



LONDON BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 18 MARCH 2014

Minutes of the meeting of Health Scrutiny Committee held at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on Tuesday 18 March 2014 at 7:30pm

Present: **Councillors:** Martin Klute, Jean-Roger Kaseki, Rhiannon Davis and Kaya Makarau Schwartz. Raphael Andrews also attended as a substitute for Jilani Chowdhury.

Co-opted Member: Bob Dowd - Islington Healthwatch

Other attendees: Councillor Janet Burgess, Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing
Dr Jonathan Fielden, Medical Director, University College London Hospitals (UCLH)
Tim Fry, Project Director, Moorfields Hospital
Simon Galczynski, Service Director, Adult Social Care

Councillor Martin Klute in the Chair

539 INTRODUCTIONS (Item A1)

Councillor Klute welcomed the meeting attendees. The members of the committee and the clerk introduced themselves.

540 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item A2)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chowdhury and Spall.

541 DECLARATIONS OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item A3)

Councillor Andrews for Councillor Chowdhury.

542 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item A4)

None.

543 ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business was not changed.

544 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2014 (Item A6)

Councillor Jean-Roger Kaseki had also sent apologies for this meeting. The minutes were otherwise agreed.

545 CHAIR'S REPORT (Item A7)

The Chair reported that Dr Yi Mien Koh, Chief Executive of the Whittington Hospital NHS Trust, had today announced she is stepping down at the end of March, with no post to go to, reportedly stating that she had taken the hospital "as far as she can".

The Chair reported that he had presented the draft recommendations arising from the scrutiny

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into GP Appointments to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 12 March. The presentation was well received and there was an interesting discussion about the extent of the GPs role in administrative tasks such as housing applications and school pupil's sickness absence etc.

Finally, the Chair advised the Committee of a new ICCG campaign to help people make more informed choices about the type of treatment they require and where to go. The Chair advised that the leaflet, which may have been on the back of the draft recommendations from the GP Appointments scrutiny, was very clear, well presented and a welcome initiative.

546 **HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD UPDATE (Item A8)**

Councillor Janet Burgess thanked the Chair for attending Health and Wellbeing Board and agreed the discussion about the GP's role was interesting, especially in relation to school absence, as high non-attendance in the borough meant any measure which helped address this was also a priority. Councillor Burgess advised that the meeting also considered the ICCG Commissioning Strategy and the Annual Public Health Report, which is an excellent document that will be circulated to Health Scrutiny Committee Members when the final version is available. Councillor Burgess advised that the meeting also considered the possible impact of the Care Bill on the Council, revitalising work on smoking cessation and signed off the bid for Better Care Plan funding, which is funding to help improve integration between social care and health services.

RESOLVED:

Hard copies of the Annual Public Health Report to be sent to members of the Health Scrutiny Committee when available.

547 **UCLH – CQC REPORT UPDATE ON A&E SERVICES (Item B1)**

Dr Jonathan Fielden, UCLH Medical Director advised that of the five areas the CQC inspected there were a lot of positive comments, however it was very explicit regarding areas that need improvement. Although judged excellent in many areas, those areas that did need improvement prevented the hospitals being rated excellent overall and following the inspection the CQC advised UCLH of four compliance actions:

- Improving the A&E environment
- Improvement in relation to patient assessments and treatment records on acute medical wards
- Improvements in relation to the security of patient records on acute medical wards
- Improvements to ensure the WHO safety checklist is completed fully for 100% of patients undergoing a surgical procedure.

Dr Fielden advised that in response to ever rising demand in A&E, UCLH already had plans to redevelop the Emergency Department as part of a £12M project, which will be complete in 2016. However, the CQC's compliance action required an immediate response and this has now been completed. As an interim measure, the clinical research facility has been relocated and the space has been incorporated in the Emergency Department, creating an additional 9 cubicles. A separate paediatric triage area will also be open by the end of March.

Dr Fielden also advised that the remaining three compliance actions have also been addressed; there is a culture change programme underway to ensure that staff always put notes away, a 24 hour rapid cleaning service has been arranged in critical care to reduce the delay between patients, they now have full compliance with the WHO checklist and are now at 87% compliance on DNR form completion. This is now being audited daily and UCLH are developing an education programme to help staff discuss these with patients and their families.

Dr Fielden also advised that the UCLH has a similar initiative to the new ICCG leaflet and uses signs outside the hospital to try encourage people to consider if they need to attend A&E or

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could receive appropriate treatment elsewhere and that they are currently translating information leaflets into other commonly spoken languages.

The members of the committee asked a number of questions, including how UCLH gathered patient feedback. Dr Fielden advised that the hospital currently relies upon friends and family completing paper assessment forms, but is looking at ways of gathering the information electronically, particularly as this will remove any language barriers created by the current form.

RESOLVED:

That Dr Fielden be thanked for the presentation and was invited to attend Health Scrutiny Committee in a year's time to provide an update on the improvements to the hospitals.

548 MOORFIELDS HOSPITAL PROPOSED RELOCATION (Item B2)

The Chair advised the although it is the view of the Committee that, due to the large patient catchment area, the proposed move to St Pancras does not constitute a substantial variation in service and does not require a JHOSC consultation, the Leader of the Council, Councillor Richard Watts, has now sent a formal response to the Chief Executive of Moorfields. The response notes the importance of the hospital to the local economy and the planning requirements that must be met before the site can be disposed of and urges Moorfields to reconsider relocation, suggesting that through a phased redevelopment, the existing site could still meet the hospital's needs.

Tim Fry, Project Director, confirmed that he had seen the letter and advised that Moorfields' original intention had been to redevelop the existing site and that this plan was only set aside after it became clear that the site could not meet their future needs. The hospital needs to respond to growing demand from a national catchment area and needs a larger site with more accessible transport connections. Patient feedback has shown that accessibility is an issue; Old Street does not have good links with the national transport network and particularly for some Moorfields patients, the lack of a lift at the station is a considerable issue. Moorfields have been in discussions with Transport for London over many years and they have no plans to make Old Street step free access. In contrast the St Pancras site is very close to Kings Cross, St Pancras and Euston national rail and London Underground stations all of which are accessible.

In addition to improved transport connections and accessibility, the St Pancras site offers Moorfields the opportunity to co-locate with the Institute of Ophthalmology to create a hub of research and medical facilities where scientists and medical practitioners can freely exchange ideas. It also offers the opportunity to design flexible a building which will be able to adapt to changes in technology and which will be built to meet patient's needs; form will follow function.

In answer to questions from the members of the committee Tim Fry advised that the hospital was aiming to open the new facility in St Pancras in 2020 and they have estimated that to redevelop the existing site would take a further four years. Tim Fry did however confirm that Moorfields are looking at retaining a presence in the Children's Centre Building on Peerless Street. Tim Fry agreed to send a copy of the consultation outcomes to the members of the committee.

RESOLVED:

That Tim Fry be thanked for updating the meeting.

549 CARERS (Item B3)

Simon Galczynski advised that this report back follows the report to Health Scrutiny Committee in July 2013 on changes to the respite service for people with learning difficulties and carers. Increased demand and changes in social care law meant it was necessary to look at new ways to offer respite and people can now choose from a wider range of services and can opt to use a

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personal budget. Although there were concerns that the changes would mean an increase in costs for many carers, only four people are paying more. The creation of additional supported living accommodation in the borough has reduced some of the impacts of the changes.

The main changes to the service have been:

- A new day resource for people with learning disabilities, Spectrum, opened in December 2013.
- Evening and weekend breaks and holiday activity breaks are now available for people with learning difficulties, in addition to overnight stays.
- There has been a reduction in the number of nights respite available to individuals, to ensure that the service is more fairly distributed and more people have access to respite.
- There is a wider range of choice for overnight stays for people with learning difficulties, including King Henry's Walk.
- A short breaks service will be launched at the end of March 2014.
- Active promotion of the Carers Hub, which has led to an increase in uptake of the advice and support services it offers.
- Clearer advice regarding how direct payments may be spent, giving carers greater flexibility.

Simon advised that the respite offer is comprehensive and growing, but more work needs to be done to inform carers about the support available and they will use Carers week in June to promote awareness.

Bob Dowd advised some carers found the financial assessment very bureaucratic and asked if it could be made simpler. The Chair noted that one of the outcomes from the original scrutiny was that the council should make it easier for carers to access support and it was disappointing that the financial assessment was still a barrier. Councillor Burgess advised that the issue would be followed up.

The issue of Short Breaks for Children's Carers was raised, but is not covered in this report because it is delivered by Children's Services.

RESOLVED:

- a) The report was noted.
- b) Simon Galczynski to follow up making the financial assessment simpler for carers.
- c) An update on the impact of changes to the provision of Short Breaks for Children's Carers to come to the meeting on 8 July.

550 WORK PROGRAMME 2013/14 (Item B5)

The work programme was reviewed.

RESOLVED:

That the meeting on 29 April be cancelled.

That the following items be scheduled for the meeting on 8 July:

- Changing Outcomes – Camden and Islington Mental Health Trust
- "Social Distress" in Camden and Islington (Wendy Wallace)
- ICCG: Improving access to GPs – outcome of pilot studies
- Update report Short Breaks for Children's Carers

The Chair is to confirm if the item on Transforming Primary Care is still required following a presentation by NHS England to the JHOSC on 28 March.

551 URGENT NON-EXEMPT MATTERS (Item B6)

There were no urgent non-exempt matters.

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552 URGENT EXEMPT MATTERS (Item B7)

There were no urgent exempt matters.

553 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Burgess invited the members of the committee to attend The Islington Faiths Forum conference on mental health and poverty, which is being held in the Town Hall on Wednesday 26 March and to a public meeting about the NHS at the Italian Trade Union Centre on Thursday.

The meeting closed at 9:20 pm.

CHAIR