

MINUTES OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING
17th JANUARY 2013

Present:

Councillor Matthews (in the Chair)

Councillors

Stansfield Hardy H Mitchell

O'Hara Hutton Doherty

In attendance:

Mr I. Treasure, Dr A. Doyle, Mr R. Fisher and Ms H. Skerritt, NHS Blackpool.
Ms K. Holland, Mrs P. Oliver and Dr M. O'Donnell, Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Mrs E. Foster and Mr I. Leonard, Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust.

Ms D. Nixon, NHS Blackburn with Darwen.

Mr S. Sienkiewicz, Blackpool Council.

Mrs N. Rogers, Blackpool Local Involvement Network.

Mr M. Martin, Lancashire Local Involvement Network.

Councillor I. Taylor, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22nd November 2012

The Committee agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd November 2012, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no applications for public speaking at the meeting.

4. BLACKPOOL TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Ms K. Holland, Head of Performance, Planning and Contracting at Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, provided the Committee with an update on recent progress and developments at the Trust.

The update report included details of the newly appointed Chief Executive of the Trust; the work on the multi-storey car park and new hospital entrance; the emergency department refurbishment and the visit to the Trust of the Health Minister, Dr Daniel Poulter.

The Committee went on to receive a presentation on the topic of Standardised Mortality. Dr O'Donnell explained to the Committee that Blackpool had experienced higher than average standardised mortality rates and the reasons behind that. He made the distinction between crude mortality rates (actual death rates) and standardised mortality rates which took into account a range of measures for various factors. These included any mitigating factors that a patient might have when admitted to hospital. He explained that clinicians were being trained to improve the recording of medical notes that would lead to improve standardised mortality rates, as well as a range of other improvement measures that were being taken. The trend was now an improving one, towards the national average.

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Dr O'Donnell emphasised that various independent assessments had backed up the assertion that the standardised mortality rates had no bearing on the level of care at the Trust which was found to be very good, as well as the care that was given within the local community.

The Committee agreed to note the report and content of the presentation.

Background Papers: None.

5. PUBLIC CONSULTATION – IMPROVING PATIENT CARE, THE NEXT STEPS

Mrs S. Sienkiewicz, Scrutiny Manager, reminded the Committee that at its last meeting on 22nd November, it was agreed that a working group, comprising of Councillors Matthews, Hardy, O'Hara and Jones would be formed to look into and formulate a response to the Fylde Coast Public Consultation 'Improving patient care, the next steps'.

The Committee was provided with the draft response to the consultation, which had been formulated by the working group at its meeting on 9th January.

Responding to questions from the Committee concerning the service currently provided by Spiral Health at Bispham Hospital, Ms H. Skerritt, Director of Nursing and Quality at NHS Blackpool, confirmed that the service would form part of the separate unscheduled care review that would be taking place. She agreed to provide a more detailed report on this at the next meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee on 28th February.

The Committee agreed to approve the draft response of the working group and for this to be submitted as the Committee's response to the consultation.

Background Papers: None.

6. PUBLIC CONSULTATION – WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE SPECIALIST DEMENTIA CARE SERVICES IN LANCASHIRE

The Committee considered the content of the public consultation document 'Working together to improve specialist dementia care services in Lancashire'. The document had been issued to all Members at the launch of the consultation on 3rd December 2012.

The document was supplemented by a presentation delivered by Ms D. Nixon, Mental Health Lead Officer for NHS Blackburn with Darwen. As part of the presentation, it was explained that Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust had worked closely with partners, clinicians, people with dementia and their carers to develop a set of consultation proposals on the future provision of specialist dementia inpatient facilities and the parallel development of a comprehensive provision of community based dementia services in every locality across Lancashire. The proposals were presented in the form of two options (along with the benefits and drawbacks of each option) as follows:

Option 1: £11m investment in community health services, together with £4m investment in specialist hospital services consisting of 30 beds on one site at 'The Harbour', Blackpool. This would consist of single sex accommodation across 2 wards, each with 15 beds.

Option 2: £7m investment in community health services, together with £8m investment in specialist hospital services consisting of 40 beds on two sites at 'The Harbour' and on the Royal Blackburn Hospital site. Each site would have single sex accommodation across 2 wards, each with 10 beds.

Ms Nixon responded to questions from the Committee on the subjects of average hospital inpatient duration and the rising dementia care needs, the main reason for which was linked to the increasing average age of the population.

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Having considered the implications of both options, the Committee agreed to favour Option 1 and for this to be acknowledged by way of a formal response to the consultation.

Background Papers: None.

7. BLACKPOOL HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

The Committee considered the minutes from the meeting of the shadow Health and Wellbeing Board that took place on 19th December 2012.

The Committee agreed that the minutes be noted.

Background Papers: None.

8. JOINT LANCASHIRE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Mr S. Sienkiewicz, Scrutiny Manager, reminded the Committee that the next meeting of the Joint Lancashire Health Scrutiny Committee would take place at 10.00am on Tuesday 22nd January, in relation to the review of vascular services across the North West region.

The Committee noted the update and agreed that Councillors Matthews and Stansfield would attend the meeting.

Background Papers: None.

9. COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

The Committee considered its Workplan for the remainder of the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

The Committee agreed that the Workplan be noted.

Background Papers: None.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed to note the date of the next meeting as Thursday 28th February 2013, at 6.00pm.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 6.51 p.m.)

For any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
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