

Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2018

Present:

Councillor Farrell – in the Chair

Councillors Battle, Clay, Curley, Holt, Mary Monaghan, O’Neil, Reeves, Riasat, Wills and Wilson

Councillor Craig, Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Nick Gomm, Director of Corporate Affairs, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning

Lynne Stafford, Chief Executive, The Gaddum Centre

Ed Dyson, Executive Director of Planning and Operations, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning

Peter Blythin, Director of the single hospital service programme

Jo Purcell, Deputy Director of Strategy, Northern Care Alliance

Apologies: Councillors Lynch, Paul and Smitheman

HSC/18/30 Minutes

The minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee meeting of 19 June 2018 were submitted for approval. Councillor O’Neil requested that his apologies be recorded.

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2018 as a correct record subject to the above amendment.

To note the minutes of the Public Health Task and Finish Group meeting held on 26 June 2018.

HSC/18/31 The Our Manchester Carers Strategy

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director Strategic Commissioning that provided Members with the interim “Our Manchester Carers Strategy”. The report set out the initial measures to drive service improvements and the on-going development of this strategy on a co-produced basis in partnership with Manchester’s Carers, their support organisations and the wider Manchester Community.

The Executive Director Strategic Commissioning referred to the main points of the report which were:-

- Describing the context for the development of the strategy;
- Findings from Manchester Carers Services Review;

- A description of the Statement of Intent that would form the basis of the Manchester Carer Charter and would underpin the forward development of support services;
- Strategic Objectives;
- The Our Manchester Carers Action Plan;
- Information on the establishment of an Our Manchester Carers Partnership Group;
- Development of an Our Manchester Carers Charter;
- Development of a “Single Point of Contact” and revised assessment process; and
- A timeline and schedule for the development of the underpinning framework that would support the Our Manchester Carers Strategy.

The Committee also received a presentation from the Chief Executive, The Gaddum Centre entitled the ‘Manchester Carers Services Review and Strategic Approach to developing an Our Manchester Carer Friendly City’. The presentation was accompanied by a number of short videos that described a range of carer’s experiences.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee’s discussions were:-

- Welcoming the report and supporting the approach adopted to develop the interim “Our Manchester Carers Strategy”;
- A Communications Strategy, including the use of Social Media, similar to the Fostering and Adoption campaign should be designed to promote the importance of carer’s and the services and support that is available to them;
- The impact of welfare reform on carers and the provision of Welfare Advice services;
- The importance of support for carers within specific community groups, e.g. the LGBT community;
- Had any research been undertaken to study the impact on a carers mental health for those caring for people with mental health condition;
- Did Manchester Move recognise caring as work;
- What groups made up the Carers Network;
- What were the time lines for delivering this strategy;
- Respite care appeared to be hard to access and inconsistent;
- Employers played an important role in supporting those staff with caring responsibilities; and
- Who would be responsible for training volunteers?

The Chief Executive, The Gaddum Centre informed the Members that the Carers Network comprised of the twenty organisations commissioned to provide carers support in Manchester. She described that the Network had a website and an active Twitter account and encouraged partners to retweet their messages. She said that affiliated groups could attend meetings of the Network, and the intention was to expand the Network and provide outreach to establish links with traditionally hard to reach communities. She said that a recent event had been held with the LGBT Foundation to identify carers.

The Chief Executive, The Gaddum Centre described The Our Manchester Carers Strategy as a sound foundation to deliver improved services and support for carers in Manchester. She said that volunteers would be trained by Team Leaders in the local teams. She further informed Members that work was currently ongoing at a Greater Manchester level to develop an Employers Charter to recognise the role of carers.

In response to the question asked regarding research undertaken regarding the mental health of carers who cared for a person with mental health she said that she would investigate this and notify the Committee.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing said that strategy recognised the important role that carers delivered across the city and she was committed to delivering this important piece of work. She said that the strategy had been developed with the voice of the carer at its centre and she welcomed the comments from the Health Scrutiny Committee. She said that a bespoke communications strategy would be instigated when the strategy was formerly launched. She commented that austerity and welfare reform had a significant and detrimental impact on carers, and the increased demand on advice services reflected the roll out of Universal Credit. She said that Manchester Health and Care Commissioning had recently invested £0.5m to install dedicated phone lines in GP practices so that people could contact the Citizens Advice Bureau directly for help and support.

The Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing said that she acknowledged the comments made regarding respite care and options were being considered as to how this was to be delivered and improved in the future. She also informed the Committee that she would investigate the question raised by Member regarding Manchester Move to ensure that carers were recognised as workers. She further informed the Committee that work was emerging to respond to specific groups, such as extra care housing for older LGBT citizens.

Decisions

The Committee:-

1. Welcomes the report and supports the co-design of the strategy with the voice of carers at the centre of this; and
2. Requests that an update report be submitted for consideration at an appropriate time.

HSC/18/32 Single Hospital Service progress report

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director of Planning and Operations Manchester Health and Care Commissioning (MHCC) that provided Members with an update on the delivery of the Single Hospital Service (SHS).

The Executive Director of Planning and Operations, MHCC referred to the main points of the report which were:-

- A description of the strategic context of the SHS;
- The benefits achieved following the establishment of the Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) in 2017;
- An update progress with transfer of North Manchester General Hospital NHS Trust (NMGH) into MFT and the associated strategy.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were:-

- What impact would the financial deficit at Pennine Acute Trust (PAT) have on the Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust?
- Did the recent reports of the closure of an operating theatre represent asset stripping at NMGH;
- Would transport be provided between hospital sites following the transfer of North Manchester General Hospital NHS Trust (NMGH) into MFT;
- Patients would need to be reassured that NMGH was a safe hospital;
- Members expressed their frustration at the pace of the transfer of NMGH into MFT;
- Members reported that they and their constituents regularly encounter poor experiences at NMGH; and
- Staffing levels continued to be an issue at NMGH and the impact this had on continuity of care and patient confidence in the site.

The Executive Director of Planning and Operations, MHCC said that the PAT would model how much of the financial deficit would be attributed to NMGH. He said that increased efficiencies would be achieved at the site following the merger by improving the estate and reducing the reliance on agency staff. He said that the merger of NMGH into the SHS would continue to make MFT an attractive place to work for health professionals. He said that there was no evidence of asset stripping at the site and any change would have to be agreed by commissioners. He said that the requirement of NHS Improvement that this transaction, and the Fairfield, Rochdale and Royal Oldham hospitals transfer to the Salford Royal would be simultaneous had added to the complexity of this piece of work.

The Deputy Director of Strategy, Northern Care Alliance said the operating theatres that had been closed recently had been necessary and had impacted on a small number of patients. She said that the Leadership Team at NMGH were dedicated to improving the site and acknowledged that communications needed to be improved so as to reassure the local population. The Executive Director of Planning and Operations, MHCC reassured the Committee that irrespective of the planned merger, due to be completed by April 2020, the site would continue to be challenged to improve. He said this was evidenced by the findings of the recent CQC inspection.

In response to the Members comments that communications needed to be improved so that local Members and residents were aware of any developments at NMGH in a timely manner, the Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing suggested that the Committee received a bi monthly update as part of the Health and Wellbeing Update report. Members endorsed this recommendation.

A Member requested that a report be added to the work programme that provided information on the financial implications of the SHS, and in particular what impact the

deficit at North Manchester General Hospital would have on the Manchester Locality Plan.

Decisions

The Committee:-

1. Notes the report and the progress described on the delivery of the Single Hospital Service;
2. Requests that a bi monthly update be provided to the Committee via the Health and Wellbeing report; and
3. Requests that a report be added to the work programme that provides information on the financial implications of the Single Hospital Service, and in particular what impact the deficit at North Manchester General Hospital would have on the Manchester Locality Plan.

HSC/18/33 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 requested that a report on the actions taken with Care Homes following a rating of Inadequate or Requires Improvement by the Care Quality Commission be included on the work programme.

Decision

To note the report and approve the work programme subject to the above amendment.