

Health Scrutiny Panel – Meeting held on Thursday, 19th January, 2017.

Present:- Councillors Pantelic (Chair), Strutton (Vice-Chair, arrived 6.36pm), Chaudhry, Cheema, Chohan, M Holledge (until 8.57pm), Mann, Qaseem and Smith

Non-Voting Co-optee – Colin Pill, Slough Healthwatch

Apologies for Absence:- None

PART I

41. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Cheema declared that a family member worked for Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust at Wexham Park Hospital.

Councillor Pantelic declared that she had been appointed as the Council's outside body representative to the Council of Governors of Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust as a non-voting stakeholder governor.

42. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 23rd November 2016

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November 2016 be approved as a correct record.

43. Action Progress Report

The Scrutiny Officer updated the Panel on the progress of actions agreed at previous meetings and highlighted those that remained outstanding:

- 'Preparedness for Winter' (6th October) – the further information requested from Slough CCG on the local impacts of air pollution on respiratory conditions was yet to be received.
- 'Reconfiguration of the Borough's Activities Offer for People with Learning Disabilities' (23rd November) – the recommendations to Cabinet had been accepted.
- 'Mapping of services against local population' (23rd November) – access to Slough Maps for Members had yet to be arranged and would be followed up.
- 'Frimley Sustainability and Transformation Plan' (23rd November) – the joint workshop with Slough Wellbeing Board had been held immediately prior to the Panel meeting. The slides would be circulated to the Panel.

Resolved – That the Action Progress Report be noted.

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44. Member Questions

There were no questions from Members.

(Councillor Strutton joined the meeting)

45. Slough CCG Operating Plan 2017-19

The Clinical Chair of Slough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Dr Jim O'Donnell, gave Members a presentation on the CCG Operating Plan 2017-19 and an update on current issues.

Members noted that the plans to bring delegated commissioning of primary care to Slough were progressing and likely to come into effect in April 2017, subject to NHS England approval. The CCG had nine 'must dos' for 2017-19 that included priority areas of cancer, mental health and improvement to referral to treatment times. The Operating Plan was closely aligned to local priorities including those set out in the Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy - mental health and wellbeing, increasing life expectancy and protecting vulnerable people, and was focused on improving outcomes in priority areas of unwarranted variation in spend on neurological conditions, cancer and circulatory disease. Dr O'Donnell set out the examples of future developments that would address these priority areas including continued improvements in access to mental health services for children and young people, increased emphasis on prevention, and improved cancer diagnosis treatment times. More integrated care planning and social care would also be an important feature in the future to try to reduce the time people spent in hospital.

(Colin Pill joined the meeting)

During the course of the discussion, Members raised a wide range of issues which are summarised as follows:

- Life expectancy – Members asked what further action was planned to continue the rapid improvement in levels of life expectancy that had brought Slough much closer to national averages. It was responded that all plans should contribute to reducing such inequality and prevention and self-care were highlighted as being particularly important. Members commented on the key role that GPs played in influencing patients not only to treat any immediate conditions but to promote healthier lifestyles and other preventative activities. Dr O'Donnell recognised this but also highlighted the role of other partners to engage people effectively in such work.
- Clinical priorities – a Member asked what conditions should be prioritised to have the biggest overall impact on the local population. Dr O'Donnell explained that addressing the most common conditions would have the biggest statistical impact in terms of health outcomes. However, he highlighted the importance of improving services for

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people least well served by current provision such those with learning disabilities and neurological conditions.

- Cancer – Dr O’Donnell highlighted that early diagnosis was the key to improving outcomes for patients and more needed to be done to raise awareness in the population to identify symptoms early and visit their GP if they had concerns. Preventative work such as diet and lifestyle factors was also important.
- Mental health – the Panel welcomed the positive progress that had been made in improving local Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) recently and Dr O’Donnell highlighted the investment required at an earlier stage to further improve services. Family circumstances and the role of parents was also discussed in finding a solution that met the wider needs of children experiencing mental health conditions.
- Workforce – the possible impact of Brexit on the workforce in the health sector was raised given the reliance on imported labour and skills. The CCG recognised the important contribution that immigrants made to the healthcare system. It did not currently have any specific plans in place, however, providers would need to take their own decisions in relation to workforce planning.
- Engagement – the Panel discussed engagement at some length given the importance of communicating with people about how best to prevent health conditions, self-care and access appropriate health services. More generally, the current Channel 5 documentary on ‘GPs: Behind Closed Doors’, filmed at Dr O’Donnell’s Farnham Road practice, helped improve understanding of the issues and challenges faced by the primary care sector.
- Children’s Health - Members felt that it was crucial to communicate with schools and young people and offered their support to any practical steps that could be taken. Health professionals needed to work closely in a coordinated way with schools and children’s services providers to promote healthy diets, exercise and awareness. The Director of Adult Social Care highlighted that issues particularly effecting children had been flagged up in the Frimley Sustainability & Transformation Plan but that more detailed work needed to be undertaken. It was requested that the Interim Director of Children’s Services, Director of Public Health and Chief Executive of Slough Children’s Services Trust be involved in co-ordinating this work. The Panel encouraged the CCG to work proactively with these partners to promote healthy lifestyles in schools and that the Panel be updated on progress.
- Transport access – asked about the role of the CCG in bus services for disabled patients to health services, Dr O’Donnell commented on the provision of home based services for patients if their disability

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prevented them visiting a surgery. Concern was raised about the lack of anchors for wheelchair users on some bus services to Wexham Park Hospital. The Overview & Scrutiny Committee had raised this issue directly with First Buses at a recent meeting, however, Members were not satisfied with the response provided and commented that it could be a matter for further scrutiny. In view of the Panel's concerns it was suggested that the matter be looked into in further detail by Healthwatch and the CCG and that the concern be raised with the Council's transport team.

At the conclusion of the discussion the Chair thanked Dr O'Donnell for his presentation and the Panel noted the report.

Resolved –

- (a) That the presentation and the CCG Operational Plan be noted.
- (b) That the CCG and Healthwatch have further discussions on the issue of disabled facilities on buses providing access to Wexham Park Hospital and that the concerns of the Panel be passed to the Council's transport department.
- (c) That the Panel encourage the CCG to work proactively with the Council's education and public health teams and Slough Children's Services Trust to promote healthy and active lifestyles to children in local schools with an update to be provided at a future meeting.

46. Get Active Slough - A Five Year Leisure Strategy for Slough - Progress Update

The Leisure Strategy Manager gave a presentation that updated the Panel on the progress that had been made in implementing the Council's Five Year Leisure Strategy, Get Active Slough.

The Panel noted that although childhood obesity remained relatively high and levels of activity were low, Slough was the most improved local authority area in the country since 2006 in effecting change in the level of physical activity. In addition to the major programme of capital investment in leisure facilities there was strong community based programme and local facilities such as ten new green gyms, trim trails and fitness trails. The community programmes had proved successful in terms of participation with 10,836 participants against the target of 2,650. There was a scheme in place with GP surgeries offering activity such as yoga and pilates. A weight management programme was being piloted at Priory School for 12 weeks involving nutritional workshops and physical activity.

Members discussed the potential impacts on health outcomes of the major capital investment in Slough's leisure centres and the facilities mix proposed for the refurbished Salt Hill facility were scrutinised. The importance of monitoring key targets and evaluating the health and wellbeing benefits of the

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investment was emphasised. The difficulty in evaluating the direct impacts of preventative programmes on health outcomes was recognised, however, Members felt that it was important to establish clear baselines and monitoring wherever possible. The Panel welcomed the high levels of participation achieved by the Get Active programme and queried the future funding of the programme. The Leisure Strategy Manager stated that the team was pursuing any available funding sources.

Other issues discussed included the promotion of the leisure programmes and particularly the effectiveness of social media marketing. It was requested that further information be provided on the figures for Facebook use and the leisure team was encouraged to involve councillors in the engagement programme. In response to a question, it was noted that a GP referral programme was in place to help patients access activity programmes where appropriate and it may be possible to provide some discounted passes for relevant patients to facilities operated under the new leisure contract.

(Councillor Holledge left the meeting at this point)

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Panel noted the presentation and welcomed the progress being made.

Resolved – That the update presentation on the progress of the Five Year Leisure Strategy for Slough be noted.

47. **Bus Services to Wexham Park Hospital**

In the absence of an officer to present the report it was agreed to defer the report to the next meeting. The Chair would write to the Head of Transport & Highways to express dissatisfaction about the situation. The Panel requested that the report provide more information on access to other health facilities, not just Wexham Park Hospital, particularly in view of the closure of the GP surgery in Colnbrook.

Resolved – That the report be deferred to the next meeting.

48. **2016/17 Work Programme**

The Work Programme for the remainder of the 2016-17 municipal year was considered and the items for the next meeting in March were confirmed to include Connected Care and the deferred report on transport access to health facilities.

Resolved – That the Forward Work Programme be agreed.

49. **Attendance Record**

Resolved – That the Members' Attendance Record 2016-17 be noted.

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50. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Panel would be held on 27th March 2017.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 6.30 pm and closed at 9.17 pm)