

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 29 October 2015

Present:

Councillor Craig – In the Chair

Councillors Hitchen, E.Newman, O'Neil, Paul, Stone, Swannick, Webb and Wilson

Councillor Andrews, Executive Member for Adult Health and Wellbeing

Nick Gomm, Head of Corporate Services, North, Central and South Manchester
Clinical Commissioning Groups

Michelle Moran, Chief Executive, Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust

Dr JS Bamrah, Medical Director, Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust

John Harrop, Director of Strategy/Deputy Chief Executive, Manchester Mental Health
and Social Care Trust

Carol Harris, Acting Director of Operations, Manchester Mental Health and Social
Care Trust

Craig Harris, Executive Nurse and Director of Infection and Prevention Control

Alan Hartman, Manchester Users Network

Ben Jackson, Branch Secretary, Unison

Roger Prudham, Deputy Medical Director, North Manchester General Hospital

Hugh Mullen, Executive Director of Operations, North Manchester General Hospital

Apologies: Councillor T.Judge

HSC/15/61 Minutes

Decision

1. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2015 as a correct record.
2. To note the minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2015 of the Trafford Borough Council and Manchester City Council Joint Health Scrutiny Committee – A New Health Deal for Trafford
3. To note the minutes of the meeting held 10 September 2015 of the Learning Disability Task and Finish Group.

HSC/15/62 Reform of Public Health

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Public Health which provided an overview of the reform of public health in Manchester since the transfer of public health responsibilities to the City Council on 1 April 2013. The plans to redesign a wide range of public health services following the Council's budget options consultation process were described, along with the ongoing financial challenges relating to changes to the national public health grant.

The Director of Public Health informed the Committee that in August 2015 the Department of Health (DH) consulted with local authorities on proposals to cut £200 million nationally from the public health grant in 2015-16. The DH preferred option of a blanket 6.2% reduction for each Local Authority (LA) would mean a cut of £3,332,000 for Manchester from the grant of £53.7 million. Manchester and Greater Manchester LAs submitted proposals for an alternative approach that would reduce the cut to £1.9 million for Manchester. He said that at the time of addressing the Committee no update from the DH on this proposal had been received.

The Executive Member for Adult Health and Wellbeing said the resulting funding gap is extremely challenging in the context of existing budgetary considerations. He said that whatever the final outcome is from the DH every attempt will be made to avoid cutting services and any decisions taken will be done so in a considered way. He informed the Committee that the time scales for the negotiations with the DH were very tight regarding this settlement and he said that he will continue to keep members of the Committee informed of further developments. The Committee welcomed this.

The Director of Public Health said that despite the financial pressures Public Health Protection will remain a priority and the monitoring of public health trends will continue. He acknowledged a comment from a member regarding the importance of preventative initiatives and work will continue to improve the delivery of health checks and seek to influence other determinants of public health such as active travel.

In response to a question regarding the future delivery of Sexual Health Services the Director of Public Health said that the ambition is to deliver a basic standard of service across the whole of Greater Manchester whilst ensuring that the service is robust enough to respond effectively to the needs of different areas and their sexual health needs. A member recommended that a report be submitted to the Committee at a future date which provides further detail about the delivery of Sexual Health Services across Manchester. The Committee agreed this recommendation.

Members then discussed the Drug and Alcohol Service and requested that a report is submitted to a future meeting which provides an update on the redesign of this service. A member asked that this report include information about services for those individuals with entrenched addictions and the links to other services such as Housing and Mental Health Services. A member also commented upon the reported increase in legal highs and requested that the report provides details of the response to this issue. The Committee agreed this recommendation.

A member recommended that a report is submitted to a future meeting which provides information on the delivery of Children's Public Health Services and that the Chair of the Young People and Children Scrutiny Committee be invited to attend. The Committee agreed this recommendation.

In response to a question regarding the 'Fit for Work Programme' the Strategic Lead, Adults Public Health advised the Committee that this programme is a voluntary service that people can access via their General Practitioner. She informed the members that this is a supportive programme designed to support people through therapeutic work and that referrals to this can only be made via the GP. She said that

this programme is not to be confused with any Department of Works and Pensions scheme. She said it is a voluntary scheme, it is not mandatory and there are no benefit sanctions associated.

Decisions

1. The Committee noted the report.
2. The Committee expressed their disappointment with the Department of Health's delay in confirming the level reduction to the public health grant.
3. The Committee request that a report be submitted to the Committee at a future date which provides information about the delivery of Sexual Health Services across Manchester.
4. The Committee request that a report be submitted to the Committee at a future date which provides an update on the redesign of the Drug and Alcohol Service.
5. The Committee request that a report be submitted to the Committee at a future date which provides information on the delivery of Children's Public Health Services.

HSC/15/63 Cost Improvement Plans (CIP) Proposals for 2015/16 of Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust

The Committee considered the report of the Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust (MMHSCT) which provided Members with information on the Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust's proposals to meet one of its statutory responsibilities, which is to achieve a balanced budget.

The Committee welcomed Michelle Moran, Chief Executive, MMHSCT; Dr JS Bamrah, Medical Director, MMHSCT; John Harrop, Director of Strategy/Deputy Chief Executive MMHSCT; Carol Harris, Acting Director of Operations, MMHSCT and Craig Harris, Executive Nurse and Director of Infection and Prevention Control.

Ms Moran introduced the report across its broad themes. She said MMHSCT is a caring organisation and this was recognised in the recent Care Quality Commission report that was published in October of this year. She said that the financial difficulties had resulted in very difficult decision having to be made by the MMHSCT Board. She said that as a result of the financial situation they have had to review the viability of the continued delivery of non statutory services. She said that the review of non statutory services was undertaken with the involvement of clinical staff and she commended the report to the Committee as a transparent document detailing the context of the difficult decisions having to be taken.

Ms Harris accepted that there was criticism of the way that the consultation on the proposals had been undertaken, however she said that there had been a range of options to consider and the Board did not want to worry people unnecessarily. She said that the Trust will fully consult with service users and staff regarding the

approved re-investment of £200k to enable a different service offer to be provided with a focus on supporting individuals towards their recovery, achieving their personal goals and maintaining their own health and wellbeing.

The Committee welcomed Mr Hartman from the Manchester Users Network. He said that there had been no service user involvement in the proposed changes to MMHSCT services. He said that the implications of the removal of services will have a detrimental effect on service users. He warned that this would result in increases in rates of suicide, premature death, homelessness and people being sectioned.

The Committee welcomed Ben Jackson, Branch Secretary, Unison. Mr Jackson said that the joint Unions had expressed concerns over the proposals presented by MMHSCT and the impact this will have on patients. He said that there had been no meaningful engagement or consultation with staff, and that the proposals for the future provision of mental health services in the city are ambiguous. Mr Jackson said that the commissioning of mental health services in Manchester had been inadequate over a number of years. Mr Jackson said that the de-commissioning of services represented a substantial variation in services and therefore the Trust must comply with all statutory requirements to fully consult.

Ms Moran responded saying that these decisions had been very difficult for the MMHSCT Board and had not been taken lightly. She said that efficiency savings had been achieved by reviewing back office functions and their estate, however there is still the need to make further significant savings. She said that despite this position the Trust remains committed to delivering services in the best possible way for patients. She informed the Committee that MMHSCT have a Transformation Board who meet regularly to review and plan this process.

Ms Harris said that for those patients currently engaging with the services that are to be retracted work will be undertaken to identify appropriate 'move on' steps. She said that care-coordinators will work with patients to identify other services offered in the city and assist patients to move into appropriate, alternative services. However in some instances alternative for such services as Psychosexual Services may not be available. Dr Bamrah informed the Committee that no other Trust in the UK provides services such as Chronic Fatigue Services.

Mr Harris addressed the Committee to respond to the issue raised by Mr Jackson regarding the issue of de-commissioning. Mr Harris said that the Clinical Commissioning Group do not regard these proposals as a de-commissioning of service as although some services currently provided by the MMHSCT will be retracted, the funding provided by the CCG will remain with the MMHST.

Mr Harris further informed the Committee that he was satisfied that the Trust had reviewed all of its back office functions in an attempt to achieve savings in the first instance. Members said that the report did not provide any details regarding this review process or details of any savings achieved. Members said that without this information it was difficult to assess if these attempts had been reasonable and requested that further information regarding this savings review be provided. The Committee agreed this recommendation.

A member also asked about the cost and capacity implications for acute services if the well-being service withdrawals proposed within the report are implemented. The member said that any initial savings achieved would be outweighed by the cost of acute services if people are in crisis at a later time. A member said that the report did not provide details of alternative services and any mitigation so that members could not be reassured that they were there to meet the needs of current service users in the event of any retraction of services.

Ms Harris advised that Impact Assessments had been undertaken and these will be shared with the Committee. She further informed the Committee that the Trust had worked with Commissioners to reduce pressure on bed space and that a new adult ward has been opened at North Manchester General Hospital.

The Strategic Director for Adult Social Care reassured the Committee that mental health services will continue to be delivered in Manchester.

Decision

1. The Committee agreed to convene a seminar to consider the future of mental health services in the city. The date is to be agreed and all relevant parties, including the NHS Trust Development Authority are to be invited to contribute to this meeting.
2. The Committee request that a further report be submitted by the Trust which provides details of all the budgetary considerations, including details of the savings achieved by reviewing the back office functions and the estate. This report will also provided details of the alternative provisions available in the city to mitigate the impact on service users as a result of the retraction of service. The Committee also requested that MMHSCT circulate the Impact Assessments undertaken as part of the review of services to members of the Committee.
3. The Committee recommends that the CCG and MMHSCT should clarify the legal position regarding the requirement to consult in relation to the full proposal on the retraction of services, and that, following this, the appropriate organisation should consult service users and all key stakeholders with regard to the proposed changes to services

HSC/15/64 Health and Wellbeing Update

The Committee received a report which provided an overview of developments across Health and Social Care and the local NHS.

The Committee welcomed Roger Prudham, Deputy Medical Director and Hugh Mullen, Executive Director of Operations from The Pennine Acute Trust. A member commented that the proposals to remove certain surgery from North Manchester General Hospital was contrary to the information and assurances given during the Healthier Together consultation. The member said that this is a concern and requested that a substantive report is submitted for consideration at the next meeting of Health Scrutiny Committee. Members agreed this recommendation.

Decision

1. To note the reports.
2. The Committee request that a substantive report be submitted to the Committee for consideration at the meeting of 26 November which provides details of the proposed changes to North Manchester General Hospital.

HSC/15/65

Overview Report

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

A member asked that the Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Wellbeing provided members of the Committee with a briefing note describing the actions taken in response to the Care Quality Commission inspection of Brookdale View Nursing Home which rated it as Requires Improvement. The Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Wellbeing said that she would circulate this information.

Decision

1. To note the report and approve the work programme
2. To request that the Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Wellbeing circulate a briefing note to members of the Committee describing the actions taken in response to the Care Quality Commission inspection of Brookdale View Nursing Home which rated it as Requires Improvement.