

MINUTES OF THE HEALTH WORKING GROUP HELD ON MONDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2012 at 6pm

PRESENT: Cllr B Hilton - Chariman
Cllr S Hirst
Cllr R Elms
Cllr R Newmark
Cllr M Robinson

Marshal Scott
Chris Hughes
Colin Hirst
Olwen Heap

Phil Mileham – Ribblesdale Practice Manager, Clitheroe
Rebecca Davis – Network Director, Mental Health Commissioning
Susan Warburton – commissioning Lead for NHS East Lancashire

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Ranson.

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 4 January were approved as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

Colin reported that he had received a letter from Karen Wilson inviting councillors to visit Calderstones. Stuart would mention it at H & H committee. Phil reported that she had also been in touch with him.

Marshal reported that following the concerns expressed by the group and subsequently H & H committee regarding the use of beds at Clitheroe Hospital he had written to the EL Hospital Trust. Phil had also written. The response received referred to cost saving measures.

NHS LANCS – MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES - LANCASHIRE DEMENTIA SERVICES

Bridget introduced Rebecca Davis who gave a brief insight into the workings of the Dementia Services, the planned changes to mental health services and the planned statutory public consultation in early 2012 regarding proposed improvements to dementia services. She informed the group that dementia is now considered both a national and local priority and that there had been significant success in developing community services and keeping people out of hospital. Targets included 4 key areas

- Good quality early diagnosis, intervention and ongoing support
- Living well with dementia in care homes and the community
- Reduced use of antipsychotic medication
- Improved quality of care in general hospitals

The intention is to implement consistency across the service across the whole of Lancashire with future improvements including

- Access to specialist dementia assessment beds provided at the Harbour (Fylde coast) by Spring 2014 (30 beds)
- Advanced care beds provided at the Harbour (36 beds) by Spring 2014 and Pennine Lancs (Blackburn – 36 beds) by Oct 2013
- Extend intermediate support teams to a 7 day service
- Strengthen nursing home and hospital liaison

There was recognition that there would be a need for increased carer support – the consultation would seek views to help shape the support required to meet the needs of the carers affected. The consultation has yet to be started but it was anticipated to be for 12 – 16 weeks and an independent analysis would be undertaken by UCLan and then be presented to OSC and other stakeholders.

Marshal asked about the new dementia unit at Abbeyfield, Low Moor and the part it would play in the service. This would be used for intermediate care.

The working group were concerned that the reduction in hospital beds would be seen as a saving that would not then be transferred to the carers for extra support.

The site of the nearest dementia café was requested and Phil requested display materials for the Health centre. (SW to forward). Bridget also asked that the new Community Hospital in Clitheroe be considered to house some dementia services.

Bridget asked if the number of dementia patients in the Ribble Valley could be confirmed; what new services would be introduced into the community of Ribble Valley; and how much funding would be available.

Bridget thanked Rebecca and Susan for attending the meeting and invited them to return again in the future to share their findings following the consultation.

It was felt that it might be useful to invite representatives from Carers Link and CAB to a future meeting and hold a special session for all councillors about the NHS changes – health and well-being.

UPDATE FROM CHRIS HUGHES AND REVIEW OF THE HEALTH WORKING GROUP

Chris introduced this item by giving an update on the changes taking place in other Borough Councils in terms of new structures and working groups particularly in view of a rapidly changing environment within Public Health. A detailed discussion took place and it was agreed that the sub group should be reconfigured to ensure that the Council was fit for purpose in this new climate.

Chris attends meetings of the Health Improvement Group that are officer meetings with LCC who appear to be taking more of an interest with what is happening at District level. A formal consultation document had been received from LCC about delivering the public health reforms in Lancashire that needs a formal response from H & H committee – a sub-group would be formed to look at this initially and report to H & H committee on 22 March 2012.

Colin and Chris would draft a report for H & H to consider a way forward to deal with this that would look at terms of reference, core membership and co-opted members.

NHS REFORMS UPDATE

Bridget updated the group on progress during this transitional phase on the following:-

- Public Health Services and estimated funding allocation
- Shadow Health & Well Being Board first meeting held on 25 January 2012
- Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Health Watch England and Health Watch Lancashire

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following documents were circulated for information

- Older Peoples' Champion – role definition and objectives
- National Older Persons Fire Strategy
- Minutes of the Oral Health Liaison Group
- Later Life Newsletter

AOB

None

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting would be notified. Marshal will invite a representative from LCC be to attend the next meeting.

Meeting finished 7.35pm