

SHOPSHIRE COUNCIL

HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2018
10.00 am - 12.30 pm in the Shrewsbury Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate,
Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND

Responsible Officer: Amanda Holyoak
Email: amanda.holyoak@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257714

Present

Councillors Karen Calder, Madge Shingleton, Gerald Dakin, Simon Harris, Tracey Huffer, Heather Kidd, Paul Milner, Pamela Moseley and Paul Wynn

19 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

There were no apologies for absence.

20 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Madge Shingleton reported that she was a member of Health Concern.

21 Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 November 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2017 were confirmed as a correct record.

22 Public Question Time

A series of questions relating to Maternity Services from Gill George, Chair, Shropshire Defend Our NHS was submitted during public question time (a copy is attached to the signed minutes). The Director of Public Health said he would arrange for a response to be e-mailed. He confirmed that it was intended that CCG proposals would be considered by Shropshire's Committee as well as the Joint Committee with Telford and Wrekin. The Committee would wish to understand how the Hospital Trust itself viewed the proposed consultation on services and would want to establish whether the proposed changes met the needs of rural communities.

23 Member Question Time

There were no questions from Members.

24 Midwife-Led Units

The Chair expressed disappointment that there were no representatives from the CCG or SATH at the meeting able to answer questions and at the lack of detail provided for members.

The Committee agreed to arrange a separate meeting to focus solely on maternity issues at which representatives of the CCG and SATH should be present to address the Committee's questions.

In the meantime, Vanessa Barrett, Healthwatch representative reported on Healthwatch concerns and observations in relation to maternity service proposals. These covered:

- Equity of provision – there did not appear to have been a clear needs assessment undertaken before the review of Midwife Led Units. There appeared to be disparity in levels of service available in the north east of the county, which was an area of poor public transport and a higher rate of teenage pregnancy. No hub was planned for this area.
- Timing of consultation – It was difficult to achieve an informed view of MLUs and maternity patterns before the location of Women's and Children's Services were determined by the Future Fit process.
- The 'you say – we did' part of the report did not appear to address whether there would be enough postnatal beds in a single maternity centre, or whether post-natal visits were planned.
- Comments received by Healthwatch gave a favourable view of the 3 Midwife Led Units, there had been 40 favourable comments in relation to the Women's and Children's Centre and 70 negative, 20 of which had related to the distance to get there.

The Chair also observed that questions asked about levelling up of the service did not appear to be reflected in proposals.

Another Member had previously asked about the number of beds which would be available over a two site model and about postnatal care over a period of 10 days. This information had not yet been provided.

Sam Tilley, Director of Corporate Affairs, Shropshire CCG was able to report that the consultation documentation and impact assessment were currently being developed. Work was also underway with the Communications and Engagement Team to update the consultation list and scope venues for consultation events. This work was being informed by the Consultation Institute and would be subject to the NHS England assurance process. An event was scheduled to take place on 8 February 2018 and this would be the start of a new 50 day process before formal consultation could be launched.

In response to questions from Members she explained that the Consultation Institute was, a best-practice, not-for-profit, independent body offering advice and guidance in relation to public consultation and engagement.

AGREED:

that an additional meeting be held on Maternity Services/Midwife Led Services and include not only Officers who had led the CCG consultation, also the Head of Midwifery and the Medical Director for Obstetric Services, but if they are not available that they arrange for

clinicians to be present who are able to answer the Committee's questions on how staff would be utilised.

25 Housing and The Local Plan

Members considered a report, presented by the Director of Adult Services, on Housing and the Local Plan (a copy is attached to the signed minutes).

The report set out the context relating to demands placed upon Adult Social Care and the links this had with independent and supported living options in the county. It also focused on the current situation in Shropshire in terms of tenure, housing type and how this related to affordability and lifetime homes as well as exploring future options, planned developments and innovative projects relating to assistive technologies.

The Committee felt the report was extremely useful in setting out current issues. Discussion included the following areas:

- Adult Social Care and Health were drivers of the economy and there were a series of opportunities which had not been explored previously - to address areas from expediting hospital discharge to attracting people to fill jobs all over the county
- The Directors of Public Health and Adult Social Care were now both under the same Portfolio Holder which enabled closer working.
- The Task and Finish Group on Maternity Services had explored whether housing could be used to attract and retain staff
- Implementation of Building regulations would be important so that homes could last for a lifetime. The Planning system also needed to be alert to cases for example, where a family wished to build a house for a disabled child. The Director of Adult Services reported that discussions were underway to address these issues. A member of the Scrutiny Committee who was also the Chair of the North Planning Committee reported that a meeting was to be held in the next week to discuss these sorts of issues.
- The Fire Authority health and wellbeing home visits were welcomed but Members reiterated that GP involvement would be essential at the heart of multi-use hubs. The Director of Public Health reported that CCG colleagues had picked up neighbourhood planning and GP 5year view re alignment of future primary care services to enable access to high quality care. He referred to a model in Holland where there was a stronger role for District Nurses.

Members were pleased that a shorter and easier housing needs survey had been developed and emphasised the need to obtain the views and needs of people who were having to live in the homes of relatives or had moved away from the area in which they wished to live.

The Portfolio Holder emphasised that Housing Needs Assessments were a key to securing the housing needed in a local area, rather than what a developer wished to build. The Director of Adult Services added that the Council held all the components that could

be controlled to allow the county to develop where it was needed and to manage properties in the best way.

Members also asked about Disabled Facilities Grants and heard that extra funds had been secured to allow exploration of discretionary grants which would help keep people at home. Members also heard it was possible for the Council to fund work and place a land charge on a property so that this could be recovered when the property was sold.

Members were reassured that social isolation was seen as a critical factor and simple to control universal technology would help link carers with the cared for in the community. This work would not be implemented if it was thought it might create further isolation.

The Director of Adult Services confirmed that members would be able to visit Living Labs as requested.

Members agreed that there was much in the report that the Committee would wish to keep abreast of and that a future report would be welcomed. As part of this work it was suggested that planning officers be invited to attend the Committee.

Members thanked the Directors, Portfolio Holder and officers for the report.

26 Community Pharmacy

Members considered a report, copy attached to signed minutes, which explained that the Shropshire Health and Wellbeing Board were undertaking a formal consultation on the draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) - a statement of the local need for pharmaceutical services. This would be used to support the commissioning of pharmacy services based on local priorities and used by NHS England to decide whether there is a need for new pharmacies in the area.

The closing date for the consultation was 18 March 2018 and the document was due to be sent to NHS England on 1 April 2018.

Members asked if gaps identified in the previous Pharmacy Needs Assessment had been addressed and if not, why not. They also discussed how accessibility to a pharmacy was defined, and what could be done about the gaps, eg there was just one pharmacy in Bishop's Castle and one in Craven Arms, a significant distance apart and with little or no public transport available.

The Director of Public Health suggested inviting NHS England and the Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC) to a meeting to consider such accessibility issues. The LPC represented both very large and small local pharmacies.

Vanessa Barrett, Healthwatch Representative, referred to the consultation that had taken place when changes to pharmacy remuneration had been introduced. Issues had arisen around free collection and delivery services which were essential for rural communities. She also reported that the update of pharmacies offering emergency contraception seemed low, perhaps due to a training need.

The Director of Public Health referred to tension in the LPC between some very large and some very local organisations. The Committee could ask to see both kinds of representatives.

The Committee asked for clarification on what it was being asked to do in relation to the PNA. The Director of Public Health said that the paper was for information only, and a report could be provided in more depth and on particular sections if requested. The Committee could respond to the consultation if it wished to, or the document could be brought back once finalised. He confirmed that the Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Cheshire and Staffordshire documents would be reviewed as part of Shropshire's work.

Members went on to share anecdotal evidence about electronic prescribing working extremely well in some cases and being too slow in others. The Director of Public Health said that this was a linked issue but the PNA focused on the geographic pattern of pharmacies. The Committee asked that a letter be written to the Chair of the Local Pharmaceutical Committee highlighting the problems identified.

The Committee also asked that the Director of Public Health arrange for a letter be written to GP Patient Participation Groups asking them to contribute to the PNA consultation.

27 Future Work Programme

Members considered the proposals for the work programme and discussed the following areas:

Community Bed review – The Director of Corporate Affairs, Shropshire CCG, explained that plans would start to gain momentum in the next few months. Out of hospital working was a complex and vast area and more information would be available in March time.

The Statutory Scrutiny Officer suggested that the Committee could do something outside of a formal committee to understand what was happening and scope its work in a more flexible environment.

The Chair emphasised the need for the Committee to be public facing and invite relevant stakeholders to participate in its work.

The Statutory Scrutiny Officer reported on scrutiny plans around place shaping involving a number of the Overview Committees and agreed to keep the Chair cited on this.

It was suggested that a future review of housing should consider the impact of Council actions. The Chair of the North Planning Committee confirmed that he would pass on the comments of the Committee to the meeting he would be attending on housing type and need across rural areas.

With regard to pharmaceutical issues, the Statutory Scrutiny Officer emphasised the need for the Committee to be clear on what it wished to achieve with each topic so time could be allocated accordingly.

The Director of Public Health suggested a focused session on pharmacy in May or June which could include the practicalities of accessing services.

Signed (Chairman)

Date: