

## MINUTES

### HEALTH IN DACORUM COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2015

#### Present:

#### Councillors:

Cllr Guest	Cllr R Sutton
Cllr Link	Cllr Whitman
Cllr G Sutton (Chairman)	Cllr W Wyatt – Lowe

#### Outside Representatives:

Dr Trevor Fernandes	Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group
Jenny Goodyear	Healthwatch, Hertfordshire
Betty Harris	Dacorum Hospital Action Group
Mike Moore	Chair of Health and Wellbeing Partnership
Jackie Ardley	Director of Governance, West Herts Hospital Trust
Tony Gallagher	Dacorum Patients Group

#### DBC Officers:

Louise Collins	Member Support Officer, Democratic Services
Claire Lynch	Community Partnerships Team Leader

The meeting began at 7.30pm

#### OS/074/15 MINUTES

The Chair began the meeting by welcoming Tony Gallagher, Dacorum Patients Group and thanking Robin Pike, whom has now stood down, for his time on the Health Committee.

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2015 were agreed by the Members present and then signed by the Chairman.

#### OS/075/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Adeleke and Harden.

#### OS/076/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

#### OS/077/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

#### OS/078/15 WARD ISSUES FROM OTHER COUNCILLORS

None.

**The Chairman changed the order of the meeting. Item 9 & 10 were moved to item 6.**

**OS/079/15**                      **CANCER REVIEW**

Jackie Ardley, West Herts Hospital Trust presented the report on the Cancer review on behalf of Anthony Tiernan who was unable to attend the meeting.

She highlighted that the Cancer Review had now been completed. An independent review was then completed by Steven Ramsden who set out a number of recommendations. Those recommendations have been incorporated into the action plan which the trust board are reviewing on a quarterly basis.

All issues have now been addressed on the administration team and are now very clear on their role in terms of the patient pathway.

**OS/080/15**                      **PATIENT SERVICES**

Jackie Ardley, West Herts Hospital Trust presented the report on Patient Services on behalf of Anthony Tiernan who was unable to attend the meeting.

She mentioned that a report came out in December 2014 on the A&E services. Their overall scored an average of 8.5 out of 10 for patients overall experience within the A&E department. Compared to other local trusts such as Barnet, Chase, Bucks, Luton and Dunstable and Milton Keynes, we came out on top with a range of 7.7-8.3 out of 10. So overall Hertfordshire did really well. She mentioned that there is still always room for improvement.

In terms of the rating there were 8 categories, arrival at A&E, waiting times, care provided by doctors and nurses, tests, the hospital environment, facilities and leaving A&E. As a result we scored above average in 5 of those areas, including patients getting their test results quickly, which is a really great achievement for us.

**Questions and Answers on both the Cancer Review and Patient Services**

M Moore, Chair of Health and Wellbeing Partnership, asked what period the survey ran from.

J Ardley, Director of Governance, West Herts Hospital Trust confirmed that the survey was carried out in December 2014 and they surveyed patients in a set month. Any patient would then get randomly selected and they get sent out the survey.

**Action:**

1. Full details on the survey to be produced by Jackie Ardley and then presented to Members.
2. Clarification on whether pharmaceuticals were used as part of the review in the A&E department under the Cancer Review.

J Ardley said that the word "Cancer" is a very scary word and many people will choose not to go to their doctors due to the fear of this.

Councillor Guest highlighted that there was no mention of pharmaceuticals being used in the report under the Cancer review item. She asked if the report included waiting for drugs in the A&E department.

J Ardley said that she would need to clarify this point and get back to Members at a later date with the answer.

The Chairman said that he was pleased to her of the excellent work that had been carried out under the Cancer Review and within Patient Services but wondered what was being done to improve the average score.

J Ardley said that the trust as a whole are looking at their unscheduled care pathway. They are also looking at implementing a separate entrance at the front of the A&E department for children and paediatricians as well as all of the emergency care at the front of the hospital.

B Harris suggested that by opening a small A&E department up in Hemel Hempstead would elevate a lot of the accident and emergency problems.

J Ardley said that she took this comment on board but was unable to comment further on it.

Resolved

J Ardley to attend the next meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> June with further updates for the Committee.

### **OS/081/15 GET, SET, GO DACORUM**

Claire Lynch, Community Partnerships Team Leader introduced her report and informed Members that her team are on the final stages of the website and almost complete. The Get,set go Dacorum project started in September 2014 and is currently working on publicising the social media side of things. Facebook and twitter accounts are being publicised to increase networks (help publicise @getsetgodacorum).

There are some key performance indicators within the project that still need to be met. Some of the projects are exceeding their targets and there are some that are falling behind. But reassured Members that they are not behind but reaching their 6 monthly KPI indicators.

Questions and answers

The Chairman thanks the officer for presenting her report to the Committee. He asked if there was any reference to "walk in Football" under any of the projects currently being run. He mentioned that every County has this activity up and running and asked if this was something that would be implemented here.

Claire Lynch explained that there was a project called "Get Active" which had just been launched from Sport Space, which was similar, but said that she would feedback to them to see if this was something that could be led for the over 55's.

There were no more questions for the officer.

## **Resolved**

That the report be noted.

## **OS/082/15 PUBLIC HEALTH FUND DISTRICT OFFER**

Claire Lynch, Community Partnerships Team Leader introduced the Public Health Fund District Offer on behalf of Isobelle Benton-Slim who was unable to attend the meeting.

She highlighted Members attention to page 10 and 11 of the report and the 14 projects around 2 priorities. She mentioned that all of the timings are staggered with a range of funding from £1k to £20k with a launch date from January through to the summer.

### **Questions and Answers**

Councillor Whitman made reference to the cooking club on page 10 of the report and asked for an update regarding this.

C Lynch confirmed that the project was aimed at promoting healthy eating.

B Harris said that she agreed with Councillor Whitman regarding the healthy eating regime and pointed out that it is vital that we carry on spreading the importance of healthy living amongst the community.

C Lynch said that DBC are working closely with a Food Co-ordinator, which is post funded, to introduce local produce awareness amongst the community.

B Harris asked if people were being encouraged to grow their own produce.

Claire Lynch referred to the Housing Association and their policies. Unfortunately they are restricted on what they can grow in their communal gardens. However this was not the case within DBC Housing.

Mike Moore said that there had been £10k set aside for distribution by the Dacorum Health and Well Being Partnership. It is a refreshed offer that was previously managed by Community Action Dacorum but has now come under the umbrella of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership. There were a dozen applications received under the review. A decision will be made in the next couple of weeks.

## **Resolved**

That the report be noted.

## **OS/083/15 HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES**

Jenny Goodyear, Research manager of Health watch Hertfordshire summarised her report which covered:

- An event being organised in June 2015 to bring partners to East Herts to discuss what can be done in Hertfordshire.

- Herts Valley CCH are interested in supporting the research that is underway on GP access.
- Currently working with partners in Health and Social Care.
- A youth page has been created and will be launched on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

Jenny Goodyear also informed Members that she would be leaving the Health and Social Care services and working for the Herts Community Trust.

The Chairman wished her well for the future and thanked her for all her support and hard work throughout her time presenting her reports for the Health in Dacorum committee.

A Youth dedicated web page will be launched on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015 which will help in the ongoing research.

Jenny Goodyear informed Members that this would be her last Health meeting as she is moving departments but would keep Members informed on her replacement and thanked them for all of their support over the past year.

#### Questions and answers

Councillor Guest raised his concerns regarding data sharing and asked if there was a breakdown on communication.

J Goodyear said that a lot of people feel slightly concerned with the whole data sharing idea. There is more suspicion around secondary use of personal data.

Councillor Whitman brought Members attention to the extra building works commencing in Hemel Hempstead and the effects this will have upon local GP surgeries. He asked what the outcome would be as a result.

J Goodyear sympathised with Councillor Whitman's comment. She said that this will be an ongoing issue within East Herts, but unfortunately the impact on GP surgeries will continue to rise with population increasing.

T Gallagher raised his point on data sharing and said there were good and bad points with regards to this. For example the DVLA having access to people's medical records could potentially cause problems for people having their licenses revoked but on the other hand doctors would have no obligation to inform the DVLA of any medical information about their patients.

J Goodyear said that one of the things they found with people that participated in their research was that they felt very strongly about the data sharing issue.

M Moore explained that there were a lot of mixed emotions amongst people at the idea of data sharing at the event that he attended and a lot of uncertainty on what information will be shared. He asked if there will be a Hertfordshire approach to this and any recommendations to this report.

J Goodyear said that a joint approach was adopted to information sharing and recommended a framework for that. At the event people were asked to analyse literature from all over the country and comment on how helpful they found it. From analysing the information priorities have been put in place. She mentioned that a framework was

suggested and put forward to partners and a recommendation has been agreed that a joint approach is required.

The Chair mentioned that dangers of Social Media and that it is a great concern.

#### Resolved

That the report be noted.

### **OS/084/15 HERTS VALLEY COMMISSIONING UPDATE**

Trevor Fernandes, Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group updated Members on a number of updates;

- Strategic review ongoing – currently gathering comments from people. 74% of people felt that the health and care services needed improving in Hertfordshire.
- People need to be supported in order to stay well
- The way forward is to work harder on the 5 year and strategic review is working harder on prevention, looking at national and international services.
- West Hertfordshire area is often less deprived of services.
- Combined estimated challenge for the Health and Social Care is £256 million by 2019/20.
- Need to look at new models of care.
- December A&E stroke figures were not good. More consultants put in place on weekend 5/6 rather than 1 consultant. This will improve the flow in the hospital.
- 11 Million overspend on Urgent Care.
- Dacorum Plan – Will be looking at how people would like to live in Dacorum.
- More care offered for teenagers, looking after their health. Lots of services now on offer.

Event information – South Hill Centre on 26 March which will give people in Dacorum an update.

#### Questions and answers

T Gallagher said that it was reassuring to hear that there will be more consultants at the weekend in the hospitals, and more beds managed for patients. He also commented that Mental Health will always appear to be a problem but again was happy to hear that this too is being reviewed more.

T Fernandes said that there has been progress leads for all of the areas in Hertfordshire and they are working on giving more priority to those patients that need it.

T Gallagher said that it was imperative to deal with the Mental Health issue in younger adults to save the lives of those for the future.

B Harris said that she was happy at all of the work that is going on in the health services.  
Councillor W Wyatt – Lowe arrived at 8.45pm

#### Resolved

The report was noted.

## **OS/085/15 HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE**

Councillor Guest updated Members on the Hertfordshire County Council Health Scrutiny update since the last meeting.

A meeting of the County Health Scrutiny Committee was held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

There was an item to brief the Committee on Your Care, Your Future, the West Herts. Strategic Review of health and care services by Herts. Valleys CCG (HVCCG), West Herts. Hospitals Trust (WHHT), Hertfordshire Community Trust (HCT), Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust and the East of England Ambulance Trust (EEAST). The aim of the review is to build on HVCCG's Clinical Strategy to define how the needs of West Hertfordshire could best be met over the next 10-15 years. The review is set within the national context as set out in the 5 Year Forward Review by NHS England.

The theme from listening events is that service users want more integrated services close to home. The Better Care Fund provides opportunities for health and social care to work together in a more joined up way. The Strategic Review is about delivering healthcare across West Herts. But there are four Localities in it, including Dacorum and different population groups within the localities so there is a need to design services that meet those needs.

The organisations agreed that four questions needed to be answered:

- 1) How well (efficiently and effectively) are patient's needs met by the current health and social care system across West Herts?
- 2) What are the opportunities to meet future health and social care needs of the West Herts. Population more effectively and efficiently?
- 3) How should health and social care services across West Herts. Be configured to realise these opportunities?
- 4) What organisational form(s) and contracting model(s) best support the delivery of the preferred future configuration of services?

Work is underway to answer the first two questions by the end of March 2015. Questions 4 and 5 will be addressed by early summer 2015.

To support the work the partner organisations commissioned external support from Deloitte, funded by HVCCG, to help address the questions.

In addition to engagement with County Councillors, the programme to a number of District Council forums. Should the Health in Dacorum Committee ask for a presentation on it?

Community listening events have been held, and listening is taking place via the internet and in venues such as shopping malls. There is currently no end date for the listening exercise, which is being advertised to the public. There is dialogue with GPs through the CCG Board and Locality meetings.

It is currently a formal consultation an exercise in listening to the public and stakeholders. If concrete proposal come forward, there may be a formal consultation then.

In response to a question as to whether the Review would decide what services are provided at Hemel Hempstead hospital, it was said that the Review will decide what services are provided across West Herts., including Hemel Hempstead hospital.

HVCCG will come back to the Committee's June 2015 meeting to provide an update.

The recruitment, retention and development of nurses, GPs and paramedics were presented to the Committee as an item.

Nurse training is now a 3-year full time degree course, but Health Education England is looking at different routes into nursing training e.g. apprenticeships, healthcare support workers studying on a course and still earning a salary whilst learning.

In response to a question about the encouragement and funding of non-medical prescribers (nurse and pharmacist prescribers) it was said that NHS England's role in continuing professional development (CPD) includes funding for training practice nurses and working with universities.

Nationally models of primary care are being looked at, led by NHS England. One possibility is that of GP practices employed by the NHS rather than partnerships having a contract with the NHS, but Hertfordshire is not in the national pilot for this work.

WHHT experienced winter pressures and extra capacity was opened for patients to be cared for, but there was a need for increased staffing, including the use of temporary staff to ensure that wards and departments were covered safely. There was a 12% increase in admissions and increasing complexity of the admissions between April 2014 and November 2014. The use of social media to attract staff is being looked at. There was a big recruitment drive for overseas nurses in 2014, with about 120 being recruited and a retention rate of 78%. WHHT is planning on doing more overseas recruitment to get nurses who are already qualified and experienced.

There is a need to look at recruitment, values and behaviour to attract the right people into nursing. WHHT holds several open days per month. The Trust is working to grow its own internal bank of nurses, as staff say that they are often working with those whom they don't know. WHHT is doing a lot of work on leadership.

Nationally nurse numbers increased by 13% in 2014. The Committee would like to see more nursing courses, and is taking this to NHS England.

The number of people applying to become student paramedics is not a problem. However the suitability is. EEAST is not looking to recruit overseas. It takes a little under 3 years to become a fully qualified autonomous paramedic. For paramedics wishing to become senior paramedics with additional patient assessment and prescribing abilities, EEAST will fund the training, but is not funding training for Emergency Medical Technicians to become paramedics.

On 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015, HVCCG's Board meeting in public was held. It was said that the communications and engagement activities over winter on how best for people to use services would continue for the next few months.

The Better Care Fund enabling co-commissioning will be on the agenda of the March 2015 meeting.

As soon as a 999 call is logged with the ambulance service that the operator starts to get details so it is known what they're dealing with, an ambulance is dispatched.



WHHT put in a recent programme to prevent pressure ulcers and has begun a campaign on pressure ulcers with the nursing staff.

HVCCG will achieve a £7 million surplus by 31/03/15 but only by holding back underspends in other services. The QIPP target hasn't been reached. In his autumn statement the Chancellor allocated funds to CCGs furthest away from their QIPP target and HVCCG was allocated this funding.

Resolved:

The report was noted.

**OS/086/15 HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH LOCALISM/HEALTH WELLBEING BOARD UPDATE**

Councillor W Wyatt – Lowe informed Members that the CCG have been reporting figures on the performance at their last board meeting which showed that Watford had not been meeting their targets, whereby Luton and Dunstable had consistently done so and the Royal Free as a group had been brought up to speed by Barnet.

Resolved

The report is noted.

**OS/087/15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at 7.30 pm.

**OS/088/15 WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16**

The Committee considered the work programme and made the following additions for the next meeting taking place in June 2015.

The meeting ended 9.10 pm