

FOR: COUNCIL MEETING
9th DECEMBER 2014
AGENDA ITEM 6
(GREEN ENCLOSURE)

REPORT OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMUNITY, HOUSING AND HEALTH (OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE

PRESENT:

Councillors Marshall (Chairman), Warfield (Vice Chairman), Mrs Woodward (Vice Chairman), Awty, Mrs Bacon, Mrs Bland, Humphreys, Salter, Taylor and Tittley.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: were received from Councillors Mrs Allsopp, Mrs Evans, and Mrs Flowith.

(In accordance with Council Procedure No. 17 Councillors Greatorex, Mynott and Pullen also attended the meeting.)

ALSO PRESENT:

- Rachel McKeown (Associate Director for Community and Clinical Support Services Division, Burton Hospitals Foundation Trust)
- Alison Wynne (Programme Lead)
- Jan Sensier (Chief Executive for Engaging Communities Staffordshire)
- Anna Hammond (Chief Operating Officer, South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG)

At the meeting of the Community, Housing and Health (Overview & Scrutiny) Committee held on 29th September 2014 the following matters were considered:

1. COMMUNITY HOSPITALS CONSULTATION
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(a) Sir Robert Peel

- 1.1 Members received a report advising that Burton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (BHFT) and South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula Clinical Commissioning Group (SESCCG) had initiated a consultation regarding the future of the day case theatre at Sir Robert Peel Hospital (SRP).
- 1.2 The Committee was joined by Rachel McKeown (Associate Director for Community and Clinical Support Services Division, Burton Hospitals Foundation Trust), Alison Wynne (Programme Lead), Jan Sensier (Chief Executive for Engaging Communities Staffordshire) and Anna Hammond (Chief Operating Officer, South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG). Fazeley Ward Members Councillors Mynott and Pullen were also in attendance.
- 1.3 Rachel McKeown gave a background to the consultation and reported that both Sir Robert Peel and Samuel Johnson hospitals were taken over by Burton NHS Trust in 2011 and there has been a reorganisation looking at the provision of community hospitals. It was reported that use of the theatre at SRP had been declining mainly due to patient choice, changes in medical practice and more day cases being

undertaken in GP surgeries. It was also reported that due to changes in anaesthetic criteria, only patients with a normal BMI and no other health related conditions could be operated on at SRP. It was then reported that the equipment used at SRP was maintained on a regular basis but was coming to the point where significant investment would be required to keep it up to standard. Because of these reasons, it was reported that the NHS Foundation Trust and Clinical Commissioning Group were recommending the closure of the theatre.

- 1.4 It was then reported that a consultation process was underway and being carried out by Health Watch Staffordshire. It was reported that the purpose of the consultation was to investigate what the impact of closure would be and what other services would be best provided. It was also reported that along with a survey there would be three focus groups including one in Lichfield, a public event at the Castle Hotel in Tamworth and staff only and GP only groups. Members were advised that the results of the consultation would be reported to the Trust Board at their December meeting where a final decision would be made.
- 1.5 Members had concerns that taking away services would create a downward spiral of community hospitals and sought reassurances that this would not be the case. Members also felt that the proposal to close the theatre was premature due to the KPMG report into health provision in Staffordshire not being published and the findings not yet known. Jan Sensier reported that advice had been sought by NHS England and it was agreed that this consultation and proposal would not be affected by the KPMG findings and therefore it was acceptable to proceed.
- 1.6 Fazeley Ward Member Councillor Mynott expressed the concerns of his constituents and asked whether a focus group could be held within his ward and it was agreed that this would be considered. He then asked for clarity on where the users of SRP came from and what percentage were from Fazeley. He also asked if hard copies of the consultation document could be given to Members to pass to the public and this was agreed. He then asked how many GP practices offered the same services as the theatre at SRP. It was reported that opportunities to develop the minor surgery services provided by GP had not been optimised, in part because of the availability of the facility at SRP but a skills audit would be undertaken to see what could be provided.
- 1.7 It was noted that there would be an overspend for Health in Staffordshire of around £217m by 2018.
- 1.8 The external invitees were thanked for their attendance and assistance to the Committee.
- 1.9 The proposal to close the day case theatre at Sir Robert Peel Hospital was noted.

(b) Minor Injuries Unit in Cannock Proposal – Have Your Say

- 1.10 Members received a consultation document proposing a reduction in the opening hours of the Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) at Cannock Hospital along with a copy of the District Council's submission. It was reported that due to the consultation closing before the Committee's meeting, the consultation document was circulated to all Burntwood Ward Members in order to alert them to the proposals and give them opportunity to respond.
- 1.11 Data for 2013/14 showed that 659 users of the Cannock MIU were Lichfield District residents, the majority of these being registered with Burntwood practices. It was reported that Councillor Mrs Woodward had provided assistance with the drafting of a letter (signed by Councillor Greatorex on behalf of the District Council) setting out the local concerns.

- 1.12 Members felt that the health service was trying to economise to the point of losing services and reducing out of hours provision would only create greater strain on nearby A&E departments which ultimately would be more costly.
- 1.13 The District Council's response to the consultation was noted.

2. BURNTWOOD HEALTH CENTRES

- 2.1 The Committee received a verbal update by Helen Titterton regarding the Burntwood Health Centres along with notes of a meeting that took place with NHS England on the 7th August 2014. It was also reported that an objective of the meeting was to balance the frustration and anger felt by residents of Burntwood regarding the lack of progress with future provision of primary health care.
- 2.2 Members noted that NHS Property Services had applied to extend the planning permission on the temporary centre at the Burntwood Leisure Centre site. It was also noted that the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO) which owns the site, had also agreed the extension on the sub lease for the temporary health centre.
- 2.3 It was reported that a third practice, which was to be incorporated within the Greenwood House health centre development, would not now take place following the retirement of the GP. Negotiations were continuing with the two remaining practices.
- 2.4 Members felt that simply by having the meeting with NHS England and other partners, progress was being made, and that maintaining pressure and it being a standing item on the Committee's work programme had made a difference and that this approach should continue.
- 2.5 It was asked whether the Skills Centre in Burntwood, currently lying idle, could provide a suitable location for a new health centre. However, it was noted that this Centre has been designed for educational purposes and efforts were being made to bring it back into use.
- 2.6 The information received was noted.

3. FEEDBACK FROM STAFFORDSHIRE HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Committee received notes from the recent meeting of the Staffordshire Health Select Committee. The Chairman reported that he was unable to be at the meeting but would be attending the next one.

4. COMMUNITY TRANSPORT REVIEW & UPDATE

- 4.1 The Committee received a report on progress to date in reviewing the Lichfield District Community Transport Scheme and plans for the future. It was reported as part of the Fit for the Future Programme Phase 1, it had originally been proposed that the service be withdrawn, but following scrutiny by Members and public objection, it had been agreed that the service continue, subject to it moving towards a cost neutral position.

- 4.2 Members heard a brief history of the service and that it originally operated a brokerage system using minibuses belonging to other organisations but that it now currently had three vehicles of its own: one being 15 years old and the others 12 and 6 years old. It was also reported that the scheme operated under a Section 19 permit which allowed organisations which provided transport on a not-for-profit basis to operate without holding a PSV (public service vehicle) operator's licence or a private hire licence.
- 4.3 It was reported that the cost of the scheme to the Council is approximately £20k per year (plus an additional £22k in central support costs). In order to move to a cost neutral position, work was ongoing in terms of raising income and cutting costs. The pilot Dial-a-Ride Service in Burntwood, sponsored by Burntwood Town Council, had recently started and this would contribute to raising income. It was also reported that the charges for the service had been reviewed and a 5% increase was proposed and that this increase had been suggested by users.
- 4.4 It was reported that the next steps were to investigate the options regarding the vehicles as one is particularly old. The options will include replacing the vehicle or operating with only two minibuses. It was also reported that a more proactive approach to marketing the service would be taking place.
- 4.5 Members welcomed the update and noted that early feedback from the Dial a Ride service had been positive.
- 4.6 Members discussed the marketing of the service and agreed that this could be improved. Members expressed concern that too much managerial time was being invested in operational matters which meant that the development of the service was not being progressed. It was reported that as the manager was the only employed officer working on the service, there were a lot of day-to-day issues which needed to be addressed, including driving duties when it was not possible to secure a volunteer. Plans are underway to encourage volunteers to take on the more operational tasks in order to free up management time.
- 4.7 Members noted that limited officer capacity had impacted on the progress of the review of the service, but this had now been completed and an action plan is being developed.
- 4.8 Members gave suggestions on ways to market the service including flyers, radio adverts and cards for Members to distribute.
- 4.9 Members noted that the Constitution for the Scheme was in the process of being updated and that it was proposed that the role of performance monitoring of the scheme should lie with the Committee, and not an advisory board.
- 4.10 The following was resolved:
- (1) That progress to date in reviewing the Community Transport Scheme be noted; and
 - (2) That views of Members on the draft Constitution be fed back.

5. NEW MEASURES TO TACKLE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

- 5.1 The Committee received a report giving an overview of the new measures for tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB) and implications for this at the District Council. It was reported that the Home Office carried out a review in 2010 of existing measures

and found that some tools, including Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs), were bureaucratic, slow and expensive.

- 5.2 It was then reported that after consultation, the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act received Royal Assent in March 2014 and provided new, simplified means for responding to ASB. It was anticipated that the new measures would be introduced in October 2014 via a Commencement Order, however, this had been delayed to January 2015.
- 5.3 The Committee was then introduced to the six new measures for tackling ASB and it was noted that these would replace the current nineteen. It was then reported that there would be a greater penalty charging regime which could be used under the new measures.
- 5.4 It was reported that the new Act required the local policing force to prepare a community remedy document with a list of actions to be carried out by a person who had engaged with ASB or committed an offence which would be dealt with without court proceedings. It was noted that the police needed to consult with the Local Authority in preparing that document.
- 5.5 Members felt that although the simplification of the measures was to be welcomed, there is a risk that the new measures would become 'badges of honour' similar to the current ASBOs.
- 5.6 It was noted that there would be more powers to speed up the possession process for Landlords in cases where ASB in their properties had already been proven.
- 5.7 Members also felt that the increase in ASB in the district, especially in the rural areas, could be attributed to the way 'beat' policing was being carried out and the requirement for police officers to report to the City Centre station and wait for vehicles at the start of their shift. It was noted by Members that there had also been a reduction in Police personnel. It was agreed to create a one-off Task Group and invite the local Police Inspector to a meeting to discuss these matters.
- 5.8 The following was resolved:
 - (1) That a further report on the implementation of the new measures be made to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and
 - (2) That a Task Group consisting of Councillors Mrs Bacon, Taylor, Tittley, Warfield and Chaired by Councillor Greatorex be created and the Inspector of the Lichfield Local Policing Team be invited to a meeting to discuss ASB and other policing matters.

6. LICHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL CCTV ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14 AND CODE OF PRACTICE
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- 6.1 The Committee received a report on the Lichfield District CCTV Annual Report 2013/14 and the Code of Practice for the operation of the system. It was reported that this was the second report of this kind and the first to this Committee as the service area was now part of the remit.
- 6.2 Members asked why the cost per arrest was so high, and it was reported that it was compared to national figures, which included large City Centres and urban areas where there would naturally be a higher number of arrests compared to Lichfield.

- 6.3 Members then asked whether street lighting was considered adequate, as this was an important factor relating to the effectiveness of the cameras and would this be affected if the County Council chose to turn lights off at certain times? It was reported that a review of all cameras had been carried out and that street lighting was considered adequate. It was also reported that all the cameras were now digital which allowed for much better quality. Members were invited to take a tour around the control room if they wished.
- 6.4 Members asked whether there was a way of sharing the cost of the service by joining up with agencies which use Automatic Number Plate Recognition; this would be investigated.
- 6.5 Members then asked what the rules were for domestic use of CCTV and it was reported that such use was acceptable provided as the camera did not point onto the highway.
- 6.6 The CCTV Annual Report 2013/14 and Code of Practice for the operation of Lichfield District CCTV was approved.

7. COMMISSIONING SERVICES FROM THE COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR

- 7.1 The Committee received a verbal report from Cllr. Mrs. Woodward (Chairman of the Member Task Group on Funding the Community and Voluntary Sector). It was reported that the meeting was very useful and that the Task Group had also added to the list of priorities the subject of preventing homelessness. It was also reported that much of the process would change when locality commissioning started and that the task group was in favour of this new approach. It was noted that the Task Group had requested some caveats which they wished to be included to ensure focus on smaller community organisations was not lost.
- 7.2 Officers and Members of the Task Group were thanked for their hard work to date and the information received was noted.

8. WORK PROGRAMME AND FORWARD PLAN

- 8.1 Members discussed the Work Programme and items that could potentially be added. It was requested that a report on the results from the Fit for the Future Consultation be submitted for consideration.
- 8.2 It was also requested that an update be provided on charging for hospital car parking; Mrs Titterton advised she had received some updated figures from the Hospital Trust and would circulate these to Members of the Committee. It was noted that from data received, overall complaints had reduced significantly in the past 6 months.
- 8.3 The Work Programme and Forward Plan was noted and it was agreed that it be amended where necessary.

T. Marshall
Chairman
Community, Housing and Health (Overview & Scrutiny) Committee