

# SCRUTINY BOARD (HEALTH AND WELL-BEING AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE)

WEDNESDAY, 30TH APRIL, 2014

**PRESENT:** Councillor J Illingworth in the Chair

Councillors G Hussain, J Walker, K Bruce,  
J Lewis, C Towler, S Lay and N Buckley

## 121 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance.

The Chair reported the sudden and untimely passing of Councillor Clive Fox, who had been a member of the Scrutiny Board for a number of years, and a key contributor during this time. Members offered their condolences for Councillor Fox's family during this difficult time.

The Scrutiny Board stood and observed a minute of silent reflection in memory of Councillor Fox.

## 122 Late Items

In accordance with his powers under Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair agreed to accept the following late and supplementary information for consideration at the meeting:

- NHS Specialised Services: Impact assessment of proposed changes to specific service specifications
  - Submission by Embrace  
(Minute 126 refers)
  
- Urgent and Emergency Care
  - Submission by Leeds North Clinical Commissioning Group  
(Minute 128 refers)

The above documents were not available at the time of the agenda despatch, but had been made available to the public at the meeting. Copies of the papers had also been made available on the Council's website.

## 123 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests declared to the meeting.

## **124 Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes**

The following apologies for absence had been received and were reported to the Scrutiny Board.

- Councillor S Varley
- Councillor E Taylor

No substitute members were in attendance.

## **125 Minutes - 21 March 2014 and 28 March 2014**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the previous meetings held on 21 March 2014 and 28 March 2014 be approved as a correct record.

## **126 NHS Specialised Services: Impact assessment of proposed changes to specific service specifications**

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which introduced the following:

- Proposed changes to 14 specialised service areas
- Written submission/ briefing by Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

The following additional information was provided for the Scrutiny Board to consider (Minute 122 refers):

- Written submission by Embrace – the specialist transport service for critically ill infants and children in Yorkshire and the Humber

The following representatives were in attendance to help the Scrutiny Board consider the information presented:

- Laura Sherburn (Interim Head of Specialised Commissioning) – NHS England (South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw Area Team)
- Dr Mark Smith (Chief Operating Officer – Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust)
- David Berridge (Medical Director (Operations) – Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust)

In addressing the Scrutiny Board, the Interim Head of Specialised Commissioning (NHS England (South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw Area Team)) provide a brief reminder of the Board's previous consideration on proposed changes to specific service specifications.

As outlined in the paper presented to the Scrutiny Board, it was confirmed that of the proposed changes to 15 specialised service areas, it was considered appropriate that the specific impact assessments in the following areas warranted specific consideration by the Scrutiny Board:

Draft minutes to be approved  
at the first meeting of the 2014/15 municipal year

- Adult Cardiac Surgery Service Specification (A10/S/a);
- Complex Disability Equipment Prosthetics Service Specification (D01/S/d); and,
- Paediatric Critical Care – Level 2 (E07/S/b)

Members were assured there were no ‘patient safety’ issues to consider and the overall purpose of the proposed changes was to improve the quality of services; to standardise and raise the level of consistency in the provision of specialised services across the country.

Members were also assured that the proposed changes to the Adult Cardiac Surgery and Complex Disability Equipment Prosthetics Service Specifications sought to clarify and strengthen the previous specifications. There was no indication that the proposed changes would necessitate any changes to the existing provider landscape across Yorkshire and the Humber.

Representatives from Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust were supportive of the comments made at the meeting and confirmed that the proposed changes would not present any significant challenges to the Trust.

It was highlighted that the Paediatric Critical Care – Level 2 represented a new specification for 2014/15 and the key impacts were highlighted as follows:

- Potentially more patients treated in tertiary centres or Level 2 Units – although any increase in activity was unquantified.
- Potential increase in paediatric transport activity across the region.
- The need for more work to assess the volume of activity, in order to understand the impact of the proposed change on both the receiving and referring organisations in terms of capacity and sustainability.
- The need for more work around the potential impact of rapid repatriation, steps on the care pathway and patient and carer choice.
- It was not known how readily new standards relating to staffing numbers and training packages could be met.

The issues around the potential increase in paediatric transport activity across the region and the potential impact of rapid repatriation were further emphasised by the written submission from Embrace. However, it was reported that Embrace was well placed to absorb a moderate increase in paediatric activity, with paediatric transfers making up around one third of the total workload for the service.

The Principal Scrutiny Adviser advised the Scrutiny Board that the Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) had been invited to comment on the proposed changes to the specialised service changes and, for the majority of the proposed changes, no significant implications were anticipated. However, in

relation to Paediatric Critical Care, any increase in demand and/or journey length would need to be reflected in changes to relevant contracts.

The Scrutiny Board discussed the report and the details highlighted at the meeting. A number of matters were raised and discussed – particularly relating to the proposals around Paediatric Critical Care, including:

- The balance between specialisation / the development of centres of excellence and care closer to home.
- The potential shift from clinically led services to a time led specification.
- Assuming the revised specifications are approved, queries around the communication with parents and families in terms of what level of service should be expected.
- The potential need for a two-stage engagement process that allows some form of ‘sense checking’ followed by more formal consultation once local impacts have been considered and assessed.
- Any impact on the parallel process for developing the 5-year strategy for specialised services.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) To note the information presented and discussed at the meeting.
- (b) That, based on the information presented and discussed, the Principal Scrutiny Adviser draft a formal response to the current consultation around NHS Specialised Service specification, and consult members of the Scrutiny Board on its content ahead of the 21 May 2014 deadline.
- (c) That the Scrutiny Board maintain an overview of progress and, subject to the revised specification for Paediatric Critical Care (Level 2) being adopted, that a further report detailing the precise implications be presented to the Scrutiny Board at a future date.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chair thanked those in attendance for their contributions to the meeting.

#### **127 Children's Epilepsy Surgery**

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report that introduced further information relating to the provision of Children's Epilepsy Surgery. The Scrutiny Board considered an initial letter to and subsequent response from NHS England in this regard, appended to the report.

The Principal Scrutiny Adviser reminded members that in July 2013 the Scrutiny Board had previously considered a request for scrutiny and agreed to consider issues related to the provision of Children's Epilepsy Surgery in Leeds and the associated procurement process.

The following representatives were in attendance to help the Scrutiny Board consider the information presented:

- Laura Sherburn (Interim Head of Specialised Commissioning) – NHS England (South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw Area Team)
- Dr Mark Smith (Chief Operating Officer – Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust)
- David Berridge (Medical Director (Operations) – Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust)

In addressing the Scrutiny Board, the Interim Head of Specialised Commissioning (NHS England (South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw Area Team)) briefly outlined the NHS England's response, which covered the following areas:

- Background and context to identifying four providers to deliver a Children's Epilepsy Surgery Service – acknowledging there was no specialised surgical service centre (for children under 5) located in Yorkshire and the Humber or the North East of England;
- Response to the issues raised by the Scrutiny Board, following the initial request for scrutiny.
- The development of the North East Paediatric Neurosciences Network

The Chair expressed concern that, despite the relatively small number of children/ families likely to be affected, the existing provision did not sufficiently reflect the population profile or geography of Yorkshire and the Humber. There was also concern that the lack of provision might be seen as an erosion of services and have a negative impact on other service areas, including other neuroscience services, at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

Addressing the Scrutiny Board, representatives from Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (LTHT), made a number of points and outlined a range of matters, including:

- Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS trust was fully supportive of its clinicians in maintaining and further developing paediatric neurosurgical service;
- There was a larger population of children (aged 6 and over) that require epilepsy surgery and there was a desire to maintain and develop such a service in Leeds.
- It was recognised that the establishment and development of an effective Neurosciences Network (covering Sheffield, Newcastle and Leeds) would be beneficial to each centre and the populations they serve.
- More recently there had been a much greater degree of cohesive and a collaborative approach in relation to the establishment and development of a North East Paediatric Neurosciences Network;
- Through the North East Paediatric Neurosciences Network, the Trust planned to contact NHS England in order to seek a review of provision within Yorkshire and Humber / the North of England.

The Scrutiny Board discussed the report and the details highlighted at the meeting and welcomed the more collaborative approach in relation to the establishment and development of a North East Paediatric Neurosciences Network reported.

The Scrutiny Board also welcomed the proposal to seek a review of provision within Yorkshire and Humber / the North of England, as outlined at the meeting

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) To note the information presented and discussed at the meeting.
- (b) To request a copy of the letter from the North East Paediatric Neurosciences Network to NHS England seeking a review of service provision within Yorkshire and Humber / the North of England.
- (c) To maintain an overview of the existing provision of Children's Epilepsy Surgery services, as necessary.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chair thanked those in attendance for their contributions to the meeting.

### **128 Urgent and Emergency Care**

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report that provided a summary of the Board's previous consideration of urgent and emergency care during the municipal year 2013/14.

The following additional information was provided for the Scrutiny Board to consider (Minute 122 refers):

- Written submission by Leeds North Clinical Commissioning Group

The following representatives were in attendance to help the Scrutiny Board consider the information presented:

- Nigel Grey (Chief Officer – Leeds North Clinical Commissioning Group)
- Debra Taylor-Tate (Strategic Commissioning Lead (Urgent Care) – Leeds North Clinical Commissioning Group)
- Steven Courtney (Leeds City Council, Principal Scrutiny Adviser)

The Principal Scrutiny Adviser summarised the Scrutiny Board's consideration of urgent and emergency care during the current municipal year, 2013/14.

In addressing the Scrutiny Board, representatives from Leeds North Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) reminded the Scrutiny Board that Leeds North CCG held a co-ordinating role for work around urgent and emergency care across the City. In outlining the written submission provided, a number of specific areas were highlighted, including:

- Operational urgent care and the 4 hour emergency care standard.

- Work of the Strategic Urgent Care Board and the development of the vision for urgent and emergency care across the City.
- Development of the following workstreams to deliver the vision:
  - Frail and Elderly;
  - Mental Health;
  - Children and Young People;
  - Alcohol.
  - Preparation for the forthcoming Tour de France.

The Scrutiny Board discussed the report and the details highlighted at the meeting. A number of matters were raised and discussed, including:

- Public and Patient involvement, including that of HealthWatch Leeds, in the ongoing review of urgent and emergency care across the City.
- Reporting and governance arrangements associated with the Strategic Urgent Care Board.
- The similarity of current urgent and emergency care issues with those facing the national and local system for the past 10 years.
- The current economic imperative in relation to the review of urgent and emergency care across the City.
- How improvements would be judged and the associated 'measures of improvement'.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) To note the information presented and discussed at the meeting.
- (b) To maintain an overview of the ongoing review of urgent and emergency care across the City and to receive further update reports in the new municipal year (i.e. 2014/15).

The Chair thanked those in attendance for their contributions to the meeting and concluded by thanking all members of the Scrutiny Board for their attendance and contributions throughout the municipal year.

(The meeting concluded at 11:40am)