



**Nottinghamshire  
County Council**

# Social Care and Health Standing Committee

## Minutes

20 September 2011 at 2pm

### Membership

#### Councillors

● absent

- Ged Clarke (Chairman)
- Fiona Asbury (Vice Chair)
- Victor Bobo
- John Clarke
- Barrie Cooper
- Mike Cox
- Jim Creamer
- Bob Cross
- Vincent Dobson
- Rod Kempster
- Geoff Merry
- Carol Pepper
- Tom Pettengell
- Alan Rhodes
- Mel Shepherd
- Chris Winterton
- Brian Wombwell

#### Other Councillor in Attendance

Andy Stewart

#### Officers

Jon Wilson - Service Director, Personal Care and Support (Younger Adults)  
Mark Hudson - Group Manager, Transport and Travel Services  
Paul Davies - Governance Officer  
Martin Gately - Scrutiny Coordinator  
Matthew Garrard - Policy Manager

#### Also in attendance

Karlie Thompson - NHS Nottinghamshire County  
Dr Doug Black - NHS Nottinghamshire County  
Dr Amanda Sullivan - Newark and Sherwood Clinical Commissioning Group  
Kirsty Ball - Mansfield and Ashfield Clinical Commissioning Group  
Dr Mark Jefford - Newark and Sherwood Clinical Commissioning Group  
Richard Henderson - East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust  
Jane Warder - Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
Janet Hufton - Service User

## **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Asbury, Bobo (unwell), Cross (on holiday) and Pettengell.

## **2. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Dobson declared a prejudicial interest by virtue of his wife's involvement with the Save Newark Hospital Campaign Group.

## **3. Newark Review - Response to Referral**

The standing committee on 4 April 2011 had decided to refer the Newark review to the Secretary of State for Health. The Secretary of State had invited the Independent Reconfiguration Panel to carry out an initial assessment. The Panel had concluded that a full review would not be appropriate, and made a number of comments, which the Secretary of State had accepted. The Secretary of State had asked the local NHS to work with the standing committee "to address and resolve its residual concerns regarding admission times at Newark Hospital and other aspects of the implementation of the Newark proposals (transport, new services for patients in Newark and potential population growth in the area)".

The Chairman read a statement in which he referred to a number of requests from local elected leaders and the public for the committee to resubmit the referral to the Secretary of State. He proposed that before considering the information available, the committee resubmit the referral. Members received a copy of a draft letter to the Secretary of State, which would be submitted if the motion was agreed.

It was moved by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Pepper and unanimously agreed that the requests of local community representatives for a full independent review and the information provided to the standing committee be conveyed to the Secretary of State for Health; and to enable this to be considered, the referral to the Secretary of State for Health be resubmitted as set out in the letter circulated at the meeting.

NHS representatives and Mrs Hufton expressed their disappointment about the committee's decision. The Committee was informed that developments at Newark Hospital had the support of clinicians in both primary and secondary care. The representatives re-iterated their willingness to work with Members to address public concerns and to ensure the best possible outcomes for patients in Newark.

## **4. NHS Walk-in Centres Review - Further Information**

The standing committee on 5 September had considered a report on the Secretary of State's response to the referral of the NHS Walk-in Centres Review. The standing committee had asked for further quantifiable evidence

in support of the proposed actions. Further information was included in the report to the present meeting, to be presented by representatives of NHS Nottinghamshire County.

Councillor Wombwell, local member for Stapleford, was of the view that he could not dispute the figures being presented, although they did not indicate how quick or easy it would be for patients to access the extra appointments. He appreciated the difficulty in keeping the walk-in centres open with the current staffing levels. He asked for a report in six months on the impact of the closure. He stated that given that the committee would not be voting about keeping the centres open, but on whether to accept the information, he would not be opposing the recommendations.

Dr Black gave a presentation to support the information which had been circulated. He was confident that local services and the primary care streams at King's Mill Hospital and QMC could accommodate extra patients arising from the closures. The extra appointments would be managed by practices in the same way as existing ones, and would be a mixture of same day and book ahead appointments. Dr Black pointed out that in the tables submitted to the committee, every entry marked "yes" showed a service which had been equalled or improved. He offered to report back to the committee after six months, to show that patients' demand had been met.

It was agreed to accept the further information presented by the PCT, and also to

- request a further report in six months on the findings of the "effective evaluation of the changes and a process of review and amendment as required";
- request that the findings of the evaluation should include details of any impacts on emergency departments, out of hours GP services and GP practices;
- recommend that the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee consider including behaviour in emergency departments its programme of work.

The meeting closed at 2.35 pm.

CHAIR

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