

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee**
held on Thursday, 14th November, 2013 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3,
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor H Gaddum (Chairman)
Councillor L Jeuda (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors I Faseyi, W Livesley, A Moran, J Saunders, M J Weatherill and
S Jones

Apologies

Councillors R Domleo

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Janet Clowes – Portfolio Holder for Health and Adult Social Care
Fiona Field – South Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Sarah Smith – North West Ambulance Service

OFFICERS PRESENT

Dr Heather Grimbaldeston – Director of Public Health
Lorraine Butcher – Director of Strategic Commissioning
James Morley – Scrutiny Officer

149 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2013 be
approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

150 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest

151 **DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP**

There were no declarations of party whip

152 **PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak

**NORTH WEST AMBULANCE SERVICE - COMMUNITIES
STRATEGY PROGRESS REPORT**

Sarah Smith, from North West Ambulance Service (NWAS), presented a six month progress report on the NWAS Communities Strategy 2013-2015. The Committee had been consulted on the strategy in March 2013 before it had been implemented. The progress report contained a summary of initiatives instigated to achieve the five main aims of the strategy which were:

- Acting on the views of patients and their communities
- Providing a seamless service for patients, in partnership with other health and social care bodies
- Ensuring equality of access to services and valuing diversity
- Protecting the environment and being a good corporate citizen
- Promoting healthy and safe lives.

The report stated that positive progress had been made across all aspects of the strategy and there were currently no concerns to indicate that achievement of outcomes by 2015 could not be delivered.

Members asked questions and the following points arose:

- NWAS's Community Committee was a sub group of the Council of Governors which held the Board of Directors to account. There were four Governors from each County.
- To relieve more pressure on A&E departments paramedics were being trained to provide more care to patients at home to reduce hospital admissions.
- NWAS still used a variety of alternatives to an ambulance to transport some patients including taxi services. There was an opportunity for NWAS to work with the Council's Community Transport Service to deliver suitable transport options.
- St John's Ambulance was commissioned by NWAS to provide support services. St John's was only used for none urgent calls but volunteers still needed to exercise judgement when considering whether to take patients to hospital or not.
- Communities were able to assist in reducing pressure on ambulance services by training more people to provide first aid and transport facilities.
- Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) were responsible for commissioning ambulance services. As individual CCGs covered small areas compared to the area covered by NWAS all the CCGs in Cheshire County had agreed to pool funds to jointly commission their services from NWAS to make the process more efficient.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be noted
- (b) That NWAS be requested to provide the performance data on ambulance response times in the Borough

Dr Heather Grimbaldston, Director of Public Health, attended the meeting to publish her independent Annual Report on Public Health. Dr Grimbaldston presented a summary of the report which focused on premature death rates and how they could be reduced, particularly in relations to the four main killers in Cheshire East: Cancer; Heart disease and stroke; Lung disease; and Liver disease. As the report had been circulated at the meeting the Committee agreed to receive the report at this stage and consider it further at the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be received and noted.
- (b) That the report be examined by the Committee in detail at the next meeting.

WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the work programme. It was suggested that the work programme needed updating as it was out of date. It was suggested that the Chairman should develop a new work programme.

RESOLVED – That the Chairman with assistance from the Scrutiny Officer develop a new work programme.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 11.45 am

Councillor H Gaddum (Chairman)