

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

held on Friday, 29th April, 2016 at East Committee Room - Municipal Buildings, Earle Street, Crewe, CW1 2BJ

PRESENT

Councillor J Saunders (Chairman)

Councillors D Bailey, B Dooley, L Jeuda, A Moran and S Pochin (as substitute for Rhoda Bailey)

Apologies

Councillors Rhoda Bailey, L Wardlaw and G Merry

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor J Clowes – Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Integration

Councillor D Brown – visiting member

Brenda Smith – Director of Adult Social Care and Independent Living

Sarah Smith – Corporate Commissioning Manager

Charlotte Simpson – Public Health Consultant

James Morley – Scrutiny Officer

Michael Moore – North West Ambulance Services NHS Trust

Jim Britt – NHS West Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group

7 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED

- (a) That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 February 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- (b) That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- (c) That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

8 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

9 DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of party whip

10 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

Jean Bennett spoke in relation to respite care, specifically in Macclesfield. She suggested that since the Council's decision to stop providing respite care from Hollinsview had reduced the availability of respite care for residents in Macclesfield. She had tried to book respite care for her father however had only been offered a bed at homes in other towns because their local home was fully booked. She also raised issues with the quality of service at another home and questioned whether the quality of other care homes being used for respite care was adequate. She wanted to ensure that all carers would be able to book local respite care when they needed it, including at short notice.

David Wood, former team manager in adult social care at the Council, made some comments about respite care provision. He informed the Committee that there was a community group in Macclesfield attempting to monitor the impact of the closure of respite care at Hollinsview. He asked why of the 153 carers assessed for support only 78 had taken respite so far. He suggested that the survey which had been carried out by the Council did not enable some key information about people's needs to be collected. He also asked whether respite care beds which were being under used would be decommissioned.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care offered to respond to questions from both speakers after the meeting and suggested that some points would be raised under Item 7 of the agenda.

Mike Harnor informed the Committee that he was present to observe Item 6 in relation to the Committee's Ambulance Services Review as a Governor of NWSA Governor Board.

11 AMBULANCE SERVICES REVIEW FINAL REPORT

James Morley provided an overview of the Committee's review process and how the final report was developed. The Committee was asked to approve the version contained in the agenda as the final version to be submitted to the bodies whom the Committee had made recommendations to. Members were keen to lobby Government to get changes to the way ambulance services were commissioned and assessed.

Jim Britt, representing the Clinical Commissioning Groups in Cheshire, Warrington and Wirral, commented that this type of review had not been carried out before and the CCGs and NWSA would also be using the report as a resource to lobby for changes to the current system as it was not fit for purpose.

The Committee was informed that the contract for emergency ambulance services in 2016/17 had been agreed with NWSA. There was a small increase in the funding paid to provide more resources to cope with rising demand however demand was expected to be much higher. CCGs and NWSA would be working together to try to increase see and treat and the amalgamation of 111 and 999 services would also help to improve hear and treat. It was hoped that changes would help to reduce demand and enable NWSA to focus on responding to life threatening calls.

RESOLVED – That the ambulance services review report be approved as a final version.

12 UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF LOCAL AND PERSONALISED CARER RESPITE IN CHESHIRE EAST

Councillor Clowes provided an overview of the report regarding new respite care services following the first quarter. She explained that the time of year was relevant to the figures as January to March was not a busy period for carers looking to book respite care so they could take a break. Up take of respite care beds was expected to be much higher during the summer. She emphasised that the new model of respite care was a work in progress and that further development and updates to the Committee would be required.

When the new beds were commissioned additional capacity, above that which was available at previous facilities, was planned to provide a safety net in case to ensure there were sufficient beds available. Emergency beds were also commissioned. It was suggested that carers were using beds in different ways and analysis would be needed to assess whether different types of care facilities should be commissioned to provide appropriate services.

Committee Members noted the positive comments of service users during the first quarter. There were concerns about the quality of services at some of the care homes providing respite care following comments from public speakers. Members were satisfied that respite care provision had been mostly positive however wanted to see how the model coped during the busy summer period. The Committee was informed about research the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society in Macclesfield was also undertaking into respite care which the Council and the Committee would be interested in.

Members wanted more information about the use of respite by carers of younger adults with learning disabilities, who needed different respite to older social care users. The Committee also requested more quantitative data on feedback from service users and also wanted officers to provide data on how far users were travelling to access the bed that they booked to assess if beds were commissioned in the right places.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the report be noted
- (b) That a six month update report be provided to the Committee in October 2016 with the additional information requested.

13 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered its work programme. Members discussed potential items for the new municipal year including: mental health of adults, respite care for younger adults, and public health innovation projects.

Members were also informed that there would be two additional meetings of the Committee in May 2016 to review Quality Accounts 2015/16 of the local NHS Trusts.

RESOLVED – That the work programme be noted

The meeting commenced at 10.30 am and concluded at 11.45 am

Councillor J Saunders (Chairman)