

Minutes of the Meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 16 February 2016 at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillors Graham Snell (Chair), Steve Liddiard (Vice-Chair), Yash Gupta (MBE), James Halden, Charlie Key and Tunde Ojetola

Ian Evans, Thurrock Coalition Representative
Kim James, Healthwatch Thurrock Representative

Apologies: Councillors

In attendance:

Ian Wake, Director of Public Health
Les Billingham, Head of Adult Services
Ceri Armstrong, Strategy Officer
Mandy Ansell, (Acting) Interim Accountable Officer, Thurrock NHS Clinical Commissioning Group
Jane Itangata, Head of Mental Health Commissioning, Thurrock NHS Clinical Commissioning Group
Sara Lingard, Contracts Manager, NHS England
Jenny Shade, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Before the start of the Meeting, all present were advised that the meeting may be filmed and was being recorded, with the audio recording to be made available on the Council's website.

39. Minutes

The Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on the 12 January 2016, were approved as a correct record.

40. Urgent Items

There were no items of urgent business.

41. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Gupta declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item 6 "Learning Disability Health Checks" as he was a carer.

42. Items Raised by HealthWatch

Kim James, the HealthWatch co-opted member, raised two items for the Committee's attention.

The Committee Members and Officers were asked for guidance on how best to proceed with the consultation process of the Positron Emission Tomography – Computed Tomography (PET-CT) scanner service that NHS England were proposing to undertake. A Public Meeting was scheduled to take place in March 2016 at the Bee Hive Centre in Grays, but to date no information regarding the consultation had been received from NHS England. Kim stated that Thurrock residents should have the right to their comment on this consultation process and felt they were unable to do this with the lack of information available.

Ian Wake stated that they were also struggling to understand what the consultation was about and could not comment until this was to hand.

It was confirmed that Lyn Carpenter, Chief Executive, had written to NHS England asking for further details on the consultation process.

Councillor Liddiard stated that there was a need to support this local service and to encourage residents to attend all public meetings.

Councillor Halden commented that as a result of a Motion at Full Council a letter had been sent to the Secretary of State for Health with regards to the poor communication/engagement from representatives of NHS England and NHS commissioning, particularly with reference to the consultation on the PET CT Scanner which was viewed as an unsound consultation. Councillor Halden suggested further letters should be sent to NHS England.

Councillor Ojetola agreed that until the details of the consultation were known it was difficult to make any decision.

Kim James confirmed that she will be attending this public meeting in March.

The Chair requested that all consultation papers be available to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee by the end of February 2016.

Ian Wake stated that he was in the process of writing a further letter to NHS England requesting further information and registering the disappointment of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

A further item was raised by Kim James on the planning by NHS England of a number of public information events about the proposed changes to the specialised urology cancer service in Essex. These initial events were designed to inform members of the public about the proposed changes and the process that NHS England were required to follow.

Kim James concern was that no consultation process was being undertaken in Thurrock. No correspondence had been made with HealthWatch, who would have been more than happy to find accommodation to house this meeting and registered disappointment that Thurrock had, yet again, been missed out again on consultation events.

Mandy Ansell confirmed that she had also chased NHS England for information and registered CCG's disappointment that no public event was being held in Thurrock.

Councillor Halden suggested that the Council work jointly with Essex and Southend Health Overview & Scrutiny Committees to compare information received and find out what consultation processes had been undertaken in these areas.

The Chair agreed that this was a good idea and that Ian Wake should write again to NHS England and liaise with members of Essex and Southend Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

43. Learning Disability Health Checks

Sara Lingard, NHS England, presented the report that provided members with an update on the action plan to improve delivery of the enhanced service agreement with General Practitioners in Thurrock who deliver Learning Disability Health Checks.

Although the Appendix to the report showed a considerable improvement and activity undertaken in Quarter 3, uptake of Learning Disability Health Checks still remains unacceptably poor within Thurrock.

The report showed an increase of 2% up on 2014/15, Quarter 3 performance.

A further report will be available at the end of the financial year to identify activity undertaken in Quarter 4 and will be presented to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

NHS England reissued the Enhanced Service to all practices in December 2015 to clarify how practices should be recording their health checks on their systems. In some instances the wrong READ codes had been used on clinical systems which had resulted in some completed health checks not being identified by the payment system. At present, there is no facility for GPs to re-code manually. Any discrepancies therefore had to be undertaken by NHS England.

Even in some instances practices were not declaring the activity on the payment system which had resulted in a nil return.

Sara Lingard confirmed that these issues were being addressed as a matter of urgency.

South Essex Partnership NHS Trust (SEPT) were commissioned as an alternative provider to deliver health checks for this year only. SEPT were also providing training to practices where required. Currently they were providing support to 8 named practices in Thurrock. Sara Lingard confirmed that they were confident that SEPT would reach as many patients as possible.

It was confirmed that clear and concise letters had been sent to those patients that have not responded to previous letters and to those that do not attend (DNA) pre-booked appointments.

Sara Lingard also stated that there were discrepancies between patient lists held by practices and those held by social services and that further investigation into list validation was currently being undertaken by NHS England.

It was agreed by all members and co-optee members that the figures were disappointing and unacceptable. It was questioned by all how come year on year practices sign up to do the Enhanced Service but do not actually provide the service.

A debate between Members and NHS England took place and it was agreed that GPs should be encouraged not to sign up to the Enhanced Service if there was no intention of carrying out these health checks.

Sara Lingard stated that Service Level Agreement contained KPIs which were in place at practices and that penalties were issued.

The Chair stated that the problem of using the wrong codes was not consistent in the report figures as some practices had proved that they had completed checks successfully with no problems with coding.

Sara Lingard confirmed this was a training issue that depended on the level of training received at certain practices.

Councillor Halden stated his concerns regarding those practices in the report that had a 0% result. Yet still, year after year, that same practice applied to undertake the Enhanced Service and receive payment for this.

Sara Lingard confirmed that in the Service Level Agreement it stated that payment was not received upfront and was based on activity undertaken only.

Councillor Gupta commented that a health check had recently been undertaken on a family member and questioned how useful the health checks were and the quality of them. As a carer to that individual he felt carers should have a better understanding of the checks before they were carried out.

Councillor Liddiard stated that it was a good idea that carers were supplied with information regarding the health checks and to ensure that any extra checks were carried out.

Councillor Halden commented that how members were expected to have confidence in the system when a similar report had been brought to the Corporate Parenting Committee in December 2015 highlighting delays of Health Checks of Looked After Children undertaken by NHS England.

The Chair asked Sara Lingard to forward a copy of the Service Level Agreement to all members of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee members.

Les Billingham stated that this item had also been discussed at the Disability Partnership Board.

Mandy Ansell stated that the solution going forward was that CCG will have delegated authority to take control of commissioning an alternative provider to undertake the health checks. CCG had a track record of undertaking this commissioning for one year with good results.

Jane Itangata stated that support will be provided to CCG to ensure checks were carried out, ensure the quality of the checks is satisfactory and monitor any aftercare checks.

There will be a designated team in CCG who will be closer to the day to day responsibilities of practices and will be able to monitor performance issues.

The CCG Constitution will also be updated to reflect this change.

As of 1 April 2016 they would monitor those that have signed up for the Enhanced Service, commission the procurement provision and give patients the option on where the health check is undertaken. CCG would work in partnership with NHS England; be closer to the delivery to the areas of where the checks were being undertaken and then re-charge NHS England for those checks completed.

Sara Lingard commented that it was key for the CCG to negotiate with practices and encourage them not to sign up if they are not going to be able to deliver the Enhanced Service.

At 8.12pm Councillor Halden left the Committee Room.

Ian Evans requested that a report on Learning Disability Health Checks is provided by the middle of next year to Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee members.

It was agreed by all Members that the Chair of the CCG was one of the practices signing up to the Enhanced Service year on year, but not undertaking any checks. Members agreed that this should be highlighted and looked into.

The Chair requested final outcome figures for 2015/16 from NHS England. Sara Lingard agreed to send these to the Chair.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee were asked to note the progress with the Learning Disability Health Checks by**

Thurrock General Practitioner Practices and future commissioning plans.

- 2. That the item be added to the work programme for the 2016/17 municipal work programme.**

44. Thurrock Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016 - 2021

The Officer presented the report which outlined that the Strategy focuses on prevention and early intervention to ensure that Thurrock people can “add years to life to life to years”. The Strategy was goal-focused and contained outcomes that will make the most difference to the health and wellbeing of the population. Through consultation and engagement the following clear and concise goals were identified:

- Opportunity for all
- Healthier environments
- Better emotional health and wellbeing
- Quality care centred around the person
- Healthier for longer

The success of the Strategy will be measured through an Outcomes Framework, which will enable the Board, Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the public to identify whether the Strategy is being delivered.

Further work to be undertaken on the Strategy is the development of an action plan which will clearly set out action owners and will enable relevant organisations and individuals to be held to account for their part in delivering the Strategy.

Ian Wake stated that this would be a living document and outlined the importance of engagement. With this in mind, from May 2016, HealthWatch will be undertaking engagement work on the Strategy's five goals. Each goal will be engaged on in turn with the results feeding in to Health and Wellbeing Board meetings.

Ian Wake paid tribute to Kim James, HealthWatch Co-optee, for her contribution to the huge consultation process undertaken in Thurrock, with over 500 responses.

Kim James stated that from the start this document should be a living document and encouraged Officers to bring back to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to monitor progress.

Councillor Ojetola asked Kim James to elaborate on what the consultation process consisted off as he was unaware of any consultation process taking place in his ward. There was also concern that a selection of people may not have been given the opportunity to engage.

Kim James stated that they had a very short space of time to undertake the consultation process and although a good response was received it was not possible to speak to everyone. A number of forums and community meetings were arranged, on-line surveys, advertisements were put in local papers, visits to sheltered accommodation and hubs were also involved in the process.

Councillor Gupta stated that it was an excellent report but stated that the action plan should cover all health needs and identify how all residents would benefit.

The Chair agreed that it was an excellent and readable report and that this item should be returned to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee in the new municipal year.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorse the draft Thurrock Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Outcomes Framework and by doing so recommend its approval by Cabinet and Council March.**
- 2. That the Thurrock Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2021 be added to the work programme for the municipal year 2016-17.**

45. Work Programme

The Chair stated that this was the last Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee for this municipal year and that the work programme was now complete.

Councillors Gupta and Key stated that this was their last Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee and thanked the committee, members and officers for their contribution to a very effective committee.

The Chair thanked Members and Officers for their contribution and continued support to the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committees.

The Chair asked Member if there were any items to be added or discussed for the work programme for the next municipal year.

RESOLVED

- 1. It was noted that the item Learning Disability Health Checks be added to the work programme for the 2016/17 municipal year work programme.**
- 2. It was noted that the item Thurrock Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy be added to the work programme for the 2016/17 municipal year work programme.**
- 3. It was noted that the item PET-CT Scanner be added to the work programme for the 2016/17 municipal year work programme.**

4. It was noted that the item Success Regime be added to the work programme for the 2016/17 municipal year work programme.
5. It was noted that the item Domiciliary Care be added to the work programme for the 2016/17 municipal year work programme.
6. It was noted that the item Core Offers be added to the work programme for the 2016/17 municipal year work programme.
7. It was noted that the item Health Hub be added to the work programme for the 2016/17 municipal year work programme.
8. It was noted that the item Health of Looked After Children be added to the work programme for the 2016/17 municipal year work programme.

The meeting finished at 8.20 pm

Approved as a true and correct record

CHAIR

DATE

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
Democratic Services at Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk**