

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (COMMUNITIES AND CUSTOMERS) held in Civic Suite 0.1A, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, PE29 3TN on Tuesday, 1st March 2016.

PRESENT: Councillor S J Criswell – Chairman.

Councillors D Brown, Mrs L A Duffy, M Francis, R Fuller, T Hayward, P Kadewere and Mrs R E Mathews.

APOLOGY(IES): Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs P A Jordan, D J Mead, M C Oliver and Mrs D C Reynolds.

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor R B Howe.

20. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 2nd February 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

21. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

22. NOTICE OF KEY EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

The Panel received and noted the current Notice of Key Executive Decisions (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) which has been prepared by the Executive Leader for the period 1st March 2016 to 30th June 2016.

23. CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP (CCG)

Mr Rob Murphy, Dr David Roberts and Mr Ian Weller from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) were in attendance to present and answer questions on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Care System Transformation Programme and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group Performance Report.

(a) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Care System Transformation Programme

Mr Ian Weller (CCG) introduced the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Care System Transformation Programme. The Panel was informed that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough had been identified as a 'challenged health economy' and this provided significant challenges to services. In response the CCG have introduced a new governance structure with the aim of tackling the

challenges.

Members were advised that there is a requirement to submit a five year plan by 29th June 2016 to ensure that the NHS in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is creditable and costed. In assisting the formation of the five year plan, five working groups had been established with the aim of producing overarching plans for the service.

Following a question regarding the current financial position of the NHS in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, Members were informed that the region has an annual income of £1.2bn and that this year (2015/16) debt was £140m.

The Panel was informed in response to a question on proactive care that there is a long term vision for proactive and prevention care however work was ongoing as the benefits of proactive and prevention care take longer to become visible.

Members were informed that Hinchingsbrooke plays a significant strategic role within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough as it is located centrally within the region and has a growing population. Dr Roberts added that the CCG are looking at what services are best delivered locally and what are best delivered elsewhere with the aim of building a countywide service.

A Member raised a concern that good governance and financial management would not address the problem of manpower. In response the Panel were informed that Hinchingsbrooke had struggled to recruit staff however the hospital that had been reviewing the possibility of pooling staff with Peterborough Hospital to ensure that the rota is fully staffed. An additional problem was that incentives are not in the correct place as bank and agency staff have significant incentives to remain as bank and agency staff.

In regards to a question regarding GPs the Panel was informed that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough require an extra 136 GPs. However in order to assist GPs residents should be self-treating minor illness or consulting a pharmacist therefore enabling GPs to handle more complex cases and in turn taking pressure off the hospitals.

After a query on how Public Health can assist with prevention Members were informed that Public Health are good at giving a steer on where to focus. In addition in regards to falls housing providers and councils are working on identifying trip hazards in their properties. Furthermore the CCG recognise that the third sector is an underused resource which could be utilised for prevention care.

Following a question on the biggest cost the health service in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough face Members were informed that acute hospitals require the most resources due to the building and maintenance, staff salaries and equipment for the hospital. In regards to Hinchingsbrooke the salary cost is 75% of the budget, the Ambulance service spend 95% of their budget on salaries.

The Panel raised a concern that the five year plan is not enough as

growth within the District is planned over a longer period. Members were advised that the five year plan fits in with the Parliamentary cycle however the CCG allocation of funding is based on the population so if the population increases so does the CCG's funding.

Members were informed that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has an Urgent and Emergency Care Vanguard Programme which includes additional funds and is used to treat patients at home. Mr Weller stated that he will attend a future Panel meeting to update Members on the Vanguard.

After a question on whether services will suffer Members were advised that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is a challenged health economy and although hospitals won't collapse the underlying debt has to be managed.

(b) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group Performance Report

Mr Rob Murphy (CCG) introduced the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group Performance Report. The Panel was informed that Hinchingsbrooke had a mixed performance however the hospital was performing well in some areas.

Hinchingsbrooke's operational performance is measured against the NHS constitutional standard. Members were acquainted with the areas for concern one being waiting times in accident and emergency where Hinchingsbrooke missed the target by 0.9% however this was better than other hospitals within the area. It is still a cause for concern as performance has deteriorated however the trend is national and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are performing better than other areas in the country.

Members were informed that in terms of cancer and the 62 day wait for first treatment from standard urgent referral Hinchingsbrooke had missed the target of 85% by 3.7% although there is an action plan in place to assist this area.

Hinchingsbrooke had also missed the 99% target for patients waiting for a diagnostic test however the Panel was informed that there is an action plan in place and the situation is improving.

24. CORPORATE PLAN

With the aid of a report by the Corporate Team Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Corporate Director (Delivery) presented the Corporate Plan to the Panel. The Panel was informed that the Corporate Plan follows the expiry of the old Corporate Plan and the Plan aims to set out what the Council would like to achieve under the three corporate priorities.

A Member raised the point underneath the Enabling Communities section that there is no reference to Public Rights of Way. In response it was noted that the last point in section 1b states that the work programme includes providing accessible leisure, green spaces, countryside and culture opportunities which covers Public Rights of

Way however following further discussion it was agreed to look at expanding the point to include Public Rights of Way.

Members would like the inclusion of the A1 and A428 improvement schemes within the Sustainable Growth section however the Panel was informed that those schemes would not be included as they would not be at the delivery stage within the lifetime of the Corporate Plan.

The Panel thought that underneath the Enabling Communities section Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) should be included but noted that DFGs is a moveable fund. Members were informed that it would be looked into.

A Member requested that licences should be monitored under the Corporate Plan as the Council issue a high volume of licences and each licence is linked to business growth. The Panel noted that any measure would be an end to end measure from receipt to approval to ensure licences would be dealt with in a timely manner.

A query was raised within the section of Efficient and Effective Council and the point 'collecting money that is saved?' as Members are not sure what it means and why there is a question mark.

The Panel were advised that quarterly reporting of the Corporate Panel would be done through the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Finance and Performance).

25. SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY FOR HUNTINGDONSHIRE 2016-2021

With the aid of a report by the Head of Leisure and Health (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Sports Facilities Strategy For Huntingdonshire 2016-2021 was presented to the Panel. Members were advised that the Council are responsible for the auditing of sports facilities even though not all sports facilities are provided by the Council. The Panel was reminded that the scoping report was presented at the Panel's February meeting and some minor changes have been made.

Members thought the strategy was worthwhile however a question was raised regarding Public Rights of Way. The Panel was advised that the strategy covers built sports facilities however the Open Spaces Strategy would cover Public Rights of Way.

26. ONE LEISURE SIX MONTH UPDATE

With the aid of a report by the Head of Leisure and Health (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the One Leisure Six Month Update was presented to the Panel. Members were informed that One Leisure has an operating surplus of £350k however this does not take into account overheads and the depreciation value of equipment. The update also highlights that Ramsey Leisure Centre is near a breakeven point and that all the centres are near a cost neutral position.

Following a question on the capacity of the leisure centres the Panel

was advised that there is capacity and that capacity does not have to increase in order to increase performance. Through the strategic document, One Leisure would try to attract more people to use the centres at times of underuse.

Concern was raised that the Huntingdon Leisure Centre is losing customers however Members were informed that the site would be refurbished and expanded in the hope of attracting and retaining customers. The Panel noted that the Huntingdon Leisure Centre remains profitable.

The Panel queried the location of chocolate vending machines within the Leisure Centres however Members were informed that the machines cover their costs and that there are healthy options available.

27. ONE LEISURE STRATEGIC PLAN

With the aid of a report by the Head of Leisure and Health (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the One Leisure Strategic Plan (not including Appendix II) was presented to the Panel. Members were informed that the Strategic Plan aims to assist the growth of One Leisure. The Plan seeks to identify who is the customer and then answer the questions on how to grow the service.

The Panel expressed how pleased they are to see One Leisure move from the poor situation in previous years into a position where the service can look forward and grow. In response the Panel was informed that the change is in part moving responsibility out to the Local Centres where the management knows what their local areas want.

28. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

that the press and public be excluded from the meeting because the business to be transacted contains information relating to financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees.

29. ONE LEISURE STRATEGIC PLAN APPENDIX II

With the aid of a report by the Head of Leisure and Health (a copy of which is appended in the Annex to the Minute Book) the One Leisure Strategic Plan Appendix II was presented to the Panel. Members gave the One Leisure Strategic Plan Appendix II due consideration.

(At 9.03pm, during the discussion of this item, Councillor T Hayward left the meeting).

(At 9.04pm, during the discussion of this item, Councillor T Hayward returned to the meeting).

30. RE-ADMITTANCE OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

that the press and public be re-admitted to the meeting.

31. WORK PLAN STUDIES

The Panel received a noted a report by the Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) which contained details of studies being undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Panels for Economy and Growth and Finance and Performance.

32. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROGRESS

With the aid of a report by the Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Panel reviewed the progress of its activities since the last meeting.

The Chairman of the Voluntary Sector Grant Funding Working Group addressed the Panel and updated Members on progress. The Working Group's Membership was confirmed as the following Members: Councillors T Hayward (Chairman), D Brown, Mrs L A Duffy and Mrs P A Jordan.

After a short discussion regarding which Overview and Scrutiny Panel should be responsible for the Registered Social Providers Working Group, Members thought that the subject matter falls within the remit of the Panel and therefore should remain with them.

(At 9.19pm, during the discussion of this item, Councillor R B Howe left the meeting).

Chairman