



Meeting	JOINT CITY/COUNTY HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date	Monday, 29 January 2007 (commencing at 2.30 pm)

membership

Persons absent are marked with `A`

COUNCILLORS

Nottingham City Councillors:-

Saghir Akhtar
A Brent Charlesworth
Gill Haymes (Vice-Chair)
A Eileen Heppell
Afzal Khan
David Liversidge
Tim Spencer
A Carole Stapleton

Nottinghamshire County Councillors:-

Mrs K Cutts
Pat Lally
Edward Llewellyn-Jones (Chair)
Brian Wombwell

Co-opted Members:-

A Councillor Simon Harris, Ashfield Borough Council
Councillor Jacky Williams, Broxtowe Borough Council
A Councillor Stella Lane - Gedling Borough Council
A Councillor Mrs M Males, Rushcliffe Borough Council

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs B Cast)
Ms N Watson) Nottingham City Council

Ms L Senior)
Mr P Davies) Nottinghamshire County Council

Mr G Molumby) Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust PPIF

Ms B Venes) Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust PPI Forum

Ms J Leggott) Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust

MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 12 December 2006 were agreed.

MEMBERSHIP

It was noted that Councillor Wombwell had been appointed to the Committee in place of Councillor Carr.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Heppell and Mrs Males. It was agreed to send the committee's best wishes to Councillor Mrs Males, following her recent operation.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Councillor Jacky Williams declared a personal interest in agenda item 4 (Response to the Consultation on the Future of Services for Children and Young People) by virtue of her position as a Special Lecturer at the University of Nottingham.

Councillor Llewellyn-Jones declared a personal interest in the same item, as a member of his family was employed by the Trust.

Councillor Timothy Spencer declared a personal interest in the same item, as a member of his family was employed by the Trust.

RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AT NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST

Jenny Leggott, Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Service Improvement, Nottingham University Hospitals Trust, introduced the responses which the Trust had received to its recent consultation about future services for children and young people. There were specific responses to the Scrutiny Committee's observations, made at the meeting on 14 November 2006, and an analysis of responses from the other strands of the consultation. She said that the Trust Board saw a need to build on the benefits of the proposals and address the concerns which had been expressed. These included staff and patient travel and parking, the transfer of the pink card system

(which allowed children with chronic conditions to have direct emergency admission to wards) and reassurance about infection rates. She explained that the building work was likely to be done in two phases. Further consideration was being given to such matters as bus routes, traffic segregation and parents' parking. The hospital was developing an overall vision for services for young people, involving all the specialities which served this age range.

Councillor Haymes asked for clarification of the phasing and timing of the project, and suggested that the Trust might provide more detail in due course. Ms Leggott explained that the first phase was to move wards from the City Hospital to the QMC, provide parents' accommodation and more side rooms. More work was needed on the size of the young people's unit, on the balance between clinical and social needs, and deciding whether to locate centrally or in specialisms. A clinician was to be appointed young people's champion across the trust. Parking would be addressed in December/January, when the Diagnostic and Treatment Centre opened. The need for a separate drop-off point for children's services had been identified. She indicated that a separate entrance might be provided, depending on the cost.

In reply to further questions, Ms Leggott stated that building work should take 4-6 months, with the new facilities open before the winter. Longer term plans tied in with the trust's development strategy, and could take five years. During the first phase, space had already been made available at the QMC to reconfigure the service and possibly refurbish existing children's wards. Councillor Williams asked about links with community services. Ms Leggott replied that this needed further discussion with the PCT. She was in discussion with Eleri de Gilbert, Director of Provision Development and Deputy Chief Executive at Nottinghamshire Teaching PCT, about the LIFT building in Stapleford. She believed that services should appear seamless to patients.

Councillor Llewellyn-Jones commented that the report was quite generalised, and asked when the Scrutiny Committee could expect details of the Trust Board's decisions. Ms Leggott stated that the Board had agreed to integrate children's in-patient services on the QMC site, while recognising and agreeing to work through concerns which had been expressed. The Board would consider plans to address those concerns. Councillor Llewellyn-Jones observed that flexibility could become limited once the building work started. He asked how the trust would respond if the Scrutiny Committee became concerned about the direction being taken. Ms Leggott responded that more side rooms would increase flexibility, and that if a dedicated young people's unit were created, it would be outside the existing QMC footprint. Councillor Mrs Cutts was concerned that by carrying out building work before fully shaping plans, the best outcomes might be missed. Ms Leggott emphasised the close connections with the trust's long term strategy. She pointed out that it would be difficult to re-route children's traffic in the short term. However work was in hand for a separate parking area for parents. Councillor Haymes appreciated that traffic flows were a complex issue, but she hoped to see some action in the short term to assist parents dropping off children, for example.

In reply to Councillor Mrs Cutts, Ms Leggott said she believed that the decision to locate children's services at the QMC site was justified by the location of such services

alongside A&E. Mr Molumby indicated that young people would like to be involved in the planning of the services for them. Ms Leggott left the meeting at this point, having been thanked by the Chair.

Members discussed their response to the information received. It was concluded that the Scrutiny Committee

1. underlined its previous comments, and urged the trust to work through them as quickly as possible.
2. requested the provision of a dedicated entrance to children's services, followed by separate parking and a drop-off point, as priorities in the short term, with further improvements to access in the long term.
3. welcomed the formalised status of the Parent Information Group and requested that young people also be involved in the planning of services.
4. welcomed the appointment of a young people's champion, and recommended that his or her remit include social as well as the clinical aspects of care.

WORK PROGRAMME

There was discussion about the Annual Health Check, and whether a study group would be needed. It was expected that this would become clearer when Ms Watson attended a briefing which would take place after the next Scrutiny Committee meeting. It was suggested that in view of the May elections, the Route Map item might better be considered in June or July, along with an update on the Diagnostic and Treatment Centre.

The meeting closed at 3.40 pm.

CHAIR

Ref: ctee/select ctees/jt health/2007/m_29jan07