

## HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (SOCIAL WELL-BEING) held in the CIVIC SUITE 0.1A, PATHFINDER HOUSE, ST MARY'S STREET, HUNTINGDON, CAMBS, PE29 3TN on Tuesday, 5 April 2011.

PRESENT: Councillor S J Criswell – Chairman.

Councillors S Cawley, Mrs K E Cooper, J J Dutton, Mrs P A Jordan, P G Mitchell, P D Reeve and R J West.

Co-opted Members – Mr R Coxhead and Mrs M Nicholas.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors P L E Bucknell and B S Chapman.

### 109. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 110. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillors S J Criswell, J J Dutton and R J West declared personal interests in Minute Nos 112, 113 and 114 by virtue of their Membership of Cambridgeshire County Council.

Councillor Mrs P A Jordan declared a personal interest in Minute No. 112 by virtue of her employment in the National Health Service (NHS) at the Hinchingsbrooke Hospital site.

### 111. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000: FORWARD PLAN

The Panel considered and noted the current Forward Plan of Key Decisions (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) which had been prepared by the Leader of the Council for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2011. It was reported that the item entitled One Leisure, St Ives – Proposals for Development had been deferred to the Panel's June 2011 meeting.

### 112. FUTURE GOVERNANCE OF HINCHINGBROOKE HOSPITAL

(At this point during the meeting (7.10pm) Councillor Mrs P A Jordan took her seat at the meeting).

*(Mr S Melton, Circle's Director of Mobilisation and Ms R Magnani, Director of Circle's Nottingham Treatment Centre, were in attendance for consideration of this item).*

The Panel received a presentation by Mr S Melton and Ms R Magnani, Director of Mobilisation and Director of Nottingham

Treatment Centre respectively for Circle on the operating model and vision to be employed once Circle had assumed responsibility for the governance of Hinchingbrooke Hospital. Having been informed that the formal agreement between Circle and the Strategic Health Authority had not yet been signed, it was noted that it had been intended that this process would have been completed by the present time but the need to complete "due diligence" checks had resulted in delays. It was anticipated that Circle would take over the running of the Hospital at the end of June 2011.

The Panel was informed that Circle had adopted a mutual business model. This meant that clinicians and other professionals, as partners, would each have a share in the ownership of Circle and have shareholder voting rights, which would help to direct the company. The model sought to empower doctors, nurses and all other employees who worked within Circle's hospitals, treatment centres and clinics. Mr Melton informed Members that this would ensure that patients' needs were put first, through a bottom-up approach to management.

In terms of the bidding process employed by the Strategic Health Authority, Members were informed that it had been subject to extensive scrutiny by the Department of Health together with the Hinchingbrooke Hospital Stakeholder Panel to ensure that the rules of engagement were being complied with. Since it had been announced that Circle was one of the three final bidders, Company representatives had made efforts to familiarise themselves with the current operations and financial affairs of the Hospital.

Having regard to the Hospital's future direction of travel, Mr Melton and Ms Magnani indicated that the company's approach would be to enhance the services provided to a standard that would attract more patients, to encourage employees to improve patient care through the effective utilisation of resources, to extend elements of the private care facilities available on site, to investigate opportunities for integrated care offerings with local service providers and to reconfigure back office functions with a view to achieving efficiencies.

The Panel discussed a number of matters including possible improvements to the booking and appointments process, the charges levied for car parking on the Hospital site, the mutual partnership scheme offered to employees and the importance of engaging with clinicians at all levels and of recognising the value of their time. Suggestions were made for service enhancements within adult wards and general care of the elderly. Attention also was drawn to potential difficulties associated with integrated services and the supporting IT systems. Members emphasised the need for sound accountability and reporting mechanisms to be introduced within the Hospital. Details of a model employed by the Nottingham Treatment Centre, which engaged with the voluntary sector to help deliver care in the community programmes, would be circulated to the Panel for information purposes.

Having indicated that a three month mobilisation phase would commence once the contractual arrangements were in place, Mr Melton and Ms Magnani indicated that they would report back to the Panel at their meeting in September 2011 on the progress that had

been made.

### **113. HUNTINGDONSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

The Panel were reminded of its duty, under the provisions of the Police and Criminal Justice Act 2006, to scrutinise the work of the Huntingdonshire Community Safety Partnership. To assist them with this work, Members gave consideration to a report prepared by the Head of Environmental and Community Health Services outlining the level of funding awarded to the Partnership for the 2011/12 financial year, the Huntingdonshire Community Safety Partnership 2010 Strategic Assessment and the Huntingdonshire Community Safety Plan 2011-14 (copies of which are appended in the Minute Book).

The Panel noted that the level of funding awarded to the Partnership had been significantly reduced from the previous year to £56,880. Members' attention also was drawn to forthcoming developments concerning the election of a Police and Crime Commissioner in May 2011 who would be responsible overall for budgets relating to the Police and anti-social behaviour with effect from the 2012/13 financial year. The allocation of funding for the latter would be via a bidding process involving community and voluntary organisations as well as statutory agencies. This would mean that the Partnership would have to submit a bid to the Commissioner for future funding.

Having acknowledged the complexity of the way in which the Partnership was required to operate to meet the challenges faced by the District, Members concluded that on the basis of the data presented in the Strategic Assessment, the Partnership was effective in its work. Whilst reviewing the Huntingdonshire Community Safety Plan 2011-14, Members were advised that the Strategic Assessment was conducted each year to inform the priorities included within the Plan. Members noted that the assessment was undertaken independently by the County Council's Crime and Research Team. In considering the content of the Plan, the Panel expressed the view that the priorities identified for 2011/12 were appropriate given the level of funding awarded and the Partnership's likely future financial constraints. In addition to the annual Strategic Assessment, Members noted that a performance report monitoring progress against the Partnership's priorities was submitted to the Partnership on a quarterly basis.

Members discussed a number of matters including trends in the crime data reported, various projects/initiatives undertaken such as the Nightwatch, Street Representatives and Junior PCSO schemes, the impact of CCTV in reducing the level of theft from vehicles and the preliminary investigations being made into the establishment of a multi-agency anti-social behaviour team. Other matters discussed included the consultation that took place with residents and community groups on crime and disorder related issues and the recording of accident and emergency data for alcohol related admissions at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital.

In concluding their discussions, Members expressed the opinion that the Partnership's monitoring and accountability mechanisms were appropriate. Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the content of the report be noted.

**114. MONITORING OF SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS (PLANNING OBLIGATIONS)**

The Panel gave consideration to a report by the Head of People, Performance and Partnerships (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) which provided an update on the receipt and expenditure by the Council of money negotiated under Section 106 Agreements. Members requested that a copy of the spending plan for the construction of a Multi-Use Games Area in Godmanchester was circulated to them for information. Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the contents of the report be noted.

**115. CAMBRIDGESHIRE ADULTS WELL-BEING AND HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Councillor R J West delivered an update on matters currently being considered by the Cambridgeshire Adults Well-Being and Health Scrutiny Committee. The Panel were informed that, following the closure of Hawthorne Ward at Hinchingbrooke Hospital, mental health patients would now be cared for in the community with any acute patients being referred to Peterborough City Hospital. Additionally, the Panel were advised that the mental health service had been tasked with identifying £3,000,000 of savings and consequently were exploring alternative methods of service delivery, which included the use of the internet to provide preliminary advice and guidance. An update on Adult Support Services would be provided at the Panel's June meeting.

**116. WORK PLAN STUDIES**

The Panel received and noted a report by the Head of Democratic and Central Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) containing details of studies being undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

**117. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (SOCIAL WELL-BEING) - PROGRESS**

The Panel received and noted a report by the Head of Democratic and Central Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) which contained details of actions taken in response to recent discussions and decisions. Brief updates were received on the outcome of recent meetings of the Consultation Processes, One Leisure and Voluntary Sector Working Groups. In respect of the future of the CCTV service, Members requested that an update on the progress of negotiations on the funding of the service was submitted to the Panel's July 2011 meeting.

**118. SCRUTINY**

The 113<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Digest of Decisions was received and noted.

Chairman