

Minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on Thursday 21 January 2016 at 10:00 am in the Edith Cavell Room, Ipswich Hospital, Heath Road, Ipswich.

Present: Councillors Michael Ladd (Chairman), Helen Armitage, Terry Clements, Patricia O'Brien and Bert Poole.

Co-opted members present: Councillors, Alison Cackett (Waveney District Council), Peter Coleman (Suffolk Coastal District Council), Siân Dawson (Babergh District Council), Elizabeth Gibson-Harries (Mid Suffolk District Council), Paul Hopfensperger (St Edmundsbury Borough Council) and Hugh Whittall (Ipswich Borough Council).

Also present: Councillors Alan Murray and Joanna Spicer

Supporting officers present: Theresa Harden (Business Manager, Democratic Services) and Katherine Bailey (Democratic Services Officer).

### **23. Public Participation Session**

There were no applications to speak in the Public Participation Session.

### **24. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions**

The Chairman paid tribute to the late Cllr Tim Marks and informed the Committee that Cllr Paul Hopfensperger was the new representative of St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Sarah Adams, who was substituted by Cllr Helen Armitage.

### **25. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

Cllr Peter Coleman declared a non-pecuniary interest as he was a member of Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust.

### **26. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **27. Progress in Transforming Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in Suffolk**

The Committee considered, at Agenda Item 5, the progress that had been achieved in transforming Child and Adult Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in Suffolk since this matter was last considered in July 2015. For this Agenda Item, the Committee was joined by the following witnesses:

- Eugene Staunton, Associate Director of Redesign, NHS West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group and Chairman of the Suffolk Children's Emotional Wellbeing Group
- Richard Selwyn, Assistant Director Commissioning, Children and Young People's Services, Suffolk County Council
- Pauline Henry, County Youth Support Manager, Suffolk County Council
- Adrian Orr, Deputy Assistant Director, Education and Learning, Suffolk County Council
- Alison Armstrong, Director of Operations, Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust
- Victoria Versey, Young People's Health Ambassador for Mental Health
- Anne Humphrys representing the stakeholder group for Children's Emotional Health & Wellbeing, and a parent

The Committee received two additional documents at the meeting: a report from the representatives of the Stakeholder Group and a draft version of "Emotional Wellbeing 2020" (a summary of the Transformation Plan for the public). Witnesses were asked to comment on the written evidence provided and Members had the opportunity to ask questions and comment on what they had heard.

**Recommendations:** The Committee agreed:

- a) To commend all parties on the progress that had been made so far and the way in which they had worked together to achieve it, and to encourage them to continue to work effectively together towards the delivery of the "Big Ideas", "Priorities" and actions identified in the Transformation Plan.
- b) To invite the Education and Children Services Scrutiny Committee to join with the Health Scrutiny Committee to form a Task and Finish Group to consider how schools could support the Transformation Plan;
- c) To highlight to the Health and Wellbeing Board the split of mental health funding nationally was approximately 7% for children compared with 93% for adults and to invite the Board to consider the implications of this for Suffolk.
- d) To recommend to the Children's Emotional Wellbeing Group that the information in the draft public facing version of the Transformation Plan (as provided at the meeting) be amended to make it clear that the significant difference between the number of children having "a diagnosed or additional mental health need" and those "assessed or supported every year" arose because many children could benefit from support for low-level needs rather than needing formal intervention from mental health services.
- e) To request an Information Bulletin on the services available in libraries to support and provide information to people with mental health needs.
- f) To request an Information Bulletin on progress with the implementation of the Transformation Plan, to be provided to the July 2016 meeting of the Committee.

## Reasons for recommendations:

- a) The Committee heard that the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services Transformation Plan had been approved by NHS England, and its implementation would be supported by funding of £1.2m per year over a five year period for East and West Suffolk (funding for Waveney was included as part of the Transformation Plan for Norfolk, which was not scrutinised in this session). Stakeholder sessions had been held across the County to raise awareness, and a stakeholder Reference Group had been created. A Children's Emotional Wellbeing Fund had also been created to support the third sector in delivering relevant services. A less technical version of the Transformation Plan, suitable for dissemination to the public, was being developed and the Committee was provided with a draft version for comment.

Members heard that implementation of the Transformation Plan would be a complex process as most children's services would be involved in some way. Immediate priorities were the provision of a single point of access, development of online guidance for young people, parents and professionals, the provision of a 24/7 health chat service, and the development of mechanisms to monitor the universal impact of the Transformation Programme and the impacts of individual specific treatments.

- b) Members were reminded that children spent approximately 15,000 hours in school from reception to Year 11 and that 100,000 children in Suffolk were currently supported by 7,500 teachers and 10,000 Learning Support Assistants. Schools were responsible for shaping the society of the future by raising awareness of the importance of healthy eating and wellbeing and developing a sense of community. To achieve this, it was important to help children understand that there was diversity in the classroom, and to teach them to look out for those in need of support.

Members were informed that schools had a responsibility to deliver a range of statutory duties with regard to wellbeing and there was a need to support them in monitoring wellbeing and emerging mental health needs of pupils. However, whilst some schools were doing this activity well, others were less good. The Committee noted there were now 7 different types of mechanisms for funding and governance of schools within Suffolk and the approaches taken to supporting children's emotional health and wellbeing varied.

The Local Authority had a responsibility to hold schools to account on behalf of vulnerable children. To achieve this, it was currently talking to academy trusts, the diocese and the Regional Schools Commissioner. One of the priorities of the Transformation Plan was workforce development and this would be achieved, over time, through a comprehensive programme of multi-agency training, which would require a fundamental culture change for all staff working with children and young people.

Members decided that they wished to form a Task and Finish Group to consider the role of education services in delivering the Transformation

Plan, and agreed that a joint investigation with the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee would be an effective way to achieve this.

- c) The Committee heard that even though most mental health problems started to develop in childhood, the split of mental health funding nationally was approximately 7% for children compared with 93% for adults. Members commented that it appeared that mental health funding was responding to symptoms in adults rather than resolving the causes of problems in childhood. The Committee considered that, in light of the focus on improving early intervention and prevention, the Health and Wellbeing Board would wish to be aware of this issue and bring whatever influence it could to bear on ensuring funds were allocated to achieve the best outcomes for people.
- d) The Committee noted the draft public facing Transformation Plan provided at the meeting stated that "34,500 [children and young people] have a diagnosed or additional mental health need" and that "4,100 are assessed or supported every year". The Committee questioned what happened to those who did not receive assessment or support, and how they would access support if they were not known to the system. Members heard that national statistics had been extrapolated to provide figures for Suffolk, and this showed that 10% of children and young people had a diagnosed mental health condition. An additional 14% had a lesser need such as depression, stress or anxiety, or for example, caring responsibilities and would often be better supported by appropriate conversations with teachers and peers than by referrals to mental health professionals. The Committee was concerned that the draft document could give an impression there was a significant gap in appropriate services and considered that this needed to be clarified.
- e) A Member commented that support to people with mental health needs was available at Beccles Library. The Committee agreed that it would like to receive information on the services for people with mental health needs that are available from libraries and other community organisations in Suffolk.
- f) The Committee recognised that the transformation of child and adolescent mental health services was a complex and important issue and the maintenance of momentum during its implementation was very important. Members wished to monitor progress, and requested an Information Bulletin report for the July 2016 meeting. The Committee also decided to add a further scrutiny of the implementation of the programme to its Forward Work Plan, potentially for the meeting in January 2017.

**Alternative options:** None considered

**Declarations of interest:** None received

**Dispensations:** None recorded

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 and reconvened at 12:25

## **28. Winter Pressures - Report from Task and Finish Group**

At Agenda Item 6, the Committee received a report from the Winter Pressures Task and Finish Group, introduced by Councillor Gibson-Harries. Members heard that the Task and Finish Group had been joined by Andy Yacoub, Chief Executive of HealthWatch Suffolk and had met, on 7 January 2016, with representatives of Ipswich and East Suffolk and West Suffolk CCGs and SCC Adult and Community Services. It had also received a written update from Great Yarmouth and Waveney CCG. The Task and Finish Group had agreed that it was not necessary for it to hold any further meetings.

**Recommendations:** The Committee agreed to endorse the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group, which were:

- a) That the Suffolk Health Scrutiny Committee should:
  - i) consider adding an item to its work programme for 2016 to consider recruitment, training and retention of health and care staff, with a view to identifying good practice and effective initiatives from other areas of the Country which could potentially be replicated in Suffolk;
  - ii) request a summary of how Adult and Community Services is working with District and Borough council housing departments to enable people to receive the care and support they need at home;
  - iii) seek an update on progress towards improving the process for recording and monitoring delayed transfers of care.
- b) That commissioners should consider whether there would be a benefit in linking named mental health professionals to care homes, in a similar way to GPs.
- c) To recommend to the Great Yarmouth and Waveney Joint Health Scrutiny Committee that it should seek an update on capacity in the HealthEast system.

### **Reasons for recommendations:**

- a)
  - i) The Committee heard that the Task and Finish Group had been impressed to see how agencies were working together, and noted that planning appeared to be sound, having started in the spring and built on experience of the previous winter. However, all parties had expressed concerns about recruitment and retention of staff and consequently the need for ongoing training.
  - ii) The Group was aware that it was in the best interests of patients and the health service to identify people at risk and look after them at home as much as possible. To achieve this, it was necessary to ensure that the homes of elderly and infirm people were suitable for their needs and the Group requested further information on how agencies were working together to achieve this.
  - iii) The Group heard that the Department of Health had recently issued new guidance on monitoring and recording delayed transfers of

care, and requested information on the implementation of the new process.

- b) Members heard that named GPs were linked to care homes, but often did not have mental health expertise. Members recommended that commissioners should consider whether there would be merit in providing additional mental health support to care homes.
- c) The Task and Finish Group had received written information from Health East, but was concerned about recent media reports regarding capacity in the Great Yarmouth and Waveney health system.

**Alternative options:** none considered.

**Declarations of interest:** none received.

**Dispensations:** none recorded.

## **29. Information Bulletin**

The Committee noted the Information Bulletin at Agenda Item 7.

## **30. Forward Work Programme**

### **Decisions:**

The Committee considered its Forward Work Programme and agreed:

- a) To consider at its meeting on 14 April 2016, the issue of capacity and planning in the Residential and Nursing Care Market;
- b) To consider at its meeting on 20 July 2016, an item on NHS workforce planning, having finalised the scope and focus of this item with a view to focusing the review on one area of the health and care sector;
- c) To request, for the meeting on 20 July 2016, an information update on progress with the delivery of the CAMHS Transformation Programme, and further information on this matter from HealthWatch. Members agreed that this matter should be considered again in January 2017;
- d) To request as an information item at the meeting on 14 April 2016, a summary of how Adult and Community Services is working with District and Borough council housing departments to enable people to receive the care and support they need at home;
- e) To request an update on progress towards improving the process for recording and monitoring delayed transfers of care, as an information item at the meeting on 14 April 2016;
- f) To request an update on the situation with Hopton and Stanton GP services for the meeting on 14 April 2016;
- g) To consider whether wider scrutiny of the support provided to GP surgeries by commissioners should be undertaken at the meeting on 20 July 2016.

### **Reasons for decisions:**

- a) The Committee received an Information Bulletin Item relating to Quality and Capacity in the residential and nursing care market in Suffolk and

agreed to consider this issue at its next meeting, with an emphasis on planning for forecast demand.

- b) The Winter Pressures Task and Finish Group recommended that the Committee should consider recruitment, training and retention of health and care staff; and NHS workforce planning was already on the Committee's Forward Work Programme. Members agreed that this scrutiny should be focussed to ensure that it added value and was manageable, with a view to identifying good practice and effective initiatives from other areas of the Country which could potentially be replicated in Suffolk.
- c) The Committee agreed that it wished to continue to receive updates on progress with the implementation of the CAHMS Transformation Plan.
- d) The Winter Pressures Task and Finish Group identified housing modifications as an important factor in enabling patients to remain at home whilst receiving care, and wished to be reassured that all parties were working together to achieve this.
- e) The Winter Pressures Task and Finish Group heard that delayed transfers of care continued to be an issue and that the Department of Health had published new guidelines on recording and reporting them. The Group heard that the implications of the new guidance were currently being considered by officers, and requested further information.
- f) The Committee received an Information Bulletin item and heard from Councillor Joanna Spicer about concerns relating to Hopton and Stanton GP services.

Members were concerned that although the circumstances leading up to the closure of Hopton and Stanton GP surgeries had been known for over 18 months, services had been closed at short notice, with minimal consultation or communication with local residents or the Committee.

Members agreed that they wished to be kept informed about the proposals for a long-term solution for GP services in Hopton.

### **31. Urgent Business**

The Committee did not consider any urgent business.

*The meeting closed at 12:45 pm.*

Chairman

