

# **ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE**

## **MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

6 July 2015

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

### **Present:**

Councillor: Carl Richardson (In the Chair)

Councillors: Kelly Atkinson, Sandra Belcher, Sylvia Tempest and Stephen Thomas

### **Also Present:**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 5.2 (ii) Councillor Jim Lindridge was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Paul Beck

Councillors Alan Clark and George Springer  
Judith Gray, Maureen Lockwood and Liz Fletcher –  
Healthwatch Representatives

Ben Smith, Locality Manager, Tees Esk & Wear Valley NHS  
Foundation Trust

Members of the Public – Evelyn Leck, Sue Little and A  
Sowerby

Officers: Jill Harrison, Assistant Director, Adult Services  
Neil Harrison, Head of Service, Adult Services  
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

## **10. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Paul Beck and Brenda Loynes.

## **11. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Thomas declared a personal interest in Minutes 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 as an employee of Healthwatch.

## **12. Minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2015**

Received

## **13. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

### Minute 9 Care Homes – Verbal Update

Reference was made to the following decision taken at the last meeting:-

(ii) *“That the future of social care in Hartlepool and the impact of continuing budget cuts be explored”*

and clarification was provided that the intention of Members at that meeting was that the future of older persons’ residential care in Hartlepool would be explored in light of the ongoing changes and developments in market provision and continuing budget cuts as opposed to the entire remit of social care.

In response to a request for an update in this regard since the last meeting, the Assistant Director reported that a meeting had been held with the Care Quality Commission and Clinical Commissioning Group regarding the recent closure of a nursing home with a view to reviewing how the process had worked to determine any improvements that could be made in handling such issues in future, feedback from which would be presented to a future meeting of the Tees Safeguarding Adults Board.

A query was raised with regard to other homes within the Four Winds Group to which Members were advised that enforcement action was ongoing. It was noted that feedback was awaited regarding an inspection that had taken place the previous week and would be available on the CQC website once published.

A Member referred to a recent Health Watch England conference where the importance of strong collaborative links between the Care Quality Commission and the roles of local authorities and Healthwatch in such processes had been emphasised. Such links had been successfully established in various parts of the country including Newcastle whereby six monthly meetings were being held between the Care Quality Commission, local authorities and Healthwatch, the benefits of which were outlined. Emphasis was placed upon the need for a formal arrangement of this type to be rolled out in Hartlepool. The Assistant Director would make the necessary arrangements with the CQC to establish a similar process in Hartlepool.

In response to queries raised, the Assistant Director provided clarification in terms of the impact of the closures on availability of

nursing bed provision and potential future uses of a nursing home that had recently closed. A number of concerns were raised regarding the limited number of nursing beds available in the town. Results of recent occupancy surveys were provided. Members were disappointed to note the limited number of nursing beds currently available given that demand would significantly increase in the winter months. The importance of preparations being made in advance of the winter period to avoid a crisis situation was highlighted. Whilst Members acknowledged that discussions were ongoing with the CCG, as commissioner for nursing provision, as to whether there was potential to expand provision, the Committee was of the view that urgent consideration needed to be given to older persons residential care provision as a single item agenda. Invited representatives should include the Clinical Commissioning Group and care home providers as well as the Care Quality Commission to facilitate a full debate. The timescales for the meeting were discussed and Members requested that the meeting be held in September or October. It was agreed that an additional meeting be scheduled if necessary.

#### Minute 8 – Healthwatch Hartlepool Hospital Discharge Project Action Plan

Examples of patients with COPD experiencing difficulties accessing support were shared with the Committee and concerns were expressed that cuts in staffing levels were contributing to the problem. Reference was made to the decision taken at the last meeting to refer the Committee's concerns in relation to access to the COPD Service to the Audit and Governance Committee as part of the scrutiny investigation monitoring process. In terms of a way forward, it was suggested that this issue also be referred to the Health and Wellbeing Board and raised with the CCG via Healthwatch.

#### **Decision**

- (i) That urgent consideration be given to older persons residential care provision in Hartlepool as a single item agenda in September or October 2015 with invited representatives in attendance to include the Clinical Commissioning Group and care home providers as well as the Care Quality Commission.
- (ii) That the concerns of the Committee, as outlined above, in relation to access and support from the COPD service be referred to the Health and Wellbeing Board and raised with the CCG via Healthwatch.

## **14. Day Opportunities – Consultation on Fairer Pricing Framework** (*Director of Child and Adult Services* )

### **Type of decision**

Key decision (test ii applies) – Forward Plan Ref CAS 036/15

### **Purpose of report**

To seek approval from the Adult Services Committee to engage with stakeholders regarding

- the service delivery model for the new Centre for Independent Living; and
- the implementation of a fairer pricing framework for adult day opportunities.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Head of Service presented the report which provided background information in relation to the proposals to develop a new Centre for Independent Living. The Centre would provide a range of services that supported adults with a disability to live more independently with a focus on promoting health and wellbeing, meaningful activity and access to community facilities and employment, details of which were set out in the report.

The existing day services at Havelock Street, Cromwell Street, Warren Road and Handprints would transfer to the new CIL. The new CIL would continue to accommodate a range of local community groups and disability related organisations. The benefits of the proposals were provided, as detailed in the report.

The report included proposals for a Fairer Pricing Framework for adult day opportunities, financial considerations as well as engagement and consultation proposals for Members consideration.

In the discussion that followed the Head of Service and Assistant Director responded to issues raised by Members in relation to the proposals including clarification on the charging arrangements for adult day services.

Members welcomed the report and progress made to date.

## **Decision**

- (i) The Committee agreed to the proposed process of engagement with stakeholders regarding the service delivery model for the new Centre for Independent Living and the implementation of a fairer pricing framework for adult day opportunities.
- (ii) That a further report be received in January/February 2016 which would provide feedback on the consultation and engagement exercise and make further recommendations regarding the new service model and fairer pricing framework.

## **15. Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust – Care Quality Commission Inspection Feedback** *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

### **Type of decision**

No decision required – for information

### **Purpose of report**

To provide an update on the Care Quality Commission (CQC) Inspection of services provided by Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV)

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The report provided background information to the CQC inspection framework together with details of the role of the CQC.

With regard to Tees Esk and Wear Valley's NHS Foundation Trust inspection, carried out in January 2015 and published in May 2015, Members were advised that the overall rating given to TEWV was 'Good', a breakdown of which was included in the report. The CQC had provided 12 service based overview reports in relation to the inspection of TEWV provision which included a number of positive comments relating to Hartlepool, details of which were provided.

The report highlighted several areas of good practice and areas for improvement. Good practice areas included the operation of a steering group and champions for positive behaviour support by the Learning and Disability and Autism Service, a programme within substance misuse services to provide emergency medical treatment for those identified as high risk of opiate overdose.

Areas for improvement included a need to review the covert administration of medication without reference to the pharmacist or a best interest meeting, ensure that intervention plans were in place in acute wards which outlined measures to manage any risks of patient safety and ensuring that each patient in the learning disability wards had a comprehensive discharge plan.

The Head of Service introduced the Locality Manager who responded to issues raised by Members in relation to the report. Clarification was provided regarding processes for the the administration of medication and monitoring and inspection arrangements.

### **Decision**

That the outcome of the recent CQC inspection of TEWV services be noted and a further report be received in six months time to outline progress made by TEWV in implementation of the CQC recommendations.

## **16. Outcome of Peer Challenge** (*Director of Child and Adult Services*)

### **Type of decision**

No decision required – for information

### **Purpose of report**

To provide an update on the outcome of the peer challenge of mental health services that was undertaken through the Local Government Association in November 2014 and progress to date in relation to areas identified for consideration.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Assistant Director reported on the background to Hartlepool's Peer Challenge which took place in November 2014 and focused on mental health services. The review focused on three key themes, service delivery, working together and vision, strategy and leadership and for each area the team identified key strengths and areas for consideration, a summary of which was set out in the report.

An action plan had been developed to address the areas for consideration that had been identified, attached at Appendix 1. The

action plan indicated that all the areas identified had been given further consideration, with actions taken in a number of areas. This included development of a Joint Mental Health Implementation Plan and a review of capacity within the mental health teams resulting in two additional posts being funded.

### **Decision**

That the outcome of the peer challenge and the work that had been undertaken in the areas identified for further consideration be noted.

## **17. Mental Health – S136 Update** (*Director of Child and Adult Services*)

### **Type of decision**

No decision required – for information

### **Purpose of report**

To provide an update to the Adult Services Committee on the relocation of the S136 assessment suite to Roseberry Park Hospital and wider developments to support people experiencing a mental health crisis.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The report outlined the background to the rationale for relocating the S136 assessment suite to Roseberry Park and subsequent concerns in respect of the move and concerns in relation to police intervention.

As part of the CQC inspection in January 2015, a range of patients and carers were interviewed both on an individual and group basis. Overall the feedback was positive in relation to the care and treatment received. Initial feedback from Cleveland Police and North East Ambulance Service in relation to the new Crisis Assessment Unit was that the experience for patients, carers and other agencies had greatly improved. However, feedback was limited at this point with the unit only commencing officially from 1 June.

The Committee was advised that as a result of the inspection key areas for improvement for the Tees area had been identified and various actions had already been implemented in response to the recommendations, details of which were provided. Members were referred to the role of the requirements of the Crisis Care Concordat and the support arrangements for people experiencing a mental health

crisis.

In the discussion that followed a Member highlighted the importance of improving communication arrangements in future in relation to any major service changes of this type. The need to consult with Health Watch as a partner organisation at the start of the process as opposed to the consultation stage was highlighted. In response, the Locality Manager provided assurances that regular meetings would be scheduled with Health Watch in future. Transport difficulties experienced by family members accessing patients at Sandwell Park were also highlighted. The need to explore how current inter-agency working arrangements were currently operating in detail was highlighted.

In relation to a query raised regarding usage figures since the suite was moved from Hartlepool to Middlesbrough, the Locality Manager agreed to provide statistical information in this regard as a comparator with previous data. Members were particularly interested to note whether the number of self presenters had increased or decreased since the suite had moved from Hartlepool as well as information on age range, gender and whether individuals were in employment.

Clarification was provided in response to issues highlighted in the report which included clarification on the requirements of the Mental Health Act and the reasons for moving the suite to Middlesbrough.

A lengthy discussion ensued in relation to mental health issues generally. Concerns were raised that individuals with mental health needs were being inappropriately placed in police accommodation. The Assistant Director explained the definition of a place of safety indicating that police premises or health premises may be utilised if deemed appropriate. Members were of the view that police cells were not an appropriate place for individuals with mental health issues.

Reference was made to the value of initial work by Health Watch and the Street Triage Team in addressing this issue. An update on this initiative would be provided in due course. It was noted that there had been an increase in the number of males accessing the street triage team. The need to widely publicise the mental health support mechanisms available including the work of the Street Triage Team to encourage individuals with mental health problems to seek support was emphasised. The importance of targeting hard to reach groups was also suggested

## **Decision**

- (i) That the information on the relocation of the S136 assessment suite to Roseberry Park Hospital and the wider developments underway to support people experiencing a



- mental health crisis be noted.
- (ii) That mental health support mechanisms be widely publicised.
- (iii) That statistical data be provided to a future meeting of this Committee to include usage figures for Roseberry Park as a comparator with previous figures for the Hartlepool S136 suite.

## **18. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent**

The Chairman ruled that the following items of business should be considered by the Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(B) (4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 in order that the matter could be dealt with without delay.

## **19. Any Other Business – Site Visit – Waverley Terrace**

The Chair reminded Members that a site visit to the Waverley Terrace Allotment site had been arranged for Tuesday 7 July. Transport would leave the rear of the Civic Centre at 10.00 am.

## **20. Any Other Business – Inclusion North Event**

A Member referred to a recent Inclusion North Learning Disability Event held in South Shields and suggested that it may be beneficial to hold a similar event in Hartlepool. The Head of Service agreed to take this to the Learning Disability Partnership Board for consideration.

The meeting concluded at 11.35 am.

**P J DEVLIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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