

SCRUTINY BOARD (HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE)

MONDAY, 17TH DECEMBER, 2007

PRESENT: Councillor J Chapman in the Chair

Councillors J Dowson, G Driver, P Ewens,
J Illingworth, G Kirkland and P Wadsworth

CO-OPTEEES: J Fisher - Alliance of Service Users and Carers
E Mack - Leeds Voice Health Forum Co-ordinating Group
S Morgan - Equalities
L Wood - Leeds Patient and Public involvement Forums

74 Declarations of interest

Councillor Chapman declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 11, Inquiry into the Localisation of Health and Social Care Services – Area Committee Session, due to her role in the Area Management Review and preparation of the report 'Making a Bigger Difference in Localities – Proposals to Develop Area Management and Area Committees in Leeds'. (Minute no 82 refers).

Councillor Kirkland declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 11, Inquiry into the Localisation of Health and Social Care Services – Area Committee Session, due to his membership of the Wharfedale Hospital Forum. (Minute no. 82 refers).

Councillor Illingworth declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 9, Commissioning Strategy for Adult Social Care due to his wife's position as Chair of the Bethel Day Centre Management Committee. (Minute no.80 refers).

75 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Bale, Iqbal, Rafique and Russell.

76 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2007, be confirmed as a correct record subject to the inclusion of Sally Morgan under those in attendance.

77 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday, 21st January, 2008

Minute No.62 – A Local Involvement Network (LINK) for Leeds

It was reported that a funding figure of £300,000 per year for the next 3 years had now been agreed for the LINK.

Minute No.65 – Co-option to the Scrutiny Board (Health and Adult Social Care)

It was reported that there was still a vacancy for another Co-optee to the Board. Members discussed various organisations that may wish to be represented. The Principal Scrutiny Adviser would report back at the January meeting.

78 Executive Board Minutes

In response to a question regarding progress updates at Terry Yorath House, it was reported that this would be reported under Agenda Item 10, Recommendation Tracking.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Executive Board held on 14 November 2007 be noted.

79 Overview and Scrutiny Minutes

With regard to Direct Payments, the Board was informed that a decision had not yet been taken as to whether an Inquiry into Direct Payments would be undertaken and whether such an Inquiry would be carried out by this Board or the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 9 October 2007 be noted.

80 Commissioning Strategy for Adult Social Care

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report in line with the Board's previous request to receive a quarterly update on the development of a Commissioning Strategy for Adult Social Care.

The Chair welcomed the following to the meeting.

- Dennis Holmes, Chief Officer – Commissioning
- Tim O'Shea, Head of Commissioning
- Wayne Baxter, Chief Procurement Officer

Dennis Holmes gave the Board an update on current commissioning activity in Social Care. He highlighted the following areas:

- Personalisation – how to ensure that support responded to the need of individuals.
- Commissioning locally based activity.

- The resources that Adult Social Services puts into non-statutory activities each year.

Concern was expressed that some voluntary organisations were worried about funding drawing to a close from fixed term funding streams such as the lottery. Adult Social Services had not withdrawn any funding although it was recognised that the Council did not have the resources to replace funding withdrawn from other sources.

In response to comments that Neighbourhood Network services were unevenly distributed across the City and whether gaps could be addressed, it was reported disparities had been recognised by Adult Social Services. Close engagement was needed with all the Neighbourhood Networks to address issues such as distribution of funds and to understand the added value they brought to services. It was noted that Leeds was one of only a few local authority areas that had Neighbourhood Networks.

It was reported that the Commissioning Strategy provided a challenge in terms of procurement and that key stakeholders would be invited to participate in the development. There were ways in which the Council could give support to the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector through procurement, such as negotiation with suppliers.

Further issues discussed in relation to Members questions and comments included the following:

- The procurement unit's work with the local third sector to help "de-mystify" the procurement process and assist with the paperwork involved.
- Risk Management – it was reported that the next report regarding commissioning could address the issue of risk.
- That quality of care was important as well as value for money.
- Direct Payments and releasing funds to give to individuals to use for their own care.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted and that the next report, due in March 2008, specifically address risk factors and risk management.

81 Recommendation Tracking

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which provided Members with a progress update on recommendations of previous Inquiries and issues scrutinised by the Board.

The following issues/inquiries were detailed in the report:

- Childhood Obesity Prevention and Management
- Dignity in Care
- NHS Dental Contract in Leeds
- Terry Yorath House

The Chair welcomed Janice Burberry of Leeds PCT, who was present to discuss the progress following the Board's Inquiry into Childhood Obesity.

It was reported that important progress had been made with the PCT endorsing the Leeds Childhood Obesity Strategy and Education Leeds making it a priority issue. Significant amounts of funding had been made available to tackle childhood obesity issues and key members had been recruited to the Leeds Childhood Obesity Strategy Group.

In response to Members' comments and questions the following issues were discussed in relation to the Childhood Obesity Inquiry:

- How to identify high risk communities and recognise obesity hotspots.
- Engagement of the Development Department and Planners as a long term objective.
- Healthy transport.
- The role of the Healthy Schools Programme and Leeds Play Network/Play Strategy.

Members requested an update on progress with the "State of Play" report, proposed in the Leeds Play Strategy.

With regard to the Inquiry into Dignity in Care, it was reported that all recommendations of the Inquiry had now been achieved or had seen acceptable progress made. Concern was expressed that isolated incidences of treatment without dignity may not be picked up on.

Members discussed the responses to the recommendations into the Inquiry into the NHS Dental Contract in Leeds. Concern was expressed over the following:

- Funding for 2009 not known – Members would wish to see an increase in funding.
- Lack of accessible dental services for disabled people.
- Whether spending on units of dental activity had actually reduced since the five Leeds PCTs were replaced with one PCT.

Regarding Terry Yorath House, Members asked that an update report be provided to the Board once the twin track approach decided upon was fully in place.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted and that:

- An update on progress with the "State of Play" report be requested for the March 2008 Board meeting
- the Chair write to the PCT regarding the Board's concerns about dentistry
- an update be provided to the Board regarding developments at Terry Yorath House in six months time.

82 Inquiry into the Localisation of Health and Social Care Services - Area Committee Session

The report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development highlighted the request of the Board to involve Area Committees in the Localisation of Health and Social Care in Leeds Inquiry and to receive information and their views about the relationships between Area Committees and local NHS Trusts.

The Chair welcomed the following to the meeting:

- Councillor E Minkin, North West Inner Area Committee
- Councillor C Campbell, North West Outer Area Committee
- Councillor B Anderson, North West Outer Area Committee
- Councillor C Fox, North West Outer Area Committee
- Jason Singh, Acting North West Area Manager

In brief summary, the following issues were discussed:

- Importance of the Councillor's role and the need for communication – Examples of a ward closure and sale of NHS trust land were cited as cases where Councillors were not kept informed.
- How Area Committees and Councillors could be involved in the decision making process.
- Localisation of services was not just a geographical issue. It also called for community engagement.
- People would like more involvement in the provision of health services.

The Chair reported that she was due to meet with Maggie Boyle, Chief Executive, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Christine Outram, Chief Executive, Leeds PCT later in the week and would talk to them about progressing the localisation inquiry at that meeting.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

83 Work Programme

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which detailed the Board's Work Programme for the 2007/08 Municipal Year.

Members discussed the following issues in relation to the Work Programme:

- The South Area Committees would be scheduled to attend a meeting regarding the Localisation Inquiry.
- Possible Site Visits – Wharfedale Hospital and Otley Clinic, Beeston Hill Medical Centre, Middleton Park Avenue, Yeadon Health Centre

were preferred, with possibly Middlecross Day Centre or Burley Willows if time allowed.

- A further Recommendation Tracking report to be brought in March 2008.
- LINKs – The Board was informed of peer support that had been offered by the Centre for Public Scrutiny.
- The NHS Annual Health Check for local NHS Trusts and the Yorkshire Ambulance Service.
- Monitoring progress with the regional Big Lottery Funded “Altogether Better” project.
- Teenage Pregnancy
- Day Services for Sikh Older People in Leeds
- Healthy Learning Centres

RESOLVED – That the current Work Programme be agreed and amended to reflect issues raised at the meeting.

84 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday, 21 January 2008 at 10.00 a.m. (pre-meeting for all Board Members at 09.30 a.m.)