

**HEALTH AND PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

1 March 2017

**PRESENT** – Councillor Newall (in the Chair); Councillors Crichlow, Donoghue, Nutt, Regan, S Richmond, EA Richmond, H Scott and Tostevin. (8)

**APOLOGIES** – Councillor J Taylor; Ali Wilson, Chief Officer, Karen Hawkins, Director of Commissioning and Transformation, and Katie McLeod, Head of Strategy and Commissioning Darlington, Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG); Sue Jacques, Chief Executive, and Gillian Curry, Communications Manager, County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust (CDDFT). (6)

**ABSENT** – Councillor I Haszeldine.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE** – Councillor Copeland; and Kath Wall, Growing Old Living in Darlington (GOLD) (Member of the Public). (2)

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE** – Ken Ross, Public Health Principal and Allison Hill, Democratic Officer. (2)

**EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES** – Neeraj Sharma, Chief Executive, Darlington Citizen’s Advice Bureau; Mike Brierley, Director of Operations and Delivery, NHS North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group; Lorraine Joyce, Critical Pathways Co-ordinator, Crime and Justice Command, Durham Police; Jo Dawson, Head of Mental Health and Substance Misuse Services, Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust; Jill Foggin, Communications Officer, County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust; and Chris Binns, Locality Manager, South Durham and Darlington Mental Health Services for Older People (MHSOP) and Sarah Callaghan, Senior Planning and Performance Manager, Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV). (7)

**HP43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Councillor Newall declared an interest in Minute HP46 below as she is a Board Member of the Citizens Advice Bureau and took no part in the discussion thereon.

**HP44. MINUTES** – Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meetings of this Scrutiny Committee held on 6 and 11 January 2017.

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes be agreed as correct records.

**HP45. MATTERS ARISING** – There were no matters arising.

**HP46. MONITORING OF OUTCOMES FROM THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLANS 2016-20 – (1) Social Fund Arrangements** – The Chief Executive of the Darlington Citizens Advice Bureau gave a PowerPoint presentation to Scrutiny on the Citizens Advice Bureau and the Community Care Project.

He advised Members that the Darlington Citizens Advice Bureau adopt a holistic approach and specialist advisors offer immediate support and rehabilitation within the community and also support those in crisis. This is done via the Assessment Centre and the Chief Executive of the Darlington Citizens Advice Bureau gave further details on how community care referrals are dealt with and how they help those who present at the Centre back into the community. The assistance can be in the form of financial assistance for fuel, goods or clothing etc and offering assistance to help those in crisis budget in the future and access other funding sources.

It was reported that in the last year 95 applications had been made to community care which amounted to £29,826.49 awarded to those in need; and 498 applications had been made to the crisis fund which amounted to £9,222 awarded.

The Chief Executive of the Darlington Citizens Advice Bureau also referred to the Financial Capability Volunteer Advice Centre which had maximised income in excess of £4 million and supported residents to budget, claim the correct benefits, develop self-help kits and provides an extensive range of ways to contact the Centre.

Members acknowledged the work of the Darlington Citizens Advice Bureau and in particular the holistic approach to supporting the residents who present for advice and assistance at the Centre and also the specialist support that can be offered at the Centre.

**RESOLVED** –That the thanks of this Scrutiny Committee be extended to the Chief Executive of Darlington Citizens Advice Bureau for his interesting and informative presentation.

**(2) Changes to Substance Misuse Commissioning** – The Public Health Principal gave a PowerPoint presentation to Scrutiny on the changes to misuse commissioning following the decision to disband the Darlington Drugs Alcohol and Tobacco Team (DAAT) and gave an overview of the contracts that had previously been managed by the DAAT Team.

The Public Health Principal made reference to the Recovery and Wellbeing Service Contract provided by North East Council on Addictions (NECA) and confirmed that three contract monitoring meetings had been held with NECA and key performance indicators had been agreed with all milestones and thresholds being achieved to date.

Regarding the other contracts that had previously been managed by DAAT the Director of Public Health updated Members on the contracts some of which had been time limited contracts and had therefore ceased; those that were still on going; and new contract. All contracts are now being managed by the Public Health Team.

With regard to other DAAT functions a review had been undertaken and a plan of disaggregation of activity had been identified; Drug Relation Deaths was now being

taken forward jointly with Durham County Council; a system was in place for Drug Alerts and officers continue to report to the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System and an agreement had been reached with NECA to take over this process.

The Public Health Principal also advised Members of the work of the Community Safety Partnership; and updated Members on the Substance Misuse Forum that was held in December 2016 which included representatives from this authority, the police and the Community and Voluntary Sector.

The Chair asked the Public Health Principal how this Scrutiny could be involved in the Partnerships Forum and it was agreed that Members will receive a briefing note following the Officers forum.

Members advised the Director of Public Health that they had been concerned by the disbanding of the DAAT but were now reassured that the work of the Team was continuing and partners were willing to work together to continue that work.

The Chair also advised Members that she intended to arrange a visit to The Gate for Members of this Scrutiny Committee.

**RESOLVED** –That the thanks of this Scrutiny Committee be extended to the Public Health Principal for his interesting and informative presentation.

**HP47 MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS CONCORDAT** – The Director of Operations and Delivery, NHS North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group gave a PowerPoint presentation to this Scrutiny Committee outlining the background, aims, objectives, key areas of Focus for 2016/17 and Work Plan 2017/18 of the Mental Health Crisis Concordat.

Particular reference was made to mental health conveyancing and the new private provider who focuses solely on attending mental health crisis incidents; joint proposals with TEWV and the police to introduce mental health professionals in the Force Control Room; and the implications of the Policing and Crime Bill reducing the time an individual can be held on a S136 from 73 hours to 24 hours and the reduction in the use of police cells as a place of safety for adults.

The Durham Police representative advised Members on Plans for 2017/18 which included the development of Familiar Faces to identify common users of a range of services; development of a single point of access for crisis and implementation of S136 Street Triage; the development of an action plan to include performance indicators and benchmarking; and offering support to suicide prevention work and personal health budgets to support individuals in retaining good mental health.

**RESOLVED** –That the thanks of this Scrutiny Committee be extended to The Director of Operations and Delivery, NHS North Durham CCG for his informative and interesting presentation.

(b) That the thanks of this Scrutiny Committee be extended to the Critical Pathways Co-Ordinator, Durham Police for her contribution to the presentation.

**HP48. WORK PROGRAMME** - The Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to this Scrutiny Committee's work programme for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2016/17.

Members previously agreed a revision to the work programme to enable the Committee to analyse information for each topic area aligning it to the eight outcomes and the three conditions in the Sustainable Community Strategy and relevant performance indicators from the Performance Management Framework.

There was discussion on the current status of various topics on the work programme and Members agreed that a Task and Finish Review be undertaken and lead by Councillor Taylor on Strategic Grant Arrangements; Members receive an update on the County Durham Community Fund application process; with regard to Access to GP Appointments it was agreed that the CCG report to Scrutiny later in the year; that a Task and Finish Review be undertaken on the Sustainability and Transformation Plan; that the Mental Health Crisis Concordat be removed from the work programme; with regard to End of Life and Palliative Care that a scoping meeting be arranged; that Dementia – End of Life Pathway be removed from the work programme; and that a scoping meeting be arranged for the joint Scrutiny review with Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to examine Mental Health and Wellbeing for Children and Young People.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That the current status of the Work Programme noted.

(b) That the Work Programme be updated to reflect the decisions of this Scrutiny Committee.

**HP49. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE (MHSOP) EVALUATION** – Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys Foundation Trust submitted a report (previously circulated) providing an evaluation of the organic bed changes which were implemented in August 2016.

The evaluation covered the period 1 August, date of implementation, to end December 2016 and used choice, travel, number of admissions, mean and median length of stay, readmissions within 30 days, staffing and feedback from families and carers as indicators.

Detailed information on all indicators were contained within the submitted report together with positive feedback comments from patients, families and carers.

Discussion ensued on parking at Auckland Hospital; the number of patients that have claimed for travel ; and the staffing at the hospital.

Members agreed that it would be useful if they could visit the hospital at a future date.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be received.

**HP50. HEALTH AND WELL BEING BOARD** – Members are aware that the Board’s Work Programme items were reflected in its agendas, that it was useful to have Members of Scrutiny on the Board, that the process was more focussed and there was an excellent cross section of representation.

Councillor Scott advised Members that items considered by the Board included an overview on Child Death and the Urgent Care Strategy.

**RESOLVED** –That, Members look forward to receiving an update of the work of the Health and Well Being Board at a future meeting of Scrutiny Committee.

**HP51 BETTER HEALTH PROGRAMME JOINT SCRUTINY** – Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of the Better Health Programme Joint Scrutiny Committee meeting held 1 December 2016.

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes be received.