

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
(HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE)

Overview
& Scrutiny



MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE
ON TUESDAY 14TH DECEMBER, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor Hill (in the Chair);

Councillors Barber (Substitute Member for Councillor Jones), L. Cluskey, Larkin, Veidman and Webster.

Also Present: Ann Bisbrown-Lee, Sefton LINK;
Colin Speight, Principal Manager, Social Care & Well-Being; Sefton MBC;
Dr. Janet Atherton, Acting Chief Executive, NHS Sefton;
John Doyle, Mersey Care NHS Trust;
Karen Lawrenson, Mersey Care NHS Trust;
Kim Crowe, Executive Director of Service Development & Delivery, Mersey Care NHS Trust; &
Lyn Cooke, Head of Communications, NHS Sefton.

70. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Howe and his Substitute, Councillor C. Mainey; Councillors Jones and McGinnity; Councillor Pearson and his Substitute Councillor Ibbs; Diane Blair, Acting Manager, Sefton LINK Support; Fin McNicol, Director of Communications, Aintree University Hospitals Foundation Trust; and Jonathan Parry, Chief Executive, Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust.

71. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were received:-

Member	Minute No.	Reason	Action
Councillor Hill	No. 76 – NHS Sefton – Update Report	Personal – his wife is employed by Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust	Took part in consideration of the item and voted thereon;
Councillor Larkin	No. 75 – Mersey Care NHS Trust – Briefing Paper	Personal – he is a carer of a relative	Took part in consideration of the item and voted thereon.

72. MINUTES

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2010, be confirmed as a correct record.

73. MATTERS ARISING

A. Invitation by Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust

The Chair reported that the Chair of Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust had invited Members of this Committee to visit Southport and Formby District General Hospital early in 2011. The visit would provide Members with an opportunity to meet members of the Trust Board and to view recent developments, such as the refurbishment of the Accident and Emergency Department. The date suggested for the visit was Monday, 14th February 2011, for a morning visit.

RESOLVED: That the invitation be accepted.

B. Development of Protocol on Substantial Changes/Variations in Services

Further to Minute No. 64 of 16 November 2010, the Chair reported that NHS Sefton was currently preparing a draft protocol to be used in conjunction with this Committee when consulting on substantial changes or variations in services provided by NHS Sefton. The draft protocol would be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee for consideration.

RESOLVED: That the matter be supported.

74. SOUTHPORT & ORMSKIRK HOSPITAL NHS TRUST

The Committee received a presentation from Colin Throp, Deputy Chief Executive and Finance Director, Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust; on the establishment and vision of an Integrated Care Organisation (ICO).

The presentation included the following:-

- the vision for the scheme in terms of benefits of an ICO for both the patients and the staff; and
- the process involved including Governance, Clinical Senate Membership, and the Function of the Clinical Senate.

The presentation also set out a list of acute services provided by Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust, services provided in North Sefton and West Lancashire. The number of staff affected, together with the budget involved were also set out.

Mr. Throp answered Members' queries on the matter.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Mr. Throp be thanked for his informative presentation; and
- (2) this Committee looks forward to receiving reports on developments in the future, including comments and views from relevant communities.

75. MERSEY CARE NHS TRUST - BRIEFING PAPER

The Committee considered a briefing paper from the Chief Executive of Mersey Care NHS Trust on current issues impacting upon that Trust. Information was provided on the following:-

A. Trust Board

The Integrated Business Plan set out the Trust's vision, strategy and planned service developments for the next five years. The business plan also formed the basis of the Trust's application to become a Foundation Trust equivalent.

B. New-Look Website

The Trust's website would be re-launched in the near future, in order to continue to improve the quality of its information and the way people increasingly accessed that information, to ensure the website's content system was quick, straightforward and non-technical.

C. Awards Round-Up

Communications Team

The Trust's in-house Communications Team, working with colleagues in finance and graphic design company Ewens Limited of Hull, produced the 2008/09 Annual Report on a theme of human rights, which won the Chartered Institute of Public Relations North West PRide Best Publication Gold Award in November 2010, at the Manchester Hilton.

Ashworth Hospital BeFrienders Project

The Befriending Project at Ashworth Hospital had won the regional finals of the 'Mentoring and Befriending Recognition Awards 2010'. The awards recognised individuals and organisations that had made a difference to people's lives through mentoring and befriending services.

The project took the North of England title for the Supporting Life's Journeys Mentoring and Befriending Recognition Awards, held at Manchester Town Hall in November 2010.

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The Mersey Care team would be joining winners from the other regional ceremonies at the UK-wide Mentoring and Befriending Recognition Award ceremony in London in December 2010 when an overall winner would be announced.

Ashworth Hospital BeFriender Takes Top Award

An Ashworth Hospital volunteer had won the Greater Merseyside Befriender of the Year 2010 award, presented at Volunteer Centre Sefton, recognising the work of volunteer mentors and befrienders across Merseyside. The volunteer, who has been a befriender for 15 years, received the award from the Mayor of Sefton and Anne Wheelan, the Mentoring and Befriending Foundation's regional co-ordinator in a ceremony at Bootle Town Hall.

D. Performance

The NHS Performance Framework for 2010/11 provided an assessment of the performance of NHS Trusts that were not yet NHS Foundation Trusts. The Trust was required to achieve a performance score of 1.9 or more to be rated as a performing organisation. The current performance score for the Trust was 1.9, the forecast being 3.0.

The Trust was on target to achieve all financial targets and duties. The forecast for the year end surplus was £3m and the Financial Risk Rating was 3.

E. TIME Project

The Committee received a verbal presentation from Kim Crowe, Executive Director, John Doyle, Project Director for the TIME Project and Karen Lawrenson, Service Director, Mersey Care NHS Trust, on the above project. A leaflet on developments at the former Walton Hospital site in particular, which represented Phase I of the project, was circulated for the attention of Members. The new developments would provide privacy and dignity for service users in the form of en suite facilities.

The Committee was advised that the Trust hoped to redevelop the old Southport General Infirmary site, currently housing the Boothroyd Ward, and the Hesketh Centre, Southport, as Phase II of the project, although there were no timescales for such developments at the current time.

The representatives from the Trust responded to queries from Members.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Mersey Care NHS Trust be thanked for presenting the information provided, together with prompt responses to Members' queries from the last Committee meeting;

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- (2) this Committee supports and welcomes the developments at the former Walton Hospital site;
- (3) the requirement to provide privacy and dignity in care, together with equality of service, be recognised; and
- (4) the Trust be supported in developing Phase II of the TIME Project.

76. NHS SEFTON - UPDATE REPORT

The Committee considered the report of the Acting Chief Executive, NHS Sefton, on current issues impacting on healthcare provision within Sefton. Information was provided on the following:-

A. Sefton Health and Social Care Quality Awards

Health professionals from across the Borough were celebrated at the first Sefton Health and Social Care Quality Awards, staged by NHS Sefton and the Council, and sponsored by Hill Dickinson solicitors. The ceremony, held at the end of November 2010, was held at the Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre. The judging panel included a member of Sefton's Local Involvement Network, Sefton's Lead Nurse, an NHS Sefton Non-Executive Director and a representative from Sefton Council. There were two winners in each of the main categories for a community and a hospital based service. A special Chief Executive's Award was also announced on the night. The winners in each of the main categories were set out within the report.

B. Healthy Sefton Gets National Attention

The healthy lifestyle information and advice phonenumber "Healthy Sefton" was showcased at the recent NHS Alliance conference. The service, which offered Sefton residents and health professionals' access to a range of lifestyle advice and services, was chosen by organisers to feature in a special documentary. The film included the experiences of service users and professionals who had been benefited from Healthy Sefton's introduction. ITN newsreader, Martin Lewis, introduced the programme, which was screened at the conference in Bournemouth.

C. Keeping Well This Winter

NHS Sefton was advising people how they could stay warm and well this winter as freezing temperatures took a grip on the region. The cold weather could be associated with serious health problems such as heart attacks, strokes, pneumonia and depression. Eligible people were encouraged to have a flu vaccination to protect against the serious effects of influenza, while eating well and keeping active could help people stay healthy and warm. Sefton residents were also encouraged to look out for elderly and vulnerable friends and neighbours, making sure they were warm enough, particularly at night, and had enough food and medicines so they did not need to go out during cold, icy weather. As the health service approached its busiest time of the year, people were also reminded about the range of local health services

that could help when they were ill. Many minor illnesses could be safely treated at home with a well stocked medicine cabinet, while chemists offered free advice. People were reminded of the services offered at their local GP surgery and that the out of hours GP service provided people access to care around the clock. Every Sefton resident aged 65 years and over would be sent a letter from their GP practice setting out the help and support that was available to them.

D. Improving Children's Services in North Sefton

A survey of parents carried out in November 2010 would inform work to improve children's services for minor illnesses, long term conditions and complex disabilities. The Patient and Public Involvement Team had spoken to families in Children's Centres, clinics, GP practices and at the Children's Accident and Emergency Department at Ormskirk Hospital. Families and carers were asked to complete a questionnaire, asking for their views about current services and how they could be improved in the future. Focus groups would be held during December 2010, further exploring the results of the survey. All the information gathered would be used to help develop options for children's services in the north of the Borough, particularly in the light of the independent clinical review undertaken by the Royal college of Paediatrics and the Child Health External Clinical Advisory Service.

E. CAB Outreach Service Does Good Work in Sefton GP Practices

A new report highlighted the benefits of the NHS Sefton supported Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB) Outreach Service. The CAB service was offered in nine GP practices in the Borough, covering a total of 56,419 patients. The report into the effectiveness of the service was carried out by Liverpool John Moores University and found that practice managers, GPs and CAB staff all agreed that the service was beneficial to patients. The report authors considered the service to be open and accessible. It reached a different client group from those using the regular CAB drop-in service, including many with mental health problems. Authors concluded that the CAB Health Outreach Service demonstrated actual and perceived benefits to the NHS in terms of staff time and prescribing costs.

Councillor Larkin requested a list of GP practices that offered the CAB GP outreach service, together with details of the contracts. It was agreed that this information would be provided to all Members of this Committee.

F. Transforming Community Services Update

A number of GP practices that were currently managed and directly run by NHS Sefton had exercised their 'right to request' to become social enterprises. They were currently working on business cases, involving patients and stakeholders, which would be presented to the NHS Sefton Board at its meeting on 20th December 2010.

Other practices currently run by NHS Sefton had been offered independent contracts, similar to the majority of other GP practices in Sefton. NHS Sefton

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practices that did not choose to become a social enterprise or to take on an independent contract would initially transfer to the management of Liverpool Community Health NHS Trust from April 2011, pending a tendering exercise to identify a new provider or providers to host the remaining practices.

The Chair indicated that he had requested NHS Sefton to invite a GP from both the north and the south of the Borough to attend a future meeting of this Committee, to address Members on GP commissioning consortiums.

G. Praise for Sefton Projects

The interactive digital TV service “Looking Local” had been named a finalist at the recent How Do Public Services Communications Awards in Manchester. Smokefree North West, hosted by NHS Sefton, also made it through to the shortlist, as did the Council’s Children, Schools and Families Directorate. The NHS Sefton supported Active Lifestyles Service and Heart of Mersey both won a North West Public Health Award, while Smokefree North West was named the winner in the prestigious European Drug Prevention Prize 2010 for its Smoke and Mirrors campaign.

H. “Liberating the NHS” White Paper

Further to Minute No. 40 of 7 September 2010, Dr. Janet Atherton reported that further information relating to the above White Paper was about to be published and that she would report any relevant developments back to Members of this Committee.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) NHS Sefton be thanked for the report;
- (2) NHS Sefton’s actions against recommendations and proposals contained in the report, and reported verbally at the meeting, be monitored as appropriate; and
- (3) NHS Sefton be requested to respond to the issues raised under E, F and H above.

77. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY AWAY DAY - OUTCOMES

Further to Minute No. 28 (3) of 29 June 2010, the Committee considered the report of the Assistant Chief Executive concerning the outcomes of the Scrutiny Away Day, held on 21 June 2010, to review the structure of Sefton’s Overview and Scrutiny function, and presenting the Action Plan agreed by the Scrutiny Management Board at its meeting on 24 August 2010.

The Chair considered that the matter had been somewhat overtaken by recent financial considerations and outcomes might be dependent on the Council’s financial processes.

RESOLVED: That the report be received.

78. CABINET MEMBER REPORT

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Chief Executive, submitting the most recent report by the Cabinet Member – Health and Social Care, submitted to the Cabinet on 25 November 2010.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet Member report be received.

79. WORK PROGRAMME KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Chief Executive in relation to the Committee's programme of work. There were a number of Decisions within the latest Key Decision Forward Plan that fell under this Committee's remit, although there were no new items on this occasion.

Work was continuing for the cross-cutting Working Group, comprised of the four Overview and Scrutiny Chairs, plus two Labour Members. A number of discussion meetings with parents/carers, health professional and other stakeholders had taken place recently. It was anticipated that the Working Group would begin to reach conclusions in the near future and a final report with any agreed recommendations would be produced.

The Chair reported that he and the Overview and Scrutiny Officer had recently attended an event in London hosted by the Centre for Public Scrutiny.

Members of this Committee had visited Aintree Hospital NHS Trust premises on 22nd November 2010, and a brief itinerary of the visit was set out in the report.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the contents of the Key Decision Forward Plan for the period 1 December 2010 – 31 March 2011 be accepted;
- (2) the progress and actions of the cross-cutting Working Group, to scrutinise health inequalities within the Borough, be supported; and
- (3) the information on the visit to Aintree Hospital NHS Trust premises in November 2010 be received.