

NOTES

Health OSC Steering Group Friday 26 September 2014 – Members Retiring Room 2.00pm

Present:

- County Councillor Steve Holgate
- County Councillor Yousaf Motala
- County Councillor Fabian Craig-Wilson

Apologies

- County Councillor Margaret Brindle

CC Motala replaced CC Iqbal as Deputy Chair with effect from 17 September.

Notes of last meeting

The notes of the Steering Group meeting held on 5 September were agreed as correct

Care Quality Commission

Dawn Hodgkins, Inspection Manager, Care Quality Commission North attended the meeting to discuss inspection methodology, regulations and the working relationship with the Committee.

- Dawn thanked members for the invite and talked about the new structures within CQC - Hospitals, adult social care and primary medical services (GPs, dentists, etc.).
- She stated that she works within the adult social care area and provided members with an update on current issues that the CQC is looking at within the county.
- She mentioned the challenges around finding out who is the best person within the CQC to talk to, so it was agreed that Dawn would act as the representative for all correspondence.
- She talked about the hospitals that had been recently inspected and members raised their concerns about how it was done and how they were asked for information and comments
 - Too generic a request, needs to be tailored to inspection areas
 - Face to face visit would be preferable to online communication
 - Use local knowledge of members to find suitable venues for feedback sessions.
- Adult social care – it was agreed that the Steering group need to pursue the mechanisms to learn about residential and domiciliary care concerns from the LCC contracts team.
- Challenges around the balance between the risks of leaving someone in a home versus the trauma of moving and the adverse effect that can have on their health.

Appendix B

- Starting to rate homes (same as hospitals) – very few have a current rating (i.e. only started the process within last few months)
- Will be Ofsted style – Inadequate, Requires Improvement, Good, and Outstanding
- CC Motala raised the concern around an ageing population and the need for more care – therefore CQC may need more staff to carry out inspections
- From 1 Oct onwards will have a bigger inspection team – and include expert by experience. Access to bank of specialist advisers.
- Whistle-blowers still get a raw deal – needs to be a better mechanism to help and protect them.
- Dawn would like to look at the percentage of information that the CQC are made aware that turns out to be unfounded so can get a feel for the vexatious claims.
- Supported living – do not have ability to access the home
- Noted an increase in financial abuse within domiciliary care
- Difference in police appetite to prosecute issues that the CQC feel need to be addressed – CC Motala felt this was an issue that the PCC could progress and look at.
- Where does the intelligence come from to spark a CQC intervention: - From LCC, MASH, RADAR. Co-ordinate who goes to inspect. Majority of inspections are unannounced. Domiciliary Care organisations get 48 hrs, GPs get 5 days
- Committed to rate all adult social care by April 2015 – longer, bigger inspections but this means won't get inspected every year
- Instances of poor care are increasing and the system to inspect is under a lot of pressure – carrying out more urgent visits.
- As the acute sector has made a call for more nurses they have moved out of the nursing home sector as its better pay and conditions
- Maybe LCC should give consideration to halt admissions to homes with concerns until they are resolved? – see Terry Mears re a response to this.

External visits by Steering Group

CC Holgate would like the Steering Group to consider whether they should arrange a programme of visits to external organisations.

General agreement that it would be a good idea:

- Wendy to draft a list of potential venues/dates for next SG
- CC Holgate suggested Chorley hospital.

Dates of future Steering Group meetings

CC Holgate would like the Steering Group to consider an alternative day for Steering Group meetings

Monday afternoons seemed to be the best option for future meetings - new dates to be arranged.

Work plan – work in progress

The current work plan for the Committee and Steering Group was attached for comment and update

Dates of future meetings

- 17 October – LTHT & FWCCG
- 7 November – tbc
- 28 November – WLCCG/SOHT – Breast services at Southport Hospital
- 19 December – tbc