



Democratic & Central Services

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To: All Members of Council

Dear Councillor

COUNCIL MEETING – 26TH MARCH 2014

At the above meeting, the thirty minutes of Question Time expired with questions 12 to 19 unanswered. Council Procedure Rule 11.6 requires that each Member of Council is sent responses to such questions.

Q12 Councillor B Selby - Would the Executive Member for Health inform members what Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust's 5 year plan means for the city?

A As I have highlighted at previous council meetings, the health and social care system is in a period of unprecedented change, set against a backdrop of an ever-growing demand for services and a national funding squeeze.

As well as the huge changes taking place within the council's realm of health care, there are also vast changes taking place within the NHS. This is reflected by Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust's Five Year Strategy which we have recently been consulted.

We cannot ignore the very real financial challenge that the Trust face going forward with upward trends in demand for services, demography changes and increased A+E admissions. As the largest provider in Leeds and one of the largest acute trusts in the country, these challenges come alongside savings pressures of 4-6% annually. The gap between resources and the expected demand for services is likely to leave a financial pressure rising into the end of the decade. The ambition to counter these demands is to make efficiency savings of 18-20% over the next 3 years.

Despite the very challenging landscape ahead, these are also exciting and encouraging times for Leeds. One of the main features of the Five Year Strategy concerns the Trust's workforce. Employing around 15,000 people across 7 hospital sites, LTHT is the second largest employer in Leeds, after Leeds City Council.

The objectives in the strategy are not only to maximise the standard of the current workforce, but also to create more specialised positions. The Trust are committed to increasing the number of nurses in wards and clinical areas to no less than one nurse for every 8 beds.

There are also plans for the Trust to work with partners in the Leeds Innovation Health Hub – including the council - to develop Leeds as an integrated centre for Health Innovation and specialised care.

These developments present a fantastic opportunity for employment and training prospects in the city. The trust are committed to working with schools, colleges and universities in the city to improve access routes for local people into jobs and training in clinical care as well as health innovation.

This clearly fits with the council's agenda on jobs and skills and apprenticeships and we will continue to work even more closely with the Trust to explore ways to bring these opportunities to the people of Leeds in the years ahead.

The Five Year Strategy is also reflective of the challenges we face in Leeds as a result of integrated care. The pooled budget of the Better Care Fund will result in us ever more working closely with the Trust as well as the other health providers in the city to develop integrated care for people.

Currently, the Trust cares for around 2 Million patients per year. However, by working together with the council and other care providers to develop and deliver more innovative ways of delivering care, the objective is to reduce the number of people admitted to hospital by 15%, and instead focus where possible on providing care closer to home.

LTHT's Five Year Strategy is a response to the challenges that face the health and social care system in Leeds, and the future is not easy to predict. However, by working closely together with them and our other health partners, there are positive opportunities ahead that can be of great benefit to the city.

Q13 Councillor A Lamb - Does the Executive Board Member for Children's Services agree with me that the teacher's strike action on 26 March 2014 is damaging to the education of children in Leeds?

A "Strike action is always regrettable and I would urge the Secretary of State for Education to meet face to face, as requested, with the teaching unions."

Q14 Councillor B Cleasby - Can the Executive Member responsible for planning tell me who was the executive member responsible when North Ives Farm and Ling Bob Farm were included in the SHLAA and at what point was said executive member informed of this decision?

A North Ives Farm (Ref 2046) and Ling Bob (Ref 2160) are included in the original 2009 SHLAA. This was produced by the SHLAA Partnership chaired by Cllr Anderson. The 2009 SHLAA was approved for publication at Executive Board on 12th February 2010. As green belt land both sites are listed in the SHLAA as LDF to determine. It is not known whether the

Executive Member was specifically aware of these two sites (out of more than 700) in advance of the Executive Board report.

Q15 Councillor A Khan - Can the Executive Member update Council on the recent successes of locally-focussed apprenticeship events and any plans for future events of any kind?

A Following the success of the Apprenticeship Evening at the Town Hall in July 2013 which over 1,000 young people were able to meet employers and learning providers recruiting apprentices, 2 events have been held to serve particular localities with input from Area Committee Employment, Skills and Welfare lead members, local schools and employers.

The event at Pudsey Civic Hall in November 2013 to serve communities in West North West supported 186 young people to learn more about apprenticeships.

The event at the Hope Megacentre in February 2014 to serve communities in East North East supported 256 young people.

In addition, the Apprenticeship Hub partners have delivered over 40 workshops in schools and community settings which have been accessed by over 1,600 young people.

The Education Business Partnership Team have worked in 20 of the high schools across the city connecting businesses to schools and young people to the world of work to improve their employability skills. Across all its programmes, the team will support more 4,000 young people this year.

Looking forward – we plan to deliver:-

- An event for those seeking an apprenticeship and a career in construction with 5 employers that are delivering major contracts in the city – at the end of May 2014
- A further city wide event at the Town Hall on 26 June to which we can attract a wider range of employers.

A locality focused event in South Leeds in Autumn

Q16 Councillor P Wadsworth - Is the Executive Board Member for the Environment satisfied with the standard of work being carried out to improve energy efficiency and household warmth on properties in Leeds?

A Funding to support energy efficiency improvements has been available primarily for external wall insulation over the last year. In that time, the Council has commissioned 4 separate contractors to externally insulate over 500 council and privately owned system built properties and a handful of privately owned solid brick properties. Overall, the quality of this work has been high with good feedback from customers.

A small number of quality related complaints have been received regarding external wall insulation work carried out under a contract with Yorkshire Energy Services. However, we have worked closely with customers, contractors, system manufacturers and the industry watchdogs to resolve these complaints and have improved our systems as a result.

Q17 Councillor B Cleasby - How many meetings of the Lord Mayor's charity committee took place in the last 12 months?

A In the past 12 months there have been 2 charity committee meetings. In addition the current Lord Mayor has held 3 Trustees Meetings on 26 Feb, 7 and 18 March 2014.

Q18 Councillor B Anderson - Will the Executive Board Member confirm the number of insurance claims made against the Council in relation to poor road maintenance?

A The number of third party liability claims made against the council in relation to road defects in the 11 months from 1 April 2013 to 28 February 2014 is 532. By comparison the number of claims against the council for the same period last year was 716.

Q19 Councillor A Lamb - Could the Executive member for Adult Social Care provide me with an update on the implementation of the new social care records system?

A **Current Position**

Work has progressed well with the implementation of Calderdale's Client Information System (CIS). The specific requirements for the Leeds version (Leeds CIS) have been developed by Calderdale and delivered in a series of releases onto LCC's infrastructure. The project is now in the build and testing stage of the system whilst developing the complex data migration files to transfer the data from the existing ESCR system.

Project timescales, as previously reported to Corporate Governance and Audit Committee on 21st January 2014, set out the migration to be completed by the end of June 2014. The June deadline was driven by the minimum time the migration could be practicably completed and also the fact that any later date would slip into the holiday period and impact on the provision of front line services when releasing staff for training.

On 4th February 2014 Children's Services presented a paper to Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) providing an update on the implementation of Children's Social Work case management system (Frameworki). The Frameworki implementation is in a transitional post go-live period and as would be expected there were issues to resolve. These issues are brought into sharper focus in the context of an impending inspection. Therefore, further resource was needed on a temporary basis to fully embed the system and ensure there is a robust reporting solution that provides key intelligence to social work managers. Some of the work undertaken will also provide a basis for future developments across the council as well as providing valuable learning to the implementation of the Adults system.

In line with the priorities for the council, the recommendations contained in the report were approved by CLT with the recognition that this would have an impact on the implementation of the new CIS system in Adult Social Care.

Timescales

The impact was predominantly related to finance and technical migration expertise. Overall it is estimated that this will add 6 weeks to the original planned dates for the Leeds CIS implementation. It is unlikely that any of this time could be recovered to keep to the original timescales.

To minimise the impact on frontline service provision it has always been recommended not to carry out any of the classroom based training during the holiday period (July/August). Although the build, test and migration work may be complete, the optimum time for the training stage to begin is in early-mid September with an actual go live in October.

Budget

The budget has been reviewed and re-profiled to reflect the extended timescales for the first phase to go live. This phase will still be completed within the overall budget and opportunities to bring forward phase two implementations e.g. contracts module, are being considered within the extended timescales.

Risks

Contingencies have already been put in place to meet new legislative recording and reporting requirements for Zero Based Review from 1st April 2014. These will be captured on the existing ESCR system and this can continue to be used until the new system goes live. The ESCR and ESCR Financial systems will continue to be maintained and run until the new system is in place. There is therefore no risk to the provision of services in Adult Social Care.

The window, between go live and 1st April 2015, to develop the system and make changes in preparation for 2014/15 Care Bill requirements will be reduced. Consideration is being given to ensure adequate resources are in place both in LCC and Calderdale to enable both implementation and new Care Bill development work to run in parallel.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Tomkinson
Principal Governance Officer