

**ITEM No**

**JOINT CITY AND COUNTY HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**12 JUNE 2007**

**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE JOINT CITY AND COUNTY HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**WORK OF THE JOINT HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 2006-07**

**1 SUMMARY**

This report is intended to inform new Members about the work of the Joint City and County Health Scrutiny Committee during 2006-07 and serves to remind returning Members of the Committee.

**2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION**

It is recommended that the Committee notes the information contained within the report.

**3 THE JOINT CITY AND COUNTY HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – WORK DURING 2006-07**

3.1 The last Municipal Year was extremely busy for the Committee. Much of Members' work focused on the Hospital Trust as they began the process of reconfiguring its services following the merger of Nottingham City Hospital Trust and Queen's Medical Centre Trust. Consideration was also given to its plans for reducing its deficit. Other major pieces of work undertaken last year focused on the plans for modernising older people's services at Highbury and Lings Bar Hospitals and the development of a Social Inclusion and Wellbeing Service proposed by the Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust. The following paragraphs outline these major items of business undertaken by the Panel over the last Municipal Year.

**3.2 Reconfiguration of Services across Nottingham University Hospitals Trust**

The Committee examined a number of issues relating to the reconfiguration of services. The Trust plans eventually to use the City Hospital Campus as an elective care site with QMC as an emergency care site. This will involve the consolidation of many services on one site. This process has already begun with some services such as those for stroke patients moving to a single site.

The Trust also held a major public consultation on its plans to develop a dedicated children and young people's unit on the QMC Campus. The Committee made a formal response to this consultation and were pleased to hear that many of their comments, and those of patients,

carers and the public, had been taken on board by the Trust. Members expect service reconfigurations at the hospital to make up a large part of the Committee's work programme over the coming year.

### **3.3 Modernising Older People's Services**

This piece of work began in 2005-06 and was led by Rushcliffe Primary Care Trust and continued by Nottinghamshire County teaching PCT following primary care reconfiguration. The proposal was to consolidate and reduce the number of physical rehabilitation and mental healthcare beds for older people at Highbury and Lings Bar Hospitals and develop community services to enable patients to be treated in their own homes after a shorter stay in hospital. The proposals were based upon evidence that older people in Nottingham were spending far longer in hospital than patients elsewhere and were not receiving an improved service as a result.

The Committee were initially concerned at the impact the proposals could have on adult social care and that agreement had not been reached between social care and health organisations. However, following the Committee's representations on this and the commissioning of a Price Waterhouse Cooper report on the impacts of the proposals for all parties, the Committee were pleased to see greater joint working and a shared way forward being developed. This item is scheduled to return to the Committee in September.

### **3.4 Social Inclusion and Wellbeing Service**

The Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust held a public consultation on the development of a Social Inclusion and Wellbeing Service. The aim was to develop a service which supported people with mental health problems into training and, eventually, into work. The Trust faced some staunch opposition to some of the proposals, particularly those concerning the Skills and Practical Activities Network, and the Committee itself initially had some concerns about the level of involvement of existing service users in the development of proposals. However there appeared to be more involvement as the consultation period went on. The Committee made a response to the consultation which highlighted members' concerns.

The Committee received a report to their March meeting which showed that the Trust had listened to the results of the consultation, including this Committee's representations, and had made significant changes to their proposals as a result of what they had heard. The Trust's implementation plan for the development of this service is scheduled to return to the Committee in September.

### **3.5 Items for the Coming Municipal Year**

Items which are likely to return to the Committee during 2007-08 include:

- Modernising Older People's Services
- Social Inclusion and Wellbeing Service – implementation plan
- Reconfiguration of services at Nottingham University Hospitals Trust
- The development of the NHS Treatment Centre on the QMC Campus
- The 'Route Map' which takes a strategic view of NHS buildings in Nottinghamshire
- Substantial variations or developments from NHS Trusts.

**4 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

None

**5 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING EXEMPT OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

None

**6 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

All reports and minutes of the meetings of the Joint City and County Health Scrutiny Committee held in the Municipal Year 2006-07.

**Chair of the Joint City and County  
Health Scrutiny Committee**

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