



**Nottingham
City Council**



**Nottinghamshire
County Council**

**JOINT CITY AND COUNTY
HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

of meeting held on **15 JANUARY 2008** at the

Council House from 10.04 am to 12.27 pm

Nottingham City Councillors

- ✓ Councillor Liversidge (Chair)
- Councillor Akhtar
- ✓ Councillor Aslam
- ✓ Councillor Dewinton
- ✓ Councillor Heppell
- ✓ Councillor Johnson
- Councillor Newton
- ✓ Councillor Price (Substitute for Councillor Spencer)
- Councillor Spencer

Nottinghamshire County Councillors

- ✓ Councillor Winterton (Vice-Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Cutts (from minute 47.)
- Councillor Dobson
- ✓ Councillor Lally
- ✓ Councillor Lodziak
- ✓ Councillor Sykes
- Councillor Tsimbiridis
- ✓ Councillor Wombwell

✓ indicates present at meeting

Also in Attendance

- | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|----------------------|
| Ms C Ziane-Pryor | - | Committee Administrator |) Nottingham |
| Ms A Carswell | - | Director of Commissioning and Performance |) City Council |
| | | |) |
| Mrs B Cast | - | Overview and Scrutiny Head |) |
| Ms N Barnard | - | Overview and Scrutiny Team Leader |) |
| | | |) |
| Mr M Garrard | - | Scrutiny Officer |) Nottinghamshire |
| | | |) County Council |
| | | |) |
| Mr A Kenworthy | - | Chief Executive |) Nottingham City |
| Mrs E de Gilbert | - | Deputy Chief Executive |) Primary Care Trust |

Mr S Smith	- Executive Director (Local Services)) Nottinghamshire
Mr J Walker	- Associate Director, Planning and Partnership) Healthcare Trust
Ms G Vasileerskis	-)
Ms B Venes	- Forum Memeber)Patient and Public
Mr T Turner	- Forum Member)Involvement Forum
Mr G Molumby	- Forum Support Officer)

44 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Akthar, Llewellyn-Jones and Spencer.

45 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2007, copies of which were placed around the table, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

46 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillor Liversidge declared a personal interest in agenda item 4, (minute 47) in that he had a relative who was employed by Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust, which did not preclude him from speaking or voting.

47 SOCIAL INCLUSION AND WELLBEING SERVICE – UPDATE

Further to minute 19(c)(2) dated 11 September 2007, consideration was given to a report of Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust, copies of which had been circulated, updating the Committee on the activities linked to the Business Plan completion and progress of the Action Plan overseen by the Social Inclusion and Wellbeing Service Steering Group.

Officers of the Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust were in attendance to present the report and answer the Committee's questions.

The Service User and Carer Reference Group had been established with approximately 30 people attending and was expected to also link with the Steering Group.

The Trust participated in a Health and Social Care Audit Service (HASCAS) social inclusion project to support service transformation. Progress was to be monitored by 13 other Trusts with an interest in integrated social inclusion. There was to be robust consultation to ensure that the service changes were synchronised with user and carer group needs.

The Service aimed to be more person centred by providing greater flexibility around the needs of the users by offering service choices.

The reform of welfare benefits was predicted to have a significant impact on the service as those patients directly affected were in need of support to build and develop confidence and workplace skills. It was therefore important that all Mental Health Teams

were prepared for the knock-on effect with the vocational element of training and support needing to be most robust.

Central Government was to invest substantially in helping people get back to work. Framework Housing Association was to bid for funding to provide supported employment places with training for 350 people over a 3 year period. Other initiatives existed which supported and prepared people for work while reducing the need for mental health support.

The Steering Group had also considered the current viability issues regarding the Broad Street facility which, although not restrictive, generally serviced the areas to the south of the City. This listed building could not be made Disability Discrimination Act compliant, was not wholly accessible and, therefore, not fit for purpose. In addition, the building also had an impact on staffing arrangements as a minimum of 3 grade 6 staff were required to be in attendance while the premises were open to the public, to comply with health and safety, and fire regulations and security policy.

While services were gradually to be focused more towards community based provision, site bases were still appropriate and so the MENCAP site at Chapel Bar and the Deaf Association site at Talbot Street were to be considered along with vacant space at Foster Drive. The Committee agreed that a City Centre drop-in facility with good public transport links would be preferable.

Members requested that when presented to the Committee, the Business Plan refer to:-

- advocacy services;
- a sign posting booklet for users and carers;
- with reference to partnership working, a budget allocation and strategy outline of how third sector organisations were to be engaged (although it was acknowledged that too many partners could over-complicate communication and working practices).

Concern was expressed that some aspects of the current service provision, such as supported employment, had not been allocated mainstream funding, even though it was considered by some as a vital element of the service. In response, the Committee was informed that this element of provision was considered an 'add-on' which provided additional capacity and was not predicted to receive mainstream funding in the near future.

The Committee was assured that working practices, such as the length of shifts and working week, would be realistic and include some flexibility to allow for the needs of individual staff.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the establishment of the Steering group and increased involvement of service users in the development of the Service be welcomed;**
- (2) that Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust be requested to submit a further report regarding the Business Plan.**

48 NHS ANNUAL HEALTH CHECKS – NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HEALTHCARE TRUST

Further to minute 35(2) dated 13 November 2007, consideration was given to the report of the Head of Law and Democracy, copies of which had been circulated, informing the Committee of Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust performance regarding the use of resources.

Mr Walker, Associate Director of Planning and Partnership, was in attendance and spoke on the subject.

While the quality of care provided by the Healthcare Trust had been considered excellent by the Healthcare Commissions annual health check, the assessment was on-going and all standards continued to be reviewed.

In addition to the continued external review, an internal audit had been undertaken and an Action Plan was in place with a view to raising the rating of 'use of resources' above fair. Mr Walker assured the Committee that the Trust was solvent and maintained the fit for purpose aim to improve the overall rating in preparation for the potential foundation trust process.

RESOLVED that the Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust be requested to submit the latest report and Action Plan to this Committee.

49 USE OF LOCAL IMPROVEMENT FINANCE TRUST (LIFT) BUILDINGS IN THE CONURBATION

(a) Report of the Head of Law and Democracy, Nottinghamshire County Council

RESOLVED that, further to minute 34 dated 13 November 2007, the report of the Report of the Head of Law and Democracy, Nottinghamshire County Council, be noted.

(b) Report of Nottinghamshire County Teaching Primary Care Trust

Further to minute 34 dated 13 November 2007, consideration was given to the report of Nottinghamshire County Teaching Primary Care Trust, copies of which had been circulated, presenting details of the services available at the LIFT centres within the conurbation, the costs incurred and the amount of vacant space.

Ms de Gilbert, Deputy Chief Executive, presented the report and was available to answer the Committee's questions.

The District Audit Service was reported to have considered the LIFT centres to be good value for money by having attracted investment in Nottinghamshire which would not have been attracted by other means.

As part of the plan to localise services, the centres were also intended to provide facilities for preventative and early diagnosis treatments such as weight loss and heart checks.

Included within the cost of building the centre was a 25 year contract for the maintenance of the building and facilities.

The Committee was informed that, following a change in service provision planned for the area, progression of the proposed LIFT Company Centre at Eastwood had been halted by the PCT Board and a review was to take place.

Members commented as follows on the Lift Centres below:-

Stapleford LIFT Company Centre

- the Centre was well used and appreciated by the community but expressed concern that community facilities could not afford to rent space in the building as the cost was so high;
- forethought and long-term planning was questioned with regard to building in space for services without a formal commitment from them, and then these services withdrawing or dis-establishing and leaving vacant space in the centre;
- there was concern that the establishment of the new Treatment Centre at Queens Medical Centre could negatively impact on the Stapleford Centre, even though Stapleford was not intended to offer day surgery facilities;
- the proposal to include a community café in the building was not welcomed by some members who informed the Committee that a community café already operated close to the centre and the provision of agreed services was a higher priority;
- the Co-operative pharmacy was reportedly not satisfied with the space allocated.

Keyworth LIFT Company Centre

- there was concern about the current overall service provision and disappointment and frustration that the services initially agreed for this site had not materialised;
- the view was expressed that the building was difficult to access and parking was inadequate.

Clifton LIFT Co Centre

- this centre was considered as an iconic building for the community and services that used it;
- some services did not arrive on time, but did arrive;
- inadequate parking was a continued problem;
- a community café had been well used but was under threat as the rent was too high and potential rescue plans had been hindered by the reluctance of the PCT to release the financial records of the cafe for examination;

Bulwell LIFT Co. Centre

- regular updates had reassured members that the community had been consulted on requirements;
- the Centre was expected to have a positive effect by improving life for the residents of Bulwell.

In response the issue raised that rents were so high that the community could not afford to rent space, Ms de Gilbert explained that the NHS was unable to formally subsidise the voluntary sector and other groups by offering reduced rents but, in exceptional circumstances, some costs had been shared.

It was acknowledged that in regard to gaining formal commitments from proposed service providers prior to the inclusion of dedicated space within building plans, a more robust consultation and planning strategy was required. However, negotiations were underway to fill the vacant space with other service providers.

RESOLVED

- (1) that a detailed list of all services provided at the Keyworth LIFT Company Centre be forwarded by Nottinghamshire Primary Care Trust to all County Council members of the Committee;**
- (2) that, in regard to future LIFT centres, the Committee requested that the following be considered:-**
 - (a) rents be appropriately set to ensure that the community funded facilities could afford to use and rent space in the buildings;**
 - (b) early warning systems be established regarding any change in demand for space which may impact on the centre;**
 - (c) provision of adequate parking facilities;**
 - (d) a more robust consultation of the community and partners, including other health service providers, be undertaken for future projects;**
- (3) that, it be suggested that the County Council Scrutiny Committee consider a review regarding the issues raised relating to LIFT Centres in the County, and that it be requested that the results of the review be submitted to this Committee;**
- (4) that Ms de Gilbert and Mr Kenworthy be thanked for their attendance the meeting.**

50 WORK PROGRAMME 2007-08

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Overview and Scrutiny (Nottingham City Council), copies of which had been circulated, requesting that members consider and agree the work programme for the remainder of the municipal year.

The following issues were identified for further scrutiny:-

LIFT Centres

- better transparency was required at every stage of progress and operation;
- further information was required regarding the cost of the centres;
- in relation to the services agreed for each centre, members needed to be informed of exactly why those services had not been provided;
- an explanation was required regarding the processes in place to inform and consult the community when changes from the original agreed provision were proposed;
- the original business plans should be made available alongside details of exactly what has been achieved and was being provided, to enable members to see the variance;
- evidence should be provided that public consultation results had been considered in the overall and detailed planning of the centres;
- the predicted impact of the Queens Medical Centre Treatment Centre and practice based commissioning on the LIFT Centres should be identified now as part of future planning of service provision;
- the majority of issues raised related to LIFT Company Centres in the County and so it was more appropriate if the County Council Scrutiny Committee reviewed LIFT Centres and reported back to this Committee;

East Midlands Specialised Commissioning Group

- clarification was requested;

Regional Scrutiny

- clarification on the proposed Regional Scrutiny Panels was requested.

RESOLVED

- (1) that, should the County Council Scrutiny Committee undertake a review of the LIFT Centres within the County as suggested in minute 49 above, it be requested that the results of the review be submitted to this Committee;**
- (2) that the Director of the East Midlands Specialised Commissioning Group be invited to explain about the proposals for specialised services across the region;**
- (3) that details be submitted to a future meeting regarding the proposed structure of a Regional Scrutiny Panel.**