

minutes



Meeting KIRKBY GP SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE

Date Monday 4th June 2007 (commencing at 2.00pm)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Yvonne Davidson (Chair)

John Allin
A Ken Bullivant
A 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

Katie Buckle - Business Planning Manager – Nottinghamshire County NHS
Teaching Primary Care Trust (NCtPCT)
Sharon Creber – Head of Provider Business Development - Nottinghamshire County
NHS Teaching Primary Care Trust (NCtPCT)
Dr Place
Mr & Mrs Stocks

MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting on 16th April were agreed and signed by the Chair.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received for Councillor Ken Bullivant, Councillor Mrs K. Cutts and Councillor Ellie Lodziak.

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. Response to the Consultation.

Councillor Davidson invited questions and comments on Nottinghamshire County NHS teaching Primary Care Trust (NCtPCT)’s consideration of the Committee’s Response to the Consultation.

Councillor Wombwell was concerned that the Trust had decided to go ahead with the Alternative Provider of Medical Services (APMS), instead of pursuing agreement with local GP’s, prior to the outcome of this review. He said that, as lead provider, the Trust should do everything possible to encourage local practices to contribute to the provision of improved health services for the population of Kirkby in Ashfield.

Councillor Davidson made reference to the first recommendation in the response, that the Trust should contact all GP’s in the area to explore the provision of health services without an APMS contract, and asked if this had taken place.

Katie Buckle, for the Trust, explained that the Trust felt it had done all it could to try to bring local GP’s together to develop their ideas and strategies and agree a way forward, without success. The Local Medical Council (LMC), representing local GP’s, attended the Commissioning Group meetings where these issues were discussed. A meeting arranged with Drs Place, Aye and Gundkali had not produced any agreement on the services to be provided, but talks were ongoing. However, they, along with several other Doctors, had expressed an interest in tendering for the APMS by completing a pre-qualification questionnaire. Shortlisting will take place during the summer and, if successful, they would be invited to tender, with contracts being awarded in the autumn. Sharon Creber pointed out that the PCT were responsible for the whole health of the area and needed to decide on the best course of action at this time, and find away of providing the enhanced services required within an acceptable time scale.

Councillor Davidson acknowledged that the Trust had made some efforts to include local GP’s and that there did seem to be a lack of response. She asked about the current situation with Drs Aye and Gundkali, since deciding not to move into the new Health Centre, they have to find new premises acceptable to both them and their patients when the old centre closes. She was assured that the Trust would work with them to find alternative accommodation locally to ensure there is no loss of provision. Katie Buckle explained that the Trust, working in partnership with education and housing, was fully committed to developing the range of health services required and increasing the number of GP’s in the area.

Councillor Madden asked for reassurance that the Trust had established contact with Ashfield District Council regarding the Local Travel Plan because, although all the current practices are close together and the Health Village only 200-300 yards away, there would be a parking and access issue when the town centre was redeveloped in the near future. Councillor Allin was particularly concerned about access for disabled and elderly patients.

Councillor Lally was disappointed that no local agreement had been reached and requested some indication that the meeting of the Trust Board had properly

considered the recommendations of the Committee. Councillor Davidson agreed and stated that it would be useful for the Committee to see a copy of the report that went before the Board for their consideration, along with reasons for their decision. She pointed out that, if the Committee were not satisfied, they had the option of referring the decision back to the Secretary of State or, alternatively, to allow the Trust to continue with the proviso that Overview and Scrutiny Committee should review again within a set time scale.

Sharon Creber, whilst giving an assurance that the Committee's recommendations had been properly considered, conceded that the admin procedures needed clarification, and agreed that the Response should have been a separate item on the agenda instead of part of the overall response to the consultation.

In reply to a question about the time scale set for the improvements to begin, Katie Buckle said early 2008 but that this will depend the tendering process beginning in the autumn, when work would begin on the APMS contract. APMS contracts are developed nationally by planners and clinicians, with input from the local area. Consultations will continue with the Public and Patient Information Forum(PPIF), the LMC representing local GP's, and Ashfield District Council will be asked to nominate a Councillor to represent local people, so that national and local targets can be applied. Councillor Madden suggested that the Local Strategic Partnership and the Ashfield Forum be included in the consultation, so that all relevant requirements of the local area are available.

It was agreed:

- The consultation had been conducted properly and that the proposals were in the best interests of the people of Kirkby in Ashfield.
- The Overview & Scrutiny Committee will be asked to monitor the continued progress and review the situation in 6 months time.

The meeting closed at 3.10pm

CHAIR

Ref: Kirkby GP Services /m_4 June 2007