

## **MINUTES**

**JOINT HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**10 January 2017 at 10.15am**

### **Nottinghamshire County Councillors**

- A Councillor Joyce Bosnjak  
Councillor Kay Cutts MBE  
Councillor Richard Butler  
Councillor John Clarke  
Councillor Alice Grice  
Councillor John Handley  
Councillor Colleen Harwood  
Councillor Jacky Williams

### **Nottingham City Councillors**

- Councillor A Peach (Acting Chair)  
Councillor M Bryan  
Councillor E Campbell  
Councillor C Jones  
Councillor G Klein  
Councillor B Parbutt  
Councillor C Tansley  
A Councillor M Watson

### **Officers**

- David Ebbage - Nottinghamshire County Council  
Martin Gately - Nottinghamshire County Council  
Jane Garrard - Nottingham City Council

### **Also in attendance**

### **Officers**

- Ian Cross - EMAS  
Dr Maria Koufali - Research & Innovation, NUH  
Caroline Shaw - Chief Operating Officer, NUH  
Dr Mark Simmonds - Consultant in Acute & Critical Care Medicine, NUH  
Keith Underwood - EMAS

## **MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 13th December 2016, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

## **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Watson and Councillor Bosnjak.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Councillor Grice replaced Councillor Tsimbiridis for this meeting only.

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **WINTER PRESSURES – EAST MIDLANDS AMBULANCE SERVICE**

Ian Cross and Keith Underwood from the East Midlands Ambulance Service gave a short presentation introducing the latest briefing on EMAS on the response to winter pressures.

During his presentation, they raised the following points:-

- The service is ensuring maximum coverage from Community First Responders (CFRs) and Emergency Fire Responders (EFRs). The EFRs are being piloted up until February and have been operating since November, and three full time tenders who are based in Carlton, Edwinstowe and Worksop and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- EMAS seeks to proactively manage hospital turnaround and mobilization times. The Government target is 30 minutes for a turnaround, currently QMC turnaround times stand around one hour or even longer during busy periods.
- Equipment – The Division will create central stock of spare equipment at each of the two locality hubs (Beechdale and Kingsmill), to maintain a capability to deploy additional resources. The on-call fleet's mechanic is available 24/7 to deal with any ambulances that breakdown or require repairs and all fast response vehicles are 4x4 so they are able to access a variety of terrains.
- That control centre staff encourage the use of Paramedic Pathfinder and alternative care pathways in order to prevent unnecessary admissions and appropriately clinically 'safety net' the patient.
- EMAS Managers seek to proactively manage sickness absence. The rate of sickness absence has declined from 10.1% in December 2015 to 8.4%, so it is moving in the right direction.
- Out of the five counties, Nottinghamshire has been performing the best over the past two months' with over 70% of Red 1 calls being dealt with within the 8 minute from phone call target.
- EMAS is grateful for the County and District Councils with regards to the roads in the area that get gritted when severe weather hits, so the crews are still able to attend to calls.

During discussion and answering questions, the following points were raised:

- Members were pleased to hear the joint working with the Fire Service. EMAS indicated that the Fire Service will only deal with Red 1 & Red 2 calls within their area.
- They have found that winter tyres are most suitable for all vehicles which they have a contract with a national supplier.
- To reduce the turnaround times will always be challenging, most calls that are made, patients believe they need an ambulance so an ambulance is sent. More work needs to be done with different pathways to help try reduce the number of admissions with minor injuries
- Over 55% of staff have had flu vaccination, members expressed their concern as to the 45% who have not received it. Whilst the vaccination is voluntary some staff do decline, which can affect the spread of flu.

The Chair thanked the EMAS representatives for their attendance.

### **NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS – RESEARCH AND INNOVATION UPDATE**

Dr Maria Koufali, Deputy Director, Research & Innovation and Caroline Shaw, Chief Operating Officer, NUH introduced the latest information from NUH on research and innovation.

During the presentation, the following points emerged:

- Increasing the volume of applied health research to benefit patients and the public, and to also develop and support the people who conduct and contribute to applied health research.
- NUH's ambition is to become an outstanding clinical partner to academia, industry and local government and to make NUH a centre for cutting edge research and innovation.
- Helping to speed up the translation of scientific advances for the benefit of patients and to further endorse of our excellent partnership with The University of Nottingham.
- NUH have been awarded £23.6m from the government to look into mental health & deafness research.
- That amount of funding is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest award within their peers outside the golden triangle (London, Oxford & Cambridge) and is the most research active Trust outside of London.

During discussion and answering questions, the following points were raised:

- 90% of patients who were approached for research were happy to participate. The public want to be involved and a part of the process, just more work has to be done to making it more accessible to everyone.
- With the research that has already taken place, NUH have attracted a higher calibre of doctors and nurses internationally and from this country.
- Dr Koufali wants to work with local partnerships and schools within Nottinghamshire to help promote science and to get pathways in place for the next generation of Doctors and Scientists to be local talent.
- Members were very impressed with the work and research that has been carried out and found it superb with the amount of patient participation which has taken place.

The Chair thanked Dr Koufali and Caroline Shaw for their attendance.

### **NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS – TECHNOLOGY IN CARE**

Dr Mark Simmonds, Consultant in Acute & Critical Care Medicine, introduced a briefing on the use of technology being used at Nottingham University Hospitals who are aiming to make NUH paperless by 2021, as well as improving safety by means of technological development.

During the presentation, the following points emerged:-

- The Trust have handed out near to 5,000 devices to all doctors, nurses and Allied Health Professions, more than any other Trust in the country.
- Over 75 wards are live including the Emergency Department. The database has received over 5 million sets of observations which averages out at 9,000 entries per day.
- This E-handover has replaced paper charts and 4 million entries have been made, mainly through mobile devices.
- The E-handover includes the patient's summary, discharge information and bed management.
- E-bed Management (E-Ops) is reducing discharge delays through better data and improved communication with the community.

During discussion and answering questions, the following points were raised:-

- Members were concerned with staff being able to take devices home and the dangers around that of breaching data protection. Dr Simmonds told Members that the devices only work within the hospitals Wi-Fi range, once outside of it, staff are unable to access the system.
- The Trust believes this new electronic way of working is far safer and more secure from when dealing with paper.

- The information on the devices will stay with the patient through every stage of their stay at the hospital, from admission through to discharge.
- Other Trusts will hopefully be able to access the information if a patient were to be transferred.

The Chair thanked Dr Simmonds for his attendance.

**RESOLVED:**

That the information within the report was considered and commented on by the Joint City/County Health Scrutiny Committee

**WORK PROGRAMME**

Members noted the Work Programme

The meeting closed at 12.28pm.

Chairman