioned why community hospitals needed to be standardised when currently they offered different services.
- Suggested that patients saw it as a potential change in service and had expressed concerns that they may not be cared for by their local GP. *Ms Creamer said the PCT needed to take on board patients' views if they felt the process could lead to a change in service. She confirmed that the PCT did not believe it would be a change in service, only a change of provider.*
- Questioned why Bognor Regis War Memorial Hospital was not on list. *Ms Creamer agreed to clarify this following the meeting.*

27. Resolved – That the Committee

- (1) Notes the report;
- (2) Agrees that the arrangements for local monitoring should be developed in liaison with North Horsham and Chancetonbury County Local Committees and Horsham District Council's Scrutiny and Overview Committee, with a report back to HOSC at the end of the process;
- (3) Agrees that no further scrutiny is required by this Committee of the re-provision of the Sussex Rehabilitation Service on the basis that the issues concerning the level and quality of service at Princess Royal Hospital in Haywards Heath only affect East Sussex and Brighton & Hove residents;
- (4) Notes the revised 'Triggers' template, following feedback from local NHS Trusts; and
- (5) Agrees that the tender process for medical cover at Community Hospitals in West Sussex be considered by the Business Planning Group at its next meeting and reported back to the HOSC.

Appointments

28. The Committee considered a report by the Director of Policy and Performance and Head of Democratic Services (copy attached to the signed minutes).

29. Resolved – That the Committee: -

- (1) Notes the County Council membership of the Committee;
- (2) Confirms the following appointments of co-opted members: -

District and Borough Council Members

- Cllr Mrs Ann Smee (Arun District Council)
- Cllr Rod Hotton (Adur District Council)
- Cllr Dr Heather Mercer (Worthing Borough Council)
- Cllr Brian Weekes (Chichester District Council)
- Cllr Lee Gilroy (Crawley Borough Council)

- Cllr Dr David Skipp (Horsham District Council)
- Cllr Mrs Jacqui Landriani (Mid Sussex District Council)

West Sussex Local Involvement Network (LINK)

- Dr. Vicki King (Acute Trusts)
- Miss Betty Smith (PCT)
- Mr Taff Davies (Mental Health)

(3) Appoints the following members to its Business Planning Group: -

- Mrs Field (Chairman) (WSCC)
- Mr Coleman (WSCC)
- Dr. Walsh (WSCC)
- Cllr Gilroy (Crawley Borough Council)
- Cllr Weekes (Chichester District Council)
- Miss Smith (LINK)

(4) Appoints the following Liaison Members for the local NHS Trusts: -

South East Coast Strategic Health Authority	Mrs Christine Field (WSCC)
	Mr Mike Coleman (WSCC)
West Sussex Primary Care Trust	Mrs Christine Field (WSCC)
	Mr Mike Coleman (WSCC)
- North Area	<i>To be confirmed</i>
	Dr Howard Bloom (WSCC)
- South Area	Cllr Brian Weekes (Chichester District Council)
	Mrs Angie Mills (WSCC)
Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust	Mrs Christine Field (WSCC)
	Cllr Rod Hotton (Adur District Council)
Queen Victoria Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	Mrs Liz Bennett (WSCC)
	Cllr Mrs Jacqui Landriani (Mid Sussex District Council)
Surrey & Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust	Dr Howard Bloom (WSCC)
	<i>To be confirmed</i>
Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust	
- Chichester Area	Mr Andrew Smith (WSCC)
	Cllr Mrs Ann Smee (Arun District Council)
- Worthing Area	Dr James Walsh (WSCC)
	Cllr Rod Hotton (Adur District Council) – <i>interim arrangement</i>
Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust & West Sussex Mental Health Commissioning Team	Mrs Susan Knight (WSCC)
	Mr Brian Weekes (Chichester District Council)
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust	Dr James Walsh (WSCC)
	Mrs Margaret Whitehead (WSCC)

(5) The Committee appoints Mrs Field and Mrs Knight to the Task Force on Dementia services and agrees its terms of reference.

HOSC Work Programme 2009/10

30. Report by the Director of Policy and Performance and Head of Democratic Services (copy attached to the signed minutes).

31. The Committee discussed the report. Members asked questions and made comments including those that follow: -

- Suggested that the Committee should investigate the range as well as the take up of cancer screening services available as opposed to the take-up of these services.
- Suggested there was some urgency to look at stroke services.
- Regarding nutrition in hospitals suggested that the focus should be on whether it was impacting on outcomes.

32. Resolved – That the Committee: -

- (1) Notes its draft work programme to be considered by the Policy and Resources Select Committee in September.
- (2) Agrees that its Business Planning Group will continue to monitor and develop the Committee's future work programme.

Healthcare Associated Infection (HCAI) Compliance and Care Quality Commission (CQC) Registration – Horsham Hospital

33. Resolved – That the Committee notes the statement from the West Sussex PCT (copy attached to the signed minutes).

Date of Next Meeting

34. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 10.30 a.m. on Thursday 10th September 2009 at County Hall, Chichester. The agenda is likely to include the South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust's consultation on its application to become a Foundation Trust.

The meeting ended at 1.20 p.m.

Chairman