

ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

5 October 2017

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

Present:

Councillor: Stephen Thomas (In the Chair)

Councillors: Mike McLaughlin and Carl Richardson

Also present:

Louise Dauncey, North East Commissioning Support Unit
Jo Heaney, Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical
Commissioning Group
David Brown, Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation
Trust

Members of the public:

Gordon and Stella Johnston, Frank Harrison and Sue Little

Officers: Jill Harrison, Director of Adult & Community Based Services
John Lovatt, Assistant Director, Adult Social Care
Neil Harrison, Head of Service, Adult Services
Jeanette Willis, Head of Strategic Commissioning - Adult
Services
Angela Armstrong, Principal Democratic Services Officer

29. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lesley Hamilton and Brenda Loynes.

30. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Stephen Thomas declared a personal interest as an employee of Healthwatch and in particular in minute 33 as a Healthwatch representative on the Health Action Sub-Group which is looking at learning disabilities.

31. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2017

Received.

32. Matters arising from the Minutes

None.

33. Learning Disability Mortality (*Director of Adult and Community Based Services*)

Type of decision

For information.

Purpose of report

To provide the Committee with an update on learning disability mortality.

Issue(s) for consideration

The report referred to a range of publications including Mencap's 2007 Death by Indifference report. As a result of this report, an independent inquiry was undertaken in 2008 which concluded that there was evidence of a significant level of avoidable suffering and a high likelihood that there were deaths occurring which could be avoided for people with learning disabilities. A subsequent inquiry had taken place in 2013 which highlighted that the most common certified underlying causes of death for people with learning disabilities were heart and circulatory disorders, respiratory diseases and cancers. Attached by way of Appendix was information on the national position in relation to median age at death for both males and females dying between the years of 2001 and 2014 along with local information regarding health conditions for people with learning disabilities.

It was highlighted that the Learning Disability Mortality Review (LeDeR) Programme commenced in June 2015 and aimed to make improvements to the lives of people with learning disabilities and clarify factors associated with a person's death. The purpose of the review was to identify if there were any potentially avoidable contributory factors associated with the deaths of people with learning disabilities. Governance and oversight of this review was being lead by NHS England and would receive reports from this programme on progress and outputs in local areas.

It was noted that in Hartlepool during 2016/17 there were 7 deaths reported to the LeDeR programme with a further 3 during the period 1 April to 31 August 2017. To date there had been no findings published following the reporting of deaths to the LeDeR programme with only 2 deaths being taken forward for further investigation. The Health Sub-Group of the Hartlepool Learning Disability Partnership Board was responsible for ensuring that people with learning disabilities were included in local decisions affecting healthcare. The representative from Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) confirmed that the Health Action Sub-Group had been re-established in Hartlepool and had developed an action plan to address the recognised identified causes of death such as circulatory and respiratory issues. In response to

a question from a Member, the representative from the CCG confirmed that the action plan aimed to ensure an increased uptake in flu vaccinations and cancer screening for all minority groups, including asylum seekers. A Member expressed concern that the mortality rate did not appear to be reducing. The representative from the CCG indicated that a lot of work had been undertaken over the previous 2-3 years around screening and it had been recognised that a more targeted focussed approach was required in respect of people with learning disabilities with Health Facilitators and Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Trust (TEWV) in relation to accessibility of screening and vaccinations as part of the prevention agenda. The representative from the CCG added that one of the challenges faced was the information provided from the Annual Health Checks undertaken and the fact that this was not available until the end of the year. However, work was ongoing with local GPs along with looking at areas of best practice to identify low uptake of screening to inform targeted work with health facilitators to increase this.

A discussion ensued on the options available to people with learning disabilities from GP practices. The representative from the CCG confirmed that several training events had been held with GPs in relation to the barriers and challenges of annual health checks for people with learning disabilities, including making the documentation more user friendly. It was highlighted that support was provided through health facilitators who were able to attend annual health checks with people with learning disabilities. Work was ongoing to target GP surgeries with a high number of patients with learning disabilities to ensure they were encouraged to attend for health checks, flu vaccinations and screening.

In response to a question about the services that used to be provided at Hart Lodge, the Head of Service confirmed that these services were now provided from within the Centre for Independent Living (CIL) and encompassed a much improved service. It was noted that there had been some concerns raised regarding the importance of continuity of the staff working with people with learning disabilities and the Head of Service confirmed that work had been undertaken to develop relationships between service users and Community Nurses and this had resulted in a positive impact.

A member of the public raised some specific issues in relation to crisis planning and the Head of Service indicated that he would refer them to the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board for further discussion.

The Chair referred to a piece of work undertaken by Healthwatch in relation to screening through visiting GP practices and noted that the response received from GPs was disappointing. This highlighted that there was significant work to do with GPs, including through the GP Federation, to improve screening to build on the positive work undertaken previously. The message from the Committee was that Hartlepool should be at the forefront of the preventative agenda including promoting screening for people with learning disabilities. The representative from the

CCG informed Members that as part of the ongoing work, each GP practice was to identify a champion for people with learning disabilities who would have responsibility for ensuring the practice had made any reasonable adjustments necessary to facilitate accessibility and availability to a point of contact from a health perspective. It was noted that an update on the implementation of this would be reported to a future meeting of the Committee.

Decision

- (1) That the information regarding learning disability mortality and the local approach to address these issues was noted.
- (2) That Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group provide an update on the implementation of GP practice champions for learning disabilities across Hartlepool to a future meeting of the Committee.

34. Public Consultation on Health Respite Care for Adults with Learning Disabilities *(Director of Adult and Community Based Services)*

Type of decision

Non key.

Purpose of report

To provide the Committee with an update regarding a public consultation on health respite care for adults with learning disabilities which is being undertaken by NHS Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) as commissioner of the servicer. This includes an update on the outcome of previous stakeholder engagement activities, as well as proposed service options.

Issue(s) for consideration

A video produced by the CCG was shown to the Committee regarding the public consultation on Health Respite Care for Adults with Learning Disabilities. It was noted that currently, NHS commissioned bed based respite provision was provided to the Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees CCG population by Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust at Aysgarth, Stockton and 2 Bankfields Court, Middlesbrough. Work had been undertaken to map the respite services currently available and an analysis of capacity and activity, as well as individual assessed needs. A market engagement exercise had been undertaken with further more detailed market engagement planned through Inclusion North. In addition to this, stakeholder engagement activities had been undertaken by local Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations with views and involvement sought from approximately 120 individuals across Tees. It was noted that it was expected to have enhanced services for people with learning disabilities and complex needs available by September 2018.

There were two options developed that were considered to best meet the

priorities identified by the people who participated in the engagement and by the CCGs and these were outlined in the report. It was noted that the Council's Audit and Governance Committee as well as the Regional Health Scrutiny Committee would also be included within this engagement process as the proposals were considered a significant change to service delivery.

It was highlighted by the Director of Adult and Community Based Services that, at the present time, there were no beds available in community settings within Hartlepool that could meet the potentially complex health needs of the individuals concerned. While it was recognised that market engagement had taken place, with further activity planned, Members felt that it was essential to ensure that there were a range of choices available for Hartlepool residents that were accessible and provided by organisations with the appropriate skills and infrastructure to meet their needs. The representative from the CCG indicated that an update would be provided for the Committee after the mid-point review of the engagement process which was due to be undertaken.

The second issue raised by the Committee related to the financial envelope available for the service, which was identified as being £1.5m per annum across the four Tees Local Authority areas. While recognising the financial challenges faced across the public sector and the need to deliver services as efficiently and cost effectively as possible, the Committee was concerned that this level of funding may be insufficient to meet future need given the increasing number of people with complex needs moving into adulthood and the implications of the Transforming Care Programme, which will see more people with complex needs supported within local communities. The Committee requested that the financial commitment to this service provision be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that it continued to be adequate to meet identified need.

The Chair noted that while the above concerns of Members should be recognised, the Committee expressed support for Option 1 which involved commissioning a range of beds in community settings instead of the beds within 2 Bankfields Court, Middlesbrough and Aysgarth in Stockton. The Committee also noted that this was the favoured option during the recent public consultation event held in Hartlepool.

The Director of Adult and Community Based Services commented that the term 'respite' can be perceived very negatively and the CCG was asked to consider using the term 'short break care', or something similar, as an alternative, to reflect that this type of care was usually planned as part of a wider care package and can be very positive for both the individual and their family and/or carer(s).

Decision

- (1) The progress of the review was noted.
- (2) The proposed further co-development of the service options was noted.
- (3) The Committee expressed support for Option 1 as noted above with the caveat that the concerns expressed by Members in relation to ensuring that the range of choices made available to Hartlepool residents were accessible and provided by organisations with the appropriate skills and infrastructure to meet their needs, along with a request to ensure that the financial commitment to this service provision be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that it continues to be adequate to meet identified need and these comments be fed back through the consultation process.

35. Annual Complaints, Compliments and Representations Report 2016/17 *(Director of Adult and Community Based Services)*

Type of decision

For information.

Purpose of report

To present the Annual Complaints, Compliments and Representations report for 2016/17.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Director of Adult and Community Based Services presented the Annual Report, attached at Appendix A which summarised the complaints, compliments and representations received within 2016/17 and provided information to demonstrate the learning that had arisen from complaints and the actions implemented as a result.

In 2016/17, 94 compliments had been received in relation to Adult Social Care and examples of these were included in Appendix A. It was noted that 19 complaints had been received in 2016/17 which was an increase of 3 on the previous year, 18 of which went on to be investigated. Complaints that were either partly upheld or upheld were outlined within Appendix 2 of the Annual Report.

In response to a question from a Member, the Director of Adult and Community Based Services confirmed that it was very rare that complaints were received about individual staff members and that there were mechanisms in place to ensure staff were supported if this did occur. A Member commented that this was a very good report which showed an increase in compliments. The Chair echoed these positive comments and asked that all staff be thanked for their hard work and commitment in the provision of services.

Clarification was sought on the link across several complaints around capacity and whether this was an area that could be improved upon. The Assistant Director of Adult Social Care advised that this was a complex area of work where communication with staff was vital and occurred in numerous ways. The key issue was to maintain the learning culture that was in place and to ensure that support was in place for people with caring responsibilities.

Decision

That the contents of the Annual Complaints, Compliments and Representations were noted along with the fact that the report will be published online.

36. Commissioning Framework for Adult Services (*Director of Adult and Community Based Services*)

Type of decision

For information.

Purpose of report

To provide the Committee with information regarding the commissioning framework within Adult Services.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Head of Strategic Commissioning presented a detailed and comprehensive report which looked at the current commissioning framework for adult services including partnership agreements; Teeswide framework agreements; Individual Service Funds and tendered contracts. Further details were provided on the differences between block contracts, framework contracts and fixed term service contracts. The risks associated with the commissioning framework were outlined in the report.

In response to a request for clarification from a member of the public, the Head of Strategic Commissioning indicated that individuals requiring residential care had a choice about where they lived and also advised that people were required to contribute to the cost of this care should they have the means to do so. However, there were lots of legal frameworks in place to ensure elderly people were supported and not put in a vulnerable position, including in instances of financial abuse.

The Chair referred to the Teeswide framework agreement relating to autism support and sought reassurance that the service being received in relation to support for people with autism and their carers was the best that it could be through this agreement. The Head of Strategic Commissioning confirmed that the Teeswide framework agreement enabled a range of providers to be accredited, which in turn increased the range of options available to service users and was a positive way of approaching this service provision.

The Head of Strategic Commissioning indicated that the Local Authority was building positive relationships with providers and working alongside them as partners to reshape the market to suit the needs of residents through the development of the service they provide. The Director of Adult and Community Based Services highlighted that within the limited resources available there had been substantial success over the last 12 months working with and supporting current and new providers to ensure the services provided meet the needs of local people.

Decision

The complexity of the commissioning framework for adult services and the requirement for flexibility in ensuring there was a vibrant and sustainable care market in accordance with the statutory duties set out in the Care Act 2014 were noted.

37. Departmental Annual Procurement Report – Adult Services Committee *(Director of Adult and Community Based Services)*

Type of decision

Non key.

Purpose of report

To advise the Committee of contractual activities where the annual value of the anticipated contract exceeds £60,000 for Goods and Services or £100,000 for Works.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Director of Adult and Community Based Services presented the report which outlined the range of services delivered through a combination of direct provision by the Council's own staff, contracts with the private and voluntary sector and partnership agreements with strategic partners. The report provided information on existing contracts and opportunities for Members to provide input to the strategic direction for the future delivery of these services.

It was noted that the following services had been identified by the Finance and Policy Committee as areas where it would be helpful to have further information about current service provision and potential future delivery models:-

- Carers' Services;
- Dementia Services;
- Information, signposting and handyperson service; and
- Telecare service.

The reports included appendices which set out the financial information relating to individual contracts. **These appendices contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as**

amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, (para 3) information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Decision

The report and associated appendices were noted.

38. 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.

Minute 39 Any Other Business – Roseberry Park Briefing (*Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust*)

39. Any Other Business – Roseberry Park Hospital Briefing (*Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust*)

Type of decision

For information

Purpose of report

To provide Members with an update on the current situation of service provision within Roseberry Park Hospital, Middlesbrough.

Issue(s) for consideration

A representative from Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV) provided Members with a briefing paper which outlined the current situation in relation to the service provision from within Roseberry Park Hospital. It was noted that in June 2016, TEWV were notified of a number of defects to the fire safety systems at Roseberry Park. Immediate action was taken to mitigate those risks through close working with the Fire and Rescue Service to address the safety of service users, staff and visitors while they were at Roseberry Park. However, these measures were not long term solutions and further work was required.

In view of the need to vacate one of the 'blocks' at Roseberry Park, arrangements were in place to transfer services in Westerdale North and South (two wards for older people) to Sandwell Park in Hartlepool temporarily. While this work was ongoing, patients from the Lincoln and Wingfield wards in Sandwell Park will be admitted to the hospital within their locality (either Roseberry Park or Lanchester Road hospital). This would allow one full block within Roseberry Park to have detailed survey

work carried out to determine the extent of the remedial work necessary on all blocks and enable a timeline for the works across the whole site to be calculated.

It was noted that meetings had been undertaken with all staff impacted by this change to assess personal circumstances and assess what support was required to facilitate the move.

The Chair sought reassurance from the representative from TEWV that there were plans in place to ensure the people who require these services continued to receive appropriate care and treatment. The representative from TEWV indicated that it was a very large Trust and it was anticipated that the Trust was capable of meeting the needs of people who require these services through the facilities already in place.

The representative from TEWV provided clarification on a number of issues raised by the Committee and by members of the public. It was noted that this issue will also be reported to a future meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee and Members were keen to see a longer term review of the implications and the impact for service users. It was suggested that Audit and Governance Committee would lead on this issue but that Members of Adult Services Committee would maintain an interest, and may wish to receive a further update in the future.

Decision

- (1) That the briefing on the current situation of service provision from within Roseberry Park was noted.
- (2) That this issue be reported to a future meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee and that Audit and Governance Committee be asked to lead on this issue.

The meeting concluded at 11.55 am

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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