

ITEM 4

Time commenced : 6.00pm
Time finished : 8:40pm

SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH COMMISSION 3 OCTOBER 2005

Present: Councillor Berry (in the Chair)
Councillors Chera, Khan, Skelton, Turner, Willits,

Co-opted Members: Pat Hill, Philip Johnson and
Elaine Jackson

In attendance: Councillor Hussain

29/05 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gerrard, Leeming, Marshall and Co-opted Member Michael Raymond.

30/05 Late items

There were no late items.

31/05 Declarations of Interest

Ms Hill declared in relation to minute number 36/05 that she was Chair of a fostering panel.

Councillor Chera and Mr Johnson declared a personal interest. In minute number 39/05 as they both had relatives receiving homecare services.

32/05 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 July 2005 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

33/05 Call-in

There were no call-ins.

34/05 Planning For Change

Trish Thompson and Rosemary Stucky from Greater Derby Primary Care Trust (PCT) gave a presentation to the Commission on the likely changes in the PCT in the future.

Councillor Turner asked about the consultation procedure for a practice which was moved from a split site to a single site in Sinfin Ward. A 3 month consultation process had been carried out by external consultants. It was reported that the practice may have had to be dissolved if they could not move to a single site as this issue had created problems recruiting Doctors. A Health Needs Assessment had been carried out for the Sinfin area and the PCT was working closely with the local Practices to ensure needs were met.

The Commission discussed the need for the PCT to work closely with Town Planners to determine areas where demand would grow due to areas where a large number of new properties are planned.

Councillor Willits asked how the PCT were monitoring problems with the governments 24/48 hour targets for appointments. The PCT reported that a Tool Kit had been developed to help Surgeries to plan for high levels of demand to help them maximise their resources effectively.

Councillor Turner asked that areas that had a need for greater Doctor coverage be circulated to Members of the Commission.

The Commission thanked the representatives of the PCT for their detailed presentation.

Resolved to note the presentation

35/05 Performance Monitoring First Quarter 2005/06

Members considered a report detailing the Performance Indicators under the remit of the Social Care and Health Commission and received a presentation on the indicators to give members a more detailed view of what the indicators represented and how the Performance Indicators might usefully be utilised by the Commission.

The Chair confirmed with Commission Members that they were happy for the Indicators set out in the report to be those that the Commission looked at in future.

Resolved to note the report and presentation.

36/05 Review of Children Looked After Services – Terms of Reference

The Chair asked for the Commissions views on how to progress the Review of Children Looked After Services and for comments on the revised set of Terms of Reference in the report.

The Commission felt that a presentation from the Director of Social Services at the next meeting may help to answer some of the questions raised in the Terms of Reference.

The Commission agreed it would be useful to consider the ratio of staff to children under 16.

Resolved to

- 1. Ask the Director of Children's Services to attend a meeting to answer the points raised in the Terms of Reference where possible and;**
- 2. Agree the following as the Reviews revised Terms of Reference:**
 - To examine whether there is a higher number of looked after children in the City compared with other similar sized authorities.**
 - If there is a higher number of looked after children in the City than in other similar authorities, to consider ways of safely reducing the gap.**
 - To understand the triggers for the Child Protection Register.**
 - To explore how Derby City Council can attract and retain qualified Social Workers and examine what other Local Authorities are doing to solve this problem.**
 - To explore how Derby City Council can attract and retain good quality foster carers and examine what other authorities are doing to solve this problem**
 - To establish what suggestions CLA have to attract Social Workers and Carers**
 - To establish what suggestions the CLA, Carers and Social Workers have to improve the services provided by Derby City Council.**
 - To establish the ratio of staff to children under 16.**
 - To evaluate the evidence and to make recommendations to the Council Cabinet.**

37/05 Update from the Patient and Public Forum

Mr Johnson, Central Derby Patient Public Forum (PPF) Co-opted Member, updated the Commission on the work of Central Derby and Greater Derbyshire Patient and Public Forums.

In Central Derby the Forum had just completed a review on 'Hospicoms' and was due to report shortly. The Forum was monitoring the use of Heseptin and additionally the Forum had a Diabetes Sub Group and was carrying out a survey on Cleanliness.

In Greater Derby the Forum had nearly completed a substance-misuse review. They were scheduled to visit the Active Fun Club at Atherstone and were examining the Core Standards and Draft Declaration from the PCT.

Elaine Jackson from the Mental Health Forum reported that they were carrying out a review of the way the service had been reconfigured in Ilkeston as Carers and Users had been unsatisfied with the way the reconfiguration of services had been carried out by the Derbyshire Mental Health Services Trust.

Resolved to note the update from the Patient and Public Forums and the work they were involved in across the City.

38/05 Response from Primary Care Trust on Side Effects of Drugs

The Commission noted the response from the Director of Public Health on the side effects of medication prescribed by GPs.

Resolved to note the response.

39/05 Financial Implication of abolishing Care Charges Impact on other elements of the Service

Councillor Hussain reported to the Commission that the spending for Adult Services had not met Government predictions. He informed the Commission that it was not his intention to reduce care hours and that it was not his intention to alter service provision.

Councillor Berry asked if the criteria for Home Care provision would change. Councillor Hussain felt that it was important to remember that the Service was needs led. He reported that eligibility criteria for Home Care provision may change.

Councillor Willitts asked whether Social Services Budget was split equally between Children's and Adult's Services. The Director of Finance informed the Commission that each service operated under a fixed budget. He said that if there was to be a serious over-spend or under-spend this would be reported to the Cabinet in a Cabinet Report. He said that Adult's Services had under-spent for the past few years. Councillor Hussain reminded the Commission that the Government used population statistics to determine the amount of money the Council received for provision of these services and the aim should be to ensure that the full allocation of money for adult's services was spent on adult's services.

Councillor Skelton asked what the level of corporate under-spend would be if the abolition of charges was to be met from Corporate under-spend. The Director of Finance informed the Commission that the details would be set out in 3 key reports: the Cabinet report included in the Commission papers, a Budget Monitoring report to Cabinet and a cabinet report on Social Services over-spend.

Councillor Skelton asked Councillor Hussain whether it was his aim to return to the levels of home care users of a few years ago, which it was reported was in the region of 6000 users. Councillor Hussain said that the aim was to have a needs led service but accepted that user numbers may increase. He felt that there was currently capacity in the service to accommodate any growth in numbers.

Councillor Skelton queried whether there was enough funding available to meet any further demands in home care service when any spare capacity had been used. The Director of Finance reported that the adults service budget was being adjusted to accommodate the abolition of care charges and that any need for an increased adult services budget would be established in the budget review. Councillor Hussain suggested that it would probably take 6 months for a clear picture to emerge of what was happening under the new changes.

Resolved to

- 1. Ask the Director of Finance to inform the Commission of any trends appearing in the new service in the Budget Review Report, and;**
- 2. To receive a further report on this issue in six months time.**

40/05 Statement from the Commission on Health Bodies to the Healthcare Commission

The Chair reminded Members that this was their opportunity to comment on the Statement from the Commission on Health Bodies to the Healthcare Commission.

Resolved to

- 1. Pass any comments to the Overview and Scrutiny Team within the next 5 working days, and;**
- 2. Agree that the Chair and Vice-Chair produce a draft statement to incorporate Members comments and following circulation to the Commission to submit the final statement.**

41/05 Overview and Scrutiny Training

The Commission noted that all Members of Overview and Scrutiny Commissions could attend the Overview and Scrutiny Training. It was reported that this process was Member led and that the service would be delivered in a format to suit the individual concerned. It was noted that some Councillors found it difficult to attend training during normal working hours. It was suggested that the Ethical Standards training would be a useful course for all Commission Members including Co-opted Members and that details would be circulated to them.

Resolved to note the report.

42/05 Matters referred to the Commission by the Council Cabinet

There were none.

43/05 Responses of the Council Cabinet to any reports
of the Commission

There were none.

44/05 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

Members considered the current forward plan to establish which reports they wished to consider at future meetings

Resolved to examine the following reports at future meetings:

- **Home Care Review for Older People**
- **Further Integration of Specialist Mental Health Services in Derbyshire**

MINUTES END