

Report of Health in Dacorum Committee for 2015/16

After the Borough Elections of May 2015, new members joined existing members of the committee to bring a breadth and depth of experience to the Committee. The experience that new members brought to the Committee included professional and campaigning experience and experience of local health service changes.

A new substitute for the Herts. County Council Health Scrutiny Committee was appointed and for the first time the Committee elected a Vice Chairman.

The Committee met four times during the year.

The standing item of ward issues from other councillors was considered seriously and the issues of the Markyate Surgery, the Gossoms End unit and the Tring clinic were discussed.

Regular updates were given by the Herts.Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group

Get Set, Go Dacorum, the preventative programme to improve people's health through sport and exercise was a standing item on the agenda, as were reports from the Hertfordshire County Council Health Scrutiny Committee and the Hertfordshire Localism/Health and Well Being Board.

Members were given a presentation on and discussed The West Hertfordshire strategic review Your Care, Your Future and the proposal to have a healthcare hub in Hemel Hempstead.

Members had a presentation on the report of the West Herts. Hospitals Trust Care Quality Commission inspection, and what improvements were being made as a result. They asked questions about stroke care, and what the future inspection regime would be after the inadequate rating by the CQC. A representative of the Trust explained that special measures were in place and that there would be another inspection in June/July 2016.

Dacorum Patients Group (DPG) has a vision for a new acute hospital near the junction of the M1 and M25. At the suggestion of HVCCG it has put together a business case for the idea, to be submitted by the deadline for it to be considered under Your Care Your Future. At the time of writing, DPG is due to present its vision to the Committee on 9th March 2016.

I would like to thank the Vice Chairman, the Health and Wellbeing Board representative, the substitute on the County Health Scrutiny Committee and all the Committee members for their hard work in looking at healthcare provision in Dacorum, and asking probing questions of those providing it.

Fiona Guest, Chairman, Health in Dacorum Committee