

**Lancashire County Council**

**Health Scrutiny Committee - Steering Group**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 7 December, 2015 at 2.00 pm in Room B18b, County Hall - County Hall, Preston**

**Present:**

County Councillor Steven Holgate (Chair)

**County Councillors**

M Brindle                      Y Motala  
Mrs F Craig-Wilson

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from CC Hennessey

**2. Notes of the last meeting**

The notes of the meeting held on 16 November were agreed as correct

**3. Community Health Services in West Lancashire**

- Claire Heneghan, chief nurse
- Jackie Moran, head of quality, contracting and performance
- Karen Tordoff, lead manager service redesign

The above officers from West Lancashire CCG attended to discuss the procurement process for community health services in the area.

CC Holgate welcomed officers and the discussion began with background on the advantages and disadvantages of a CCG making procurement decisions (as opposed to the previous PCTs). The main points raised were:

- The CCG has managed to engage well with the local population as the area is smaller and local groups etc. are easier to reach – have a strong communications approach.
- There is potential for best practice learnt through the procurement process to be shared across the county with other CCGs and Trusts.
- CC Motala asked about the concerns around attracting adequate numbers of staff such as GPs and wanted to know if there was a focused workforce strategy to highlight Lancashire as a premier place to work. Officers responded that they are also looking at upskilling and re-skilling the existing workforce.
- Recently done a survey of West Lancashire GPs to gauge the feeling amongst doctors. One question they were asked was would they consider offering work experience to school leavers.

- Confident that having a successful community health services with suitably qualified staff (nurses) will 'free up' GPs to focus on other things.
- Also looking at the existing assets within the community (many are voluntary organisations). Want them to be engaged in the process and many may be involved in future delivery.
- CC Holgate acknowledged that community and patient involvement in service design is vital to success.
- Well North bid was successful – details to be shared with members.
- In the model of care they have gone down to neighbourhood level – but asking the local population if the 'neighbourhoods' identified fit with their perception of how local communities live, work and move around.
- Within the localised areas there is still a need for specialised services – however the current contract procurement is focused on adults. The other specialisms such as children and mental health will be procured later.
- Local initiatives such as 'Incredible Edible' were discussed as options to be considered in West Lancashire – all aimed at people living well.
- It was agreed that wellbeing needed to be at the forefront of any service design.
- The procurement vision is available on the CCGs website – feedback has been requested and will continue as such until into the New Year.
- Staff (who will be TUPED) will be involved in the selection process. Going out to full tender because was unable to prove that staying with SOHT was offering the best possible service.
- Pleased that the CCG are taking a bottom up approach to procurement design but CC Motala wanted to know how and what they are doing ties into other pieces of work going on in the county such as Healthwatch and Healthier Lancashire. – Gill Brown is part of the working group and is providing robust challenge and bringing ideas and contacts to the process. Less clear re Healthier Lancashire as the majority of patient flow is towards Merseyside and there is a Healthier Liverpool so conflicting priorities – mental health services is an area however that would be joined up.
- CC Brindle asked a question about the 'step down' facility. Intermediate care beds are classed as step down but they are thinking how that provision can be carried out in a person's home. – looking at what numbers do they need to factor in for, and how to respond quickly.
- Concerns around the capacity for SOHT to effectively bid for the service.
- The intention is that the new contract will begin from September 2016
- Out to tender (PQQ) – on Monday, shortlist by 22 January.
- Work with shortlist until August then invite final bids for a decision in September. Looking at a 7-10 year contract.
- CC Motala asked about the partnership potential with Edge Hill – officers responded that they have started the process, working with lecturers to research what is actually required to develop an effective multi-disciplinary team – the learning from this project will feed into how MDTs will be formed in the future.
- All PQQ docs will be produced on Friday – can be provided for SG

Members thanked officers for their time and agreed they would provide an update to Steering Group on 7 March.

#### **4. Rossendale Task Group review**

A response was required from the Steering Group on behalf of the Health Scrutiny Committee to the final report of the NWAS review undertaken by Rossendale scrutiny members.

A copy of the final draft report was provided for information but members were reminded that this report is not yet in the public domain.

It was agreed that:

- Steering Group welcomed the content and recommendations of the report
- The Health Scrutiny Committee will provide support to the Rossendale Task Group in obtaining satisfactory outcomes to its recommendations should it be required.
- The final report will be presented to the March HSC whereby other Districts can feedback if similar issues are apparent in their areas.

#### **5. Windsor Unit**

Members to decide what action, if any, they wish to take about the closure of the Windsor Unit which provides respite services at Clifton Hospital, St Annes.

The following questions have been asked by CC Oades. The CCG have been asked to provide a response:

1. How and why were referrals made to the Windsor Unit and how did clients qualify for respite care for their carers?
2. Could we please have copies of the letters the CCG claim to have sent out to users and a list of those consulted and numbers?
3. What is now being offered to clients in the form of respite care to enable carers to have a much needed break?
4. As more strain will possibly be put on Social Care to help carers who need help and assistance what kind of consultation has been carried out with our social care people? Surely there has been some joined up thinking on this.

It was agreed to await the response from the CCG before determining the next course of action.

#### **6. Work plan**

The latest version of the work plan was noted for information

**7. Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting is 18 January. Officers from the Commissioning Support Unit will be attending.

I Young  
Director of Governance, Finance  
and Public Services

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