

SCRUTINY BOARD (HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE)

MONDAY, 24TH JULY, 2006

PRESENT: Councillor B Lancaster in the Chair

Councillors S Bentley, Mrs R Feldman,
S Hamilton, J Lewis and L Russell

CO-OPTEES: J Fisher – Alliance of Service Users and
Carers
E Mack – Leeds Voice Health Forum Co-
ordinating Group
B Smithson – Leeds PPI Forum City Wide
Group

12 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

13 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Coupar, Illingworth, Jarosz, Kirkland and Shelbrooke.

14 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 19th June 2006 be approved as a correct record.

15 Executive Board Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Executive Board meetings held on 14th June 2006 and 5th July 2006 be noted.

16 Action Learning Project - Community Development in Health and Wellbeing

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report regarding the Action Learning Project – Community Development in Health and Wellbeing. Appended to the report was a document from the Healthy Leeds Partnership which provided background information on community development and community health development work in Leeds along with the draft terms of reference for the Board's Action Learning Project. Members were reminded that Leeds had been one of only nine authorities nationwide to successfully bid for funds from the Centre for Public Scrutiny for this Action Learning Project.

The Chair welcomed Mike Simpkin, Public Health Strategy Manager, Christine Farrar, Programme Manager and Rachel Swindells, Joint Health Programme Manager of the Healthy Leeds Partnership to the meeting.

It was reported that there was currently no strategic approach for community development and community health development in Leeds and the successful Scrutiny Action Learning bid would help to address this. Community health workers were often isolated without support and links to policy areas. They also lacked opportunities for networking and sharing best practice advice. There were however, some examples of well established community health development projects such as the Healthy Living Centres and Health for All projects. Members were informed that community development had a key role to play in reducing health inequalities and contact had been made with various organisations and projects to promote this.

Further issues discussed and comments made included the following:

- How to measure health outcomes (evidence based) of the Action Learning Project.
- The development of a steering group for the project.
- The links to the forthcoming Local Government White Paper around empowering communities.
- A successful community development strategy could attract investment.

The Chair thanked Mike Simpkin, Christine Farrar and Rachel Swindells for their attendance.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report from the Healthy Leeds Partnership be noted.
- (b) That the terms of reference for the Action Learning Project be agreed.
- (c) That facilitation meetings take place following the Scrutiny Board (Health and Adult Social Care) meetings held on the following dates:
 - Monday, 23rd October 2006
 - Monday, 18th December 2006
 - Monday, 19th February 2007

17 Inquiry into Childhood Obesity Prevention and Management - Formal Response

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which detailed the Board's formal response following the Inquiry into Childhood Obesity Prevention and Management.

The Chair welcomed Rosemary Archer, Director of Children's Services and Frank O'Malley, Leeds Play Network to the meeting.

Rosemary Archer informed the Board that all their recommendations had been accepted by Children Leeds and thanked the Board for their input into the Leeds Childhood Obesity Strategy.

Frank O'Malley addressed the meeting and reported on the play strategy and links to tackling childhood obesity. Matters raised included the need to highlight children's play in the localities and transport issues including traffic calming measures.

It was reported that the Board would receive a further progress report on the implementation of the Leeds Childhood Obesity Strategy in January 2007.

The Chair thanked Rosemary Archer and Frank O'Malley for their attendance.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

18 Adult Day Services Review - Formal Response

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report detailing the formal response to the Board's review of Adult Day Services.

The Chair welcomed John Davies, Director of Adult Services and Mike Evans, Chief Officer, Adult Services, to the meeting.

The work of the Scrutiny Board was welcomed and this was reflected in the Action Plan for the Review of Adult Day Services. Issues discussed included the following:

- The role of the voluntary and community sector.
- The role of the Learning and Leisure Department.
- Mapping of voluntary sector day services.
- That following Executive Board agreement in July 2006, the Department would now proceed to detailed planning of re-designed services for people with a learning disability. This would involve each location in conjunction with service users, carers and staff..

The Chair thanked John Davies and Mike Evans for their attendance.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That a further update report be brought back to the Board's January 2007 meeting.

19 Inquiry into Older People's Mental Health Services in Leeds - Formal Response

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Support submitted a report which detailed the formal responses following the Board's Inquiry into Older People's Mental Health Services in Leeds.

The Chair welcomed the following to the meeting:

- Mike Evans, Chief Officer, Adult Services
- Mick Ward, Modernisation Manager
- Jenny Thornton, City Wide lead on Older People Mental Health
- Michele Moran, Director of Service Delivery, Leeds Mental Health Teaching NHS Trust

The following issues were discussed:

- In line with the Board's recommendation to receive a copy of the POPPs Risk Assessment and Management Strategy, it was highlighted that this should be available in October 2006.
- That a Programme Manager for the POPPs programme had been appointed.
- The Leeds PCTs had adopted the protocols and guidelines for the Treatment of Depression in Older People and would receive refresher sessions on the guidelines in September 2006.
- Mental Health would remain a priority under the framework of the new PCT.
- That Modernisation Leeds would be raising the issue of physical activity within the Older People's Mental Health Strategy Group and pursuing this within the 'Older Better' Strategy and Local Area Agreement.
- Meetings had been held with Housing Associations regarding the provision of additional extra care sheltered housing units, as the Department of Health had recently announced that there would be a further opportunity to submit bids to the Extra Care Housing Fund. However, the bidding criteria was yet to be published. It was reported that developments in South, North East and North West Leeds were at the planning stage and would provide a choice between rented, shared equity and full leasehold options.
- The Board's Inquiry had raised the profile of Mental Health issues for Older People in Leeds.
- That services developed as part of the POPPs programme would need to be sustained in the long term and have the commitment of commissioners.

The Chair thanked Mike Evans, Mick Ward, Jenny Thornton and Michelle Moran for their attendance.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That a further update report on the POPPs programme be brought back to the Board's October 2006 meeting.

20 Leeds Mental Health NHS Trust - Fire Safety Standards Review

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report regarding Fire Safety Standards within the Leeds Mental Health Teaching NHS Trust. Attached to this report was a letter received from the Department of Health in response to the Board's final Inquiry report.

The Chair welcomed the following to the meeting:

- Michele Moran, Director of Service Delivery, Leeds Mental Health Teaching NHS Trust
- David Brown, Contracts Manager, Leeds Mental Health Teaching NHS Trust
- John Kitchen, Managing Director, Accent Project Solutions
- Ian Germain, Strategy and Marketing Director, Accent Project Solutions

David Brown reported that a comprehensive and thorough review of the Trust's 3 PFI buildings had been carried out by an independent fire safety engineering consultant. The principal conclusion was that the design and construction of all 3 buildings provided for acceptable levels of fire safety, subject to the upgrading of 6 fire doors at The Mount. There was no further work needed in relation to the design or construction of the buildings. Regular meetings had also been held with the West Yorkshire Fire Service. Both the Trust and Accent had been reassured by the results of the review and hoped that the matter could be brought to a close.

The following issues were discussed and further comments made:

- All upholstered furniture met fire safety standards although not necessarily of the highest specifications. It had been recommended that a risk assessment be undertaken to establish whether the standard provided was appropriate for the risk.
- That the letter received from the Department of Health acknowledged that the Firecode suite of documents does not explicitly include or exclude Mental Health premises, but is aimed primarily at the acute health care sector. A revision was currently underway to ensure that guidance does not cover fire safety across the full range of healthcare facilities.
- In relation to a previous query about the use of break glass alarms, it was reported that these had now been replaced with key operated systems to reduce the incidences of unwanted signals.
- Staff training – it was reported that staff had received evacuation training, but no evacuations had been carried out. Members were informed that a practice evacuation would be undertaken and documented.

The Chair thanked, Michele Moran, David Brown, Ian Germain and John Kitchen for their attendance.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That the Board be further updated at its December meeting and that a representative of the independent fire safety engineering consultants be invited to attend.
- (c) That the Board provides a response to the Department of Health's letter.

Councillor Lewis left the meeting at 12.10 p.m. at the conclusion of this item.

21 Draft Leeds Oral Health Strategy

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report on the Draft Leeds Oral Health Strategy.

The Chair welcomed Dr John Beal, Consultant in Dental Public Health, South Leeds PCT to the meeting.

It was reported that the Oral Health Strategy would cover the following 5 areas:

- Levels of oral health
- Causes of poor oral health
- How to prevent poor oral health
- Dental Services – new contract
- Action List

The following issues were discussed:

- Comparisons of 5 year old children from different ethnic groups in Leeds showed that children from Pakistani and Bangladeshi backgrounds had the highest levels of filled, missing and decayed primary teeth – reasons for this were linked to the fact that it was not uncommon for these children to be given 'sweetened' drinks in bottles until a comparatively late age and they also tended to start brushing their teeth at a later age.
- Members praised the non-offensive approach used within the Strategy to highlight dental health issues across the different ethnic groups and suggested that it would be helpful to use the charts within the Strategy to help promote the messages to the different ethnic groups.
- In relation to orthodontic treatment, it was highlighted that further work was needed to look at the referral pathway to ensure only patients prioritised by clinical need are referred for treatment in line with commissioning criteria.
- That the funding from the Department of Health aimed at improving dental estates would be made available to the Strategic Health Authority and was likely to be allocated on a weighted capitation basis.
- Problems for special needs patients, particularly those with physical disabilities, had been encountered due to problems with access to

dental surgeries – many of which were situated in old buildings and not at ground floor level.

- Members welcomed the section on special needs within the Strategy. However, a recommendation was made to find out whether dental practices were covered by the new Disability Discrimination Act 2005 and whether funding could be made to help dental practices adhere to the DDA.
- That the Strategic Health Authority would be responsible for any consultation around the fluoridation of water and would be asked to work with Yorkshire Water on this matter prior to consultation. It was highlighted that the water networks in Yorkshire were complex and that this may have cost implications.
- Members recommended that where figures/data were quoted within the Strategy, references should be made to the source of this information.
- Members recommended that following any screening programmes, it would be helpful to give parents the contact details for NHS dentists in order for them to access treatment easily. It was suggested that PCTs should also consider providing dental services at schools and liaise more closely with Education Leeds in line with the Healthy Schools Initiative.

The Chair thanked John Beal for his attendance.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report and information presented be noted.
- (b) That the comments of the Board be fed into the consultation process.

22 Inquiry into the NHS Dental Contract - Draft Terms of Reference

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which included the draft terms of reference for the inquiry into the new NHS Dental Contract.

It was agreed at the June meeting to carry out an Inquiry into the new NHS Dental Contract and it was suggested that it could be considered by a Scrutiny Commission. However, it was now felt that a Working Group of the Board could be established to carry out preliminary research into this matter.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the terms of reference be agreed.
- (b) That a Working Group consisting of Councillors Lancaster, J Lewis, Kirkland and Shelbrooke and B Smithson (Co-optee) be convened.

23 Work Programme

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which contained an updated copy of the Board's Work Programme for the 2006/07 Municipal Year. Appended to the report was an extract from the Forward Plan of Key Decisions which related to the Board's portfolio area.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

24 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday, 18th September 2006 at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Hall. (pre-meeting at 9.30 a.m.)