

Meeting of the Full Council – 17 December 2015

Report on the Health Scrutiny Committee meetings on 13 October and 24 November 2015

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>

13 October 2015

Access to Services

The report provided members with information about:

- The process for accessing social care services
- Support for accessing services via the 'Wellbeing Worker Service'
- Views of citizens from the deaf community on accessing services

It was agreed that a flowchart clearly setting out the pathways for accessing services be provided to members.

Report of the Health Scrutiny Committee Steering Group

The issue of Trust Board confidential agenda items had been discussed. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Trust Development Authority to ask that the practice by the NHS of omitting confidential items from the agenda front sheet be reviewed in the interest of openness and transparency.

It was reported that the Steering Group had met with representatives from the Chorley and South Ribble Clinical Commissioning Group and discussed a proposal to cease a pilot scheme which provided the GP out-of-hours service within the Urgent Care Centre and Accident and Emergency department at Chorley Hospital.

The Steering Group had met with the Chief Executive of Southport & Ormskirk Hospital Trust on 3 August to talk about their post Care Quality Commission inspection Action Plan. A summary of the meeting was at Appendix A to the report now presented.

There was much concern among members about the amount of money currently being spent by the Trust on agency staff, a situation that was replicated across the country and which was unsustainable and unacceptable. It was suggested that this Committee seek approval to establish a task group to investigate the issues in some depth.

It was agreed that:

- i. A letter be sent by the Chair on behalf of the Health Scrutiny Committee to the Trust Development Authority to ask that the practice of omitting confidential items from the agenda front sheet be reviewed in the interest of openness and transparency. The letter be copied to Clinical Commissioning Groups and Acute Trusts also.
- ii. A request to establish a Task Group to investigate the shortage of trained nurses be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee.

Work Plan

A draft work plan for both the Health Scrutiny Committee and its Steering Group, including current Task Group reviews was presented and discussed.

24 November 2015

Health and Wellbeing Board Update

The Committee received an update on the progress made by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB).

The presentation briefly explained the role of the HWBB; it referred to a review of the Board which had been undertaken in April 2015, and set out some recent developments and future priorities.

It was agreed that:

- i. The content of the report, the areas of progress and the future focus of the Health and Wellbeing Board be noted;
- ii. The Health Scrutiny Committee develop better working and links with the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- iii. The Committee would consider the areas for future focus of the Health and Wellbeing Board and how this aligns with its future work programme.

Healthwatch Lancashire Update

The Committee received a detailed presentation on the evolution of Healthwatch, its responsibilities and strategy, and examples of current and planned work.

Report of the Health Scrutiny Committee Steering Group

It was reported that on 14 September the Steering Group had met to consider its current ways of working and discuss ideas and suggestions for the future.

In response to concerns raised by CC Holgate about GPs using the Urgent Care Centre (UCC) at Chorley Hospital Ian Crossley, acting Chief Officer and Nicola Walsh, Interim Head of Operations and Delivery from Chorley South Ribble/Greater

Preston CCG attended the meeting to provide members with a status update and discuss the plans for the future. A summary of the meeting was at Appendix A to the report presented.

On 5 October the Steering Group had met with Paul Simic, Chief Executive from the Lancashire Care Association (LCA) to discuss issues around falls in care homes and the challenges faced by the care home sector to address these issues. Following that meeting the Steering Group had agreed to host a meeting of Registered Care Managers which would provide an opportunity to discuss wider issues and the main challenges. Janice Scanlon, from the Trust Development Authority (TDA) also attended the meeting to talk about the appointment of non-executive directors and the support they can access. A summary of the meeting was at Appendix B to the report presented.

Work Plan

A draft work plan for both the Health Scrutiny Committee and its Steering Group, including current Task Group reviews was presented and discussed.

Urgent Business

It was agreed that a session arranged by University Hospitals Morecambe Bay Trust (UHMBT) for Health Scrutiny Committee members of both Lancashire and Cumbria to take place in Kendal on 11 January 2016, be treated as an approved duty of the Committee