

HEALTH SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL

Thursday, 25 July, 2013 at 6.00 p.m.

Conference Room, Council House, Walsall

Panel Members Present

Councillor M. Longhi (Chair)
Councillor D. James (Vice-Chair)
Councillor O. Bennett
Councillor R. Burley
Councillor M. Flower
Councillor E. Russell

Officers Present

John Bolton – Executive Director (SCI)
Chris Knowles – Finance Manager
Michael Hurt – Commissioning Manager - Dementia
Narinder Sahota – NHS England
Karen Helliwell – NHS England
Salma Ali – Accountable Officer CCG
Nikki Gough – Committee Business and Governance Manager

245/13 Apologies

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor V. Woodruff.

246/13 Substitutions

There were no substitutions for the duration of the meeting.

247/13 Declarations of interest and party whip

There were no declarations of interest or party whip for the duration of the meeting.

248/13 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)

Resolved

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items set out in the private agenda for the reasons set out therein and Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

249/13 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 June, 2013 were approved as a true and accurate record, subject to the following amendment:-

Councillor Burley was in attendance and Councillor Sarohi was not in attendance.

Resolved

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 June, 2013 were approved as a true and accurate record, subject to the stated amendment.

250/13 Quarter 1 Financial monitoring position for 2013/14

The report was presented and summarised the predicted revenue outturn position for 2013/14, based on the financial performance for Quarter 1, for services within the remit of the Health Scrutiny and Performance Panel. Members were informed that the current forecast was an overspend against budget of £1.584 million. The Chair expressed concern at the level of overspend after Quarter 1, and requested a piece of work to understand what went wrong. The Executive Director explained that analysis had started which indicated that the original savings proposals were unrealistic. It was agreed that a detailed report and action plan were taken to the next meeting, including identification of failures. Members asked for a projected analysis and how this linked to the pattern of activity rates and how this tied into the financial projection.

251/13 Draft revenue and capital outturn 2012/13

The report presented was the draft revenue and capital outturn position for the year ended 2012/13. This indicated a significant overspend. Members further requested further detail on activity rates, as discussed in the last item.

252/13 Introduction to Primary Care Services

Officers introduced themselves from the NHS Local Area Team. The Chair explained that the Panel wished to understand Primary Care in Walsall, particularly GPs as a key part of improving health outcomes and narrowing health inequalities.

The Director of Commissioning (Birmingham, Black Country and Solihull) stated that the local team were working on identifying immediate priorities. The Panel were informed of the primary care web tool, which went live April. The tool was national and used data extracted from GPs, activity and various other sources. Members were informed that this was only one tool used to measure performance. It allowed practices to identify performance and to benchmark with others.

Patient experience was considered, and the Accountable Officer for the CCG stated that where intervention has taken place in relation to GPs, there can be a strong backlash from local people who do not want changes to their GP practice. Also in terms of contract processes, performance needed to be handled carefully and only if there were significant outlying performance issues could it be handled. However, although practices could not be performance managed, they could be incentivised to encourage best practice. The Chair stated that he was keen to look at creative ways to receive feedback from patients, including anonymous

253/13 Improving outcomes in dementia for Walsall

The Commissioning Manager (for Older People's Mental Health and dementia) explained that the presentation aimed to show where improvements had been made and address issues. It was clarified that dementia was the global term for all diseases, including Alzheimer's and dementia.

Members were informed that Walsall was the lowest at diagnosing but was catching up with other Local Authorities. The Panel were informed that training on dementia for GPs was not mandatory, however early diagnosis could lead to better outcomes and reduce the use of anti-psychotic drugs.

Work within the community was discussed, including dementia friendly status for supermarkets. Members were informed of a newly introduced mental health liaison team within the Manor Hospital, which was made up of 2 nurses, a full time Doctor and two support workers.

Officers stated that carers needed to be looked after to prevent pressure being shifted to the social care system. Officers expressed the view that carers and individuals needed help to live with dementia.

254/13 Draft Work Programme 2013/14 and Forward Plan

The draft Work Programme was noted.

255/13 Date of next meeting

It was noted that the time and date of the next meeting was 6.00 p.m. on 19 September, 2013.

Termination of meeting

There being no further business, the meeting terminated at 8.00 p.m.

Signed:

Date: