

minutes



Meeting	KIRKBY GP SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE
Date	Tuesday 27 th March 2006 (commencing at 2.00pm)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Yvonne Davidson (Chair)

A John Allin
A Ken Bullivant
Mrs K Cutts
VH Dobson

Pat Lally
A Ellie Lodziak
Parry Tsimbiridis
Brian Wombwell

Co-opted Members:-

Councillor Rachel Madden)	
A Councillor Terry Keetley)	Ashfield DC
A Councillor Jessie Parker)	

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Eleri de Gilbert – Director of Provider Development & Deputy Chief Executive
Nottinghamshire County NHS Teaching Primary Care Trust (NCtPCT)
Katie Buckle - Head of Planning – Nottinghamshire County NHS Teaching Primary
Care Trust (NCtPCT)
Mr & Mrs Stocks – interested members of the public
Dr Place – Local GP

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR

It was noted that Councillor Yvonne Davidson had been appointed as Chair by the
Overview & Scrutiny Committee. The Committee agreed the appointment of
Councillor Mrs K Cutts as Vice-Chair.

MEMBERSHIP

It was reported that Councillor Ken Bullivant had been appointed to the vacancy.
Councillors Madden, Keetley and Parker had been nominated by Ashfield District
Council for co-option. It was agreed:

- (a) The membership be noted.
- (b) The co-opted members be agreed.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor John Allin, Councillor Ken Bullivant, Councillor Terry Keetley and Councillor Jessie Parker.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

None.

Change to Local NHS – Improving Access to GP’s in Kirkby-in-Ashfield through Fairness in Primary Care

Matthew Garrard, Scrutiny Officer, outlined the proposed changes to be discussed and gave a brief history of the proposals. He pointed out that, as the public consultation concludes on April 16th, the Committee should aim to provide a response by that date. Members noted the remit of the Select Committee

Eleri de Gilbert, Director of Provider Development and Deputy Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire County Teaching Primary Care Trust (NCTPCT), gave a presentation to the Select Committee, exactly the same presentation that had been made at the public consultation sessions. She acknowledged that the recent Department of Health report on health care provision in Kirkby-in-Ashfield was a fair assessment. This area had some of the poorest health indicators, especially with regard to employment, housing and social inclusion, and this would increase the demands on General Practice, making it difficult to recruit and retain staff, and to achieve the national targets set for all practices. Based on Government guidelines, it had been identified that two extra GP’s were needed immediately, and more would be required in the future to cover housing developments planned for the area. There were currently 4 practices and one branch surgery, with variable premises, some quite modern but without room to expand. The Trust aimed to ensure that there were GP’s available in Kirkby from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, and Saturday mornings.

Ms de Gilbert informed the Select Committee that the Trust had put in a bid for a £1.1 million grant to redevelop Byron Ward (currently not in use) at Ashfield Community Hospital as a primary care centre. This would eventually become part of the Ashfield Health Village which was being developed on the hospital site. The Trust aimed to invest up to £3.5 million over the next three years providing additional GP’s and improving health services for the people of Kirkby-in-Ashfield. The Department of Health would invite tenders for an Alternative Provider of Medical Services (APMS) to run the centre. These providers could be from existing local General Practices, from the commercial or voluntary sector, from the public or mutual sector, or from NHS or Foundation Trusts looking to invest in their local community. Ms de Gilbert assured the Committee that, historically, 75% of APMS were defined locally, and that the Trust would retain the decision on who the providers would be and the conditions attached to the APMS.

Ms de Gilbert confirmed that the new primary care centre would be expected to provide all the **essential services** that any general practice would provide; plus **additional services** such as, cervical screening, contraceptive services, maternity services, child health surveillance, vaccinations and immunisations, and minor surgery procedures; plus **directed enhanced services (DES)** such as, extended opening hours, access to a doctor within two days, access to a nurse within one day,

choice and booking, and adoption of proper IT and Information management systems. The number of GP's available should increase to five in time, and the centre would provide medical support to the proposed intermediate care beds to be developed at Ashfield Community Hospital, and be linked in to other services such as Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Podiatry, Speech & Language Therapy. The GP's currently occupying the old Kirkby Health Centre had originally agreed to move into the primary care centre and be salaried to the new provider, however, in the last few days, they had raised some concerns about the move and the Trust would be discussing the options available with them.

Finally, Ms de Gilbert said the Trust would consider the responses received during the consultation period that ends on April 16th, and then decide whether to proceed with the proposals, but it was hoped that services could commence early in 2008.

Councillor Davidson thanked Ms de Gilbert for her presentation.

Councillor Davidson asked whether people in Annesley and Kirkby Woodhouse had been consulted as both of these large communities accessed the GP's in Kirkby. Councillor Madden was also concerned about this and had several other questions, such as, what arrangements had been made for access by public transport, what would happen to the old Health centre – would it be suitable for change of use to Dentistry, and what the Trust would do if these proposals did not go ahead.

Mrs Stocks, a member of the public resident in Kirkby-in-Ashfield, reported that parking at the hospital was already a problem and there was no bus stop for public transport. Councillor Tsimbiridis was concerned about private investment being used to run the Centre and asked if the improvements could be made without using APMS.

Ms de Gilbert replied that the Trust was in discussion with the local bus company, that there were several car parks quite close to the hospital and, as the site was developed car parking space would be included. She agreed that the consultation meetings had centred on Kirkby-in-Ashfield but said that the proposals and all the meetings had been advertised in the Nottingham Evening Post and the Chad, on the Patient & Public Information Forum website, leaflets had been distributed throughout the area, and she had been interviewed by the local media.

Councillor Lally was pleased that the Trust was aiming for ideal provision and asked whether local GP's had been consulted, and if so, did they supported the changes. He requested that any responses from them should be provided to the Committee. Councillor Mrs Cutts asked whether the Trust had considered the provision of an out of hours walk-in Centre which would give the area total cover. Ms de Gilbert confirmed that some members of the public have requested this service, but, at the present, it was a matter of improving access and extending hours of availability, and that Kingsmill Hospital was only 4/5 miles away if needed. Councillor Cutts also said it would be helpful if the Committee could see some statistics about GP's in Kirkby-in-Ashfield, including patient numbers and surgery catchment areas. Councillor Wombwell suggested that parking should be free, since people would be expected to travel some distance to access the services, and this was confirmed.

Councillor Dobson asked Dr Place, a local GP attending the meeting, for his view on the consultation process. Dr Place stated that the consultations should have

encompassed the whole area, not just targeted Kirkby, and he felt that the people in Annesley Woodhouse had been overlooked.

Councillor Davidson asked that re-assurance on the Annesley and Kirkby Woodhouse issue, plus details of the consultation plan and feedback on the responses received so far, should be provided to the Committee at the next meeting.

The Select Committee agreed to recommend to the Trust that it should attempt to increase awareness of the proposals and consultation with the communities of Annesley and Kirkby Woodhouse

The meeting closed at 3.15pm.

CHAIR

Ref: Kirkby GP Services) /m_27 Mar 2007