

Meeting of the Full Council – 3 October 2013

Report on the Health Scrutiny Committee Meeting 23 July and 10 September 2013

Chair: County Councillor Steven Holgate

The agenda and minutes of the meetings may be viewed on the County Council's web site via the following link:

<http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=182>

23 July 2013

Better Care Together - Transforming Health Services Across North Lancashire and South Cumbria

Guest speakers from 'Better Care Together', Lancashire North CCG and University Hospitals Morecambe Bay Trust attended the Committee.

The Committee received a report which explained that a new clinical strategy for health services known as 'Better Care Together' (BCT) was being developed. This review was being carried out across North Lancashire and South Cumbria by local NHS organisations including Lancashire North Clinical Commissioning Group, Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group and University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust (UHMBT).

Alongside this review, UHMBT was also delivering its recovery plan which had been developed following a number of inspections by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and Monitor (independent regulator of NHS Foundation Trusts).

A number of proposed organisational changes would be required during 2013/14 in order to support delivery of the UHMBT's recovery plan. The Trust was also required to meet a Cost Improvement Programme (CIP) target and develop a new Clinical Strategy with stakeholders. The CIP Staff Consultation paper which identified the 8 individual schemes within the CIP was at Annex 2 to the report presented.

It was agreed that:

- i. The comments of the Health Scrutiny Committee be noted and the minutes of the meeting be provided to the Chair of Better Care Together;
- ii. Full proposals for the formal consultation for Better Care Together be provided to the Health Scrutiny Committee.
- iii. Members of the Health Scrutiny Committee provide any comments or suggestions on the process of the formal consultation for Better Care Together via the Scrutiny Officer;
- iv. A full report on the outcome of the consultation on Better Care Together be provided to the Health Scrutiny Committee via its Steering Group;

- v. Updates on the progress of the Cost Improvement Programme be provided via email to the Health Scrutiny Committee.

Report of the Health Scrutiny Committee Steering Group

On 26 February the Steering Group had met with officers from the following Clinical Commissioning Groups

- Lancashire North
- West Lancashire
- Fylde and Wyre

A summary of the meeting was at Appendix A to the report presented.

On 9 April the Steering Group had met with the Chief Executive of Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust. A summary of the meeting was at Appendix B to the report presented. This summary also included the notes of the Steering Group's visit to Southport and Ormskirk Hospital Trust which took place on 28 March.

On 16 April the Steering Group had met to consider the outcome of the Dementia Consultation as delegated by the Joint Health Committee at its meeting on 22 January and determine whether support the recommendations made to the NHS Lancashire Cluster Board. A summary of the meeting was at Appendix C to the report presented.

Members were most concerned that East Lancashire Hospitals Trust was now subject to 'special measures' following the Keogh review. They were assured that the Steering Group would address relevant announcements on an ongoing basis and would report back to the Committee as appropriate. The possibility of a piece of joint scrutiny with Blackburn with Darwen Council's Scrutiny Committee was being explored. The Chair acknowledged that the situation in East Lancashire was causing much public concern.

10 September 2013

Clinical Commissioning Groups

The report explained that from April this year Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) had replaced the Primary Care Trust (PCTs) as the commissioners of health and social care services. They were responsible for the planning and designing of local health services by working in partnership with patients and health and social care partners to ensure services would meet local needs.

Representatives from the following Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) attended the Committee to provide an overview of their roles and responsibilities, commissioning plans and some of the challenges they faced to improve the health and well being of their patients:

- Greater Preston/Chorley and South Ribble CCG
- Lancashire North CCG
- East Lancashire CCG

It was agreed that:

- i. The Steering Group would meet individually with each of the six CCGs and to discuss with them, in detail issues of concern specifically public engagement and funding, and to receive a further update after April 2014 when they had been in operation for twelve months.
- ii. A letter be sent from the Health Scrutiny Committee to the Secretary of State for Health expressing serious concern that the investment in the allocation of funding for Lancashire and the north of England appeared to be diminishing compared with the south and midlands. This was of particular concern given the significant challenges faced due to deprivation levels and high mortality rates. . The Chair stated that contributions from the CCGs would be sought for inclusion in the submission. It was also agreed that a copy of the letter be provided to the Chairs of the Health Scrutiny Committees at both Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen councils for information.

Report of the Health Scrutiny Committee Steering Group

On 5 July the Steering Group had met to discuss the future work plan for the Committee following suggestions put forward at the training session on 11 June. A summary of the meeting was at Appendix A to the report presented.

On 19 July the Steering Group had met with officers from University Hospitals Morecambe Bay Trust regarding their Cost Improvement Programme. A summary of the meeting was at Appendix B to the report presented.

On 26 July the Steering Group had met with Blackpool Hospital Trust regarding the outcome of the 'Improving Patient Care' consultation. A summary of the meeting was at Appendix C to the report presented.