

HEALTH SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL

14 SEPTEMBER 2010, 6PM

Panel Members Present Councillor M Yasin(Chair)
Councillor V Woodruff (Vice-Chair)
Councillor M Ahmed
Councillor I Azam
Councillor C Creaney
Councillor M Longhi
Councillor K Sears

Officers Present Paul Davies – Executive Director (Social Care and Inclusion)
Andy Rust - Head of Vulnerable Adults Commissioning
Sue James – Chief Executive Walsall Manor Hospital
Denise McLellan – Chief Executive NHS Walsall
Richard Haynes - Assistant Director, Communications and Involvement
Nikki Ehlen – Scrutiny Officer

20/10 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors I. Robertson and Councillor R. Thomas

21/10 SUBSTITUTIONS

There were no substitution for the duration of the meeting.

22/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND PARTY WHIP

Councillor V Woodruff declared an interest as an employee of Walsall Manor Hospitals NHS Trust

23/10 Transforming Community Services

The Assistant Director, Communications and Involvement discussed proposals to separate commissioning and provider services. Members were assured that the proposals to changes to management of services would not affect services. The panel were advised that services would be transferred by April 2011.

The Chief Executive of NHS Walsall stated that concerns had been expressed that, if services were provided by the Manor Hospital, they may no longer have the same level of protection. However they have been

assured by the Chief Executive for the Manor Hospital that the new organisation providing these services, would have a key profile in moving services forward.

The Chief Executive of the Manor Hospital described changes to the way the hospital worked and the way people were cared for by the hospital. The Head of Vulnerable Adults (Commissioning) informed the panel that new ways of working would save the Council money, for example, less people would go into residential care homes for long periods of time.

Members agreed that changes to the way services were provided and the way people were cared for would improve people's quality of life. The panel sought clarification on the options for nurse led practice at Blakenall Health Centre. It was agreed that if there were any developments on this the Chief Executive of NHS Walsall would inform the panel.

Resolved that;

- The panel should be given further information on the options on the Blakenall Health Centre when available.
- Members agreed a four week period of formal public consultation by NHS Walsall on the proposals set out on Transforming Community Services.
- Members agreed the proposed dates for the formal public consultation
- Members would submit their views on the proposals during the consultation period of 4 October – 29 October 2010

24/10 HEALTH WHITE PAPER: 'EQUALITY AND EXCELLENCE: LIBERATING THE NHS' AND LOCAL DEMOCRATIC LEGITIMACY IN HEALTH – A CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS

Denise McLellan gave the panel a briefing on the White Paper. The role of GPs as budget holders was discussed. Members were informed that GPs would be accountable to the NHS Commissioning board, and there would be an appeals/complaints procedure.

Jim Weston (a member of the public) questioned the role of LINKs; officers stated that there would be an additional role for advocacy as well.

Members questioned how the Council was preparing for these changes, and officers explained that work on the constitutional arrangements and governance was being prepared. The potential to have a shadow board was suggested and officers confirmed that this was an option that would be considered. It was agreed that a report on the progress of this would be taken to the panel at its meeting on 26th November 2010. Members suggested establishing a work group at this meeting to consider the implementation of the White Paper proposals.

Members were invited to meet with the Executive Director of Social Care and Inclusion to discuss the council's response to the white paper and to draft a response to the consultation document 'Local Democratic Legitimacy in Health' before consultation closes on 5 October 2010.

It was acknowledged that these documents contained limited information as it was at consultation stage only. The motion from Council on 13 September 2010 was discussed, as it referred the proposal by the Secretary of State for Health to create 'GP consortia', to the Health Scrutiny and Performance Panel.

RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. Councillors I. Azam, M. Longhi and V. Woodruff will meet with the Executive Director of Social Care and Inclusion to discuss the councils progress in preparing for the proposals within the Health White Paper and to respond to the consultation 'Local Democratic Legitimacy in Health'**
- 2. A report on the council's progress in preparing for the proposals within the Health White Paper is taken to the panel on 26th November meeting of the Health Scrutiny and Performance Panel.**

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the date of the next meeting was 5 October 2010.

The meeting terminated at 7.15 pm

Signed:

Date: