

Time started	4.30pm
Time adjourned	5.35pm
Time re-convened	6.00pm
Time finished	8.35pm

**ADULT SERVICES AND HEALTH COMMISSION
17 MARCH 2008**

Present: Ahern, Baxter, Hussain, Jackson, S Khan, Leeming, Marshall,
Skelton, Turner and Webb

In attendance: Pat Hill and Elaine Jackson

62/07 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Hird.

63/07 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

64/07 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Webb declared a personal interest in Item 72/07 as he sat on the Derby Homes Board. Elaine Jackson declared a personal interest in item 72/07 as she sat on the board of Derwent Housing Association.

65/07 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 21 January 2008 were received as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

66/07 Call-in

There were no items.

Items for Discussion

**67/07 Presentation by East Midlands Ambulance Service
(EMAS)**

The Commission received a presentation from Marie Patchett – General Manager, Derbyshire for EMAS. The presentation gave an overview of EMAS, which has 16 stations and 420 road staff in Derbyshire and takes about 250 calls

per day in Derbyshire. Marie advised that EMAS was one of the top-performing trusts in the UK, and had won the Ambulance Service of the year. Marie reported that a key target was to respond to 75% of Category A calls within eight minutes of the call reaching the switchboard by 1 April 2008, and that the Service was close to achieving this. She also reported that the Service was looking to amalgamate buildings in Derby, and that response vehicles were parked in key locations to minimise response times.

Commission Members commented that parking and congestion around schools could block emergency vehicles and suggested that EMAS could work with the Council and with schools on this issue.

Councillor Ahern asked if EMAS resources could be amalgamated with those of the Fire Service. Marie advised that a scheme had been trialled but had been unsuccessful and so had been discontinued.

Councillor Baxter asked for details of the current Air Ambulance Service in Derbyshire. Marie replied that a helicopter was based at East Midlands Airport to cover Derbyshire and Leicestershire, and that it was within ten minutes flight of the whole county. She also advised that helicopters based in Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Yorkshire were available as back-ups if required.

Councillor Turner raised a concern that too great a focus appeared to be given marketing and events. Marie replied that the core services of EMAS was to respond to 999 calls and patient transport, and assured the Commission that these would never be put at risk. She also advised that costings for Events included running costs such as maintenance was met by the hosts.

Councillor Webb asked if patient transport vehicles such as Translinc could be utilised by EMAS when not in service.

Members suggested whether EMAS could work closely with social services and provide transport to groups who may need it. Marie replied that she would look into this and discuss with Sheila Downey – Senior Assistant Director, Adult Social Services.

Resolved:

- 1) to note the presentation.
- 2) to congratulate EMAS on winning the Ambulance Trust of the year award.

68/07 Transformation agenda introducing personalised budgets

The Commission received a presentation from Michael Foote - Director of Corporate and Adult Services and Sheila Downey – Senior Assistant Director, Adult Social Services on the challenges facing adult social care.

The presentation focused on the Transforming Social Care programme. The Commission were advised that this programme represented a fundamental change to adult social services provision. This would allocate resources upfront directly to individuals and give them greater choice and control of where and how they receive support. The new programme will affect all aspects of Adult Social Services, ranging from assessment to allocation of resources. Sheila reported that a Project Plan was due to be developed by July 2008. Before this, decisions would be made on how to build capacity and develop a market and awareness would be raised across colleagues, the public and partners. There was a three-year deadline for full implementation.

Members had concerns over the provision of money. One reason for this was that some service users may be given responsibility for managing their money but have little or no previous experience of this and misallocation of resources could have severe consequences for those with high-level needs. Members were advised that individuals would have the choice to appoint 'brokers' to manage their budget.

Members asked if payments would be subject to auditing. Sheila advised that the current Direct Payments system leads to money being paid into a ring-fenced account, but this system may or may not continue. Members agreed that it was of paramount importance that care agreed with service users through assessments should be provided and be seen to be provided.

Members asked if the scheme had been costed. Michael replied that there was a large amount of detail still to be received.

The Commission discussed implications of the programme on the workforce. Members asked for strong representations to be made to emphasise the need for well-trained staff. Councillor Hussain advised that workforce planning for Adult Social Care employees would be extremely challenging.

Resolved:

- 1) to note the presentation.**
- 2) to request regular updates at future meetings.**
- 3) to recommend that officers make representations throughout the development of Transforming Social Care and emphasising the importance of staff training.**
- 4) to ensure service users receive the service they have been assess as requiring.**

69/07 Welcome and introduction to the new Director of Public Health

The Commission was introduced to Andy Wakeman – Director of Public Health. This role was a joint appointment between Derby City Council and Derby City PCT. Andy stated that he wished for a dialogue with the Commission, and recognised the importance of local authority involvement in the health improvement agenda.

Resolved to welcome Andy to his new role as Director of Public Health.

70/07 Our Health Our Future

The Commission received a presentation from Martin Whittle – Director of Corporate Strategy, Derbyshire County PCT. Martin gave a progress report on the 'Our NHS, Our Future' project, also known as the Darzi Review. The aim was to establish a vision for the next decade of the health service and also to consider the case for a constitution for the NHS.

Martin reported that the boards of Derby City PCT and Derbyshire County PCT would seek approval of their recommendations in April 2008 leading to public consultation in May 2008 and implementation of the vision by the end of Summer 2008. Implementation was expected to take several years. Martin advised that some shared vision and implementation was planned between the City and County PCTs.

Members asked if the reduction of inequalities would be a key priority in the vision. Martin replied that the County PCT had made a commitment to reduce inequalities. Members asked what action was being taken to promote healthy living and healthy eating since spending in these areas was relatively low. Martin reported that identifying the main determinants of ill health was explored in the consultations already undertaken. He advised that there was agreement with Members that poverty was a major determining factor in health inequality.

Members raised concerns regarding the availability of GPs and dentists on the NHS. Martin advised that there had been a high response when three dental practices within the County PCT went to tender. He agreed that access to GPs and dentists should be a high priority.

Resolved to note the presentation.

71/07 Joint Health Scrutiny Committee response to the proposals for reconfiguration of Psychological Therapies Services

The Commission considered a report from the Adult Social Services and Health Commission on the joint committee held on 26 February 2008 to review the reconfiguration of Psychological Therapies Services.

Resolved to endorse the recommendations contained in the report of the Joint Scrutiny Committee and to make the following additional recommendations:

- 1) The Commission remains unconvinced that the proposed changes will reduce waiting times and improve access for Derby residents. In fact it believes the proposed changes will have an opposite effect and create a severe deficiency in services in the city.
- 2) **The Members ask that further consideration be given to the level of need in Derby City.**
- 3) **'The Members are concerned that the plans have been constructed using information from central government that has been superseded** and believe that this new funding is not reflected in the proposals and should also be taken into account in future reconfiguration of services'

72/07 Presentation on Supporting People Programme

The Commission received a report from the Director of Corporate and Adult Services. The report was presented by Andy Humberstone – Supporting People Manager.

Resolved to note the report.

73/07 Review of Patient Access to Dental Health Services in Derby

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Corporate and Adult Services on Patient Access to Dental Health Services in Derby.

Resolved to agree the report and the recommendations contained within with the following amendments:

- 1) **That an addendum be made to recommendation 45 to note that most recent figures show that 70% of the referrals to PALS relate to dentistry.**
- 2) **That recommendation 48 be shortened to end at '...reduce patient access to NHS treatment.'**

- 3) **That a new recommendation be added: ‘The PCT should urgently consider directly employing more dentists to improve patient access to NHS dental health services.’**

74/07 Annual Health Check – Statements on Local NHS Health Bodies for the Healthcare Commission

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Corporate and Adult Services requesting members to consider and comment on the performance of local NHS health bodies as part of the Annual Health Check by the Healthcare Commission.

Resolved to note the report and agreed the following comments on each health body:

1. East Midlands Ambulance Service

Thank you for your letter inviting the Derby’s Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to comment on your declaration against core standards. The Adult Services and Health Overview and Scrutiny Commission considered your request at their March meeting and agreed the following comments:

The Commission has had only limited involvement with the East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust during 2007/08. The Commission has received a presentation from the Trust which outlined the role of EMAS and how it is performing. The Commission was pleased to note the Trust was on track to meet their end of year target of reaching 75% of the patients within 8 minutes in the Category A calls through the new Call Connect Delivery.

The Commission is also pleased to note that the Trust is working closely with other partners such as Derby Hospitals Foundation Trust and Derby Adult Social Services to improve care services for Derby residents.

2. Derby City PCT

Thank you for your letter confirming your Compliance to the core standards. The Adult Services Health Overview and Scrutiny Commission discussed the commentaries on healthcare bodies at its 17 March meeting and agreed the following commentary on Derby City PCT:

C17 – seek and take account of patients, carers and others in designing, planning, delivering and improving healthcare services

The Commission is pleased with the Derby City PCT’s quick response to address patient and public concerns stemming from its proposals to relocate a baby clinic from one part of the city to another. The PCT had

sought to relocate the Clinic from Chellaston to Alvaston but had not fully consulted patients and the public prior to making the change. However once it became aware through representations by the Commission and other elected members of the strength of local feeling, it immediately reinstated the clinic back in Chellaston.

C18 enable all members of the population to access services equally and offer choice in access to services and treatment equitably

The Commission conducted a review of patient access to Dental Health Services and found that the PCT seeks to provide equal access to NHS dentists to all patients in the city. However, the Commission found that the number of practices offering NHS treatment to new patients had reduced from three to two. This creates further difficulties in providing equal access to all patients. The PCT is reviewing PDS contracts and if the concerns of dentists and the Local Dental Committee are not taken account this could reduce access to NHS dentists even further.

C20 promote, protect and demonstrably improve health community served and narrow health inequalities by co-operating with other healthcare organisations

The Commission conducted a review of Health Inequalities in 2003 and has since regularly monitored the progress towards reducing the gap. The Commission is aware that although overall life expectancy is increasing, it is increasing at a slower rate in deprived areas than the more affluent parts of the city. The Commission is also aware that the PCT works closely with other partners to address health inequalities in the city. It works closely with the Council for example, to encourage more young people to take part in physical activity through the "be-Active programme. The PCT has also worked with Environment Services Division to produce a health strategy for the city and is developing integrated services in number areas to address the health needs of the local community.

3. Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Members of the Adult Services and Health Overview and Scrutiny Commission agreed the following statement for the Trust's Annual Health Check submission at their 17 March meeting:

The Commission is pleased with Foundations Trust communication process which keeps its local stakeholders informed of the developments in the Trust. The Trust needs to make savings of £50m from its revenue budget and therefore has had to make difficult choices. It has communicated effectively with staff and has also kept the local Members of Parliament and the Commission Chair regularly informed of the developments. Members also noted the Trust's willingness to share

information with the Commission on its performance ratings. This is evidence by its attendance at the October 2007 meeting.

4. Derbyshire Mental Health Services Trust

Thank you for your letter requesting comments from the Adult Services and Health Commission for the Annual Health Check. The Commission discussed the commentaries on healthcare bodies at its 17 March meeting and agreed the following commentary on Derbyshire Mental Health Services Trust.

The Adult Services and Commission's main contact with the Derbyshire Mental Health Trust has revolved around its proposals to reconfigure services. Our commentary is therefore based on the evidence received in considering these proposals.

The Trust does not provide an equitable service to all patients within its area of responsibility. Evidence provided by the Trust for example shows that patient living in North Derbyshire currently do not have access to specialist psychological therapies services. The Trust is seeking to address this situation and is proposing to reconfigure its services.

The Commission welcomed the Trust's informal approach to consider whether its proposals for psychological therapies services and the consolidation of two hospital wards under a PFI scheme were substantial. The Commission informed the Trust that both proposals affected significant numbers of existing and future users and were therefore considered to be substantial and should follow formal consultation procedures. Since the Trust wished to move quickly on both schemes, the Commission carried out a more detailed review of the proposed changes at a relatively short notice.

In their evidence to the review on the proposed changes to the structure of psychological therapies services, the submission made by Unite the Union representing staff have consistently stated that clinicians have not been involved in the processes. The Trust has also not provided any evidence to the contrary that it has involved them. Furthermore the Trust also failed to provide evidence that the proposed changes would improve services for residents in the city. Members requested the Trust for its consultation strategy and were disappointed when none was provide especially since the Trust Board had accepted the Commission's earlier recommendations contained in the Reconfiguration of Mental Health Services Report in 2005.

A similar set of proposals psychological therapies services have been the subject of a further consultation. The consultation process on this occasion was led by Derbyshire County PCT and these were considered by a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee of Derby City and Derbyshire

County Councils who came to similar conclusions to that of the Adult Services and Health Commission.

75/07 Update on Local Involvement Networks (LINKs)

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Corporate and Adult Services on the progress of the development of the Derby City LINK.

Resolved to note the report.

76/07 Performance Eye

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Corporate and Adult Services on the Performance Indicators for the 3rd quarter 2007-08.

Resolved to note the report.

77/07 Items for Retrospective Scrutiny

There were no items.

78/07 To identify items in the Council Cabinet Forward Plan for consideration at future meetings of the Commission

The following items were identified:

- Mental Health Day Services
- Adult Learning Service Course Fees

79/07 Responses of the Council Cabinet / Health Bodies to any reports of the Commission

The Commission considered the response of the Council Cabinet to the recommendations of the Commission on the proposed Revenue and Capital Budget.

Resolved to note the report.

80/07 Matters referred to the Commission by Council Cabinet

There were no items.

MINUTES END