

## **Health Scrutiny Overview & Scrutiny Committee 23 September 2009**

Report of the Head of Civic, Legal & Democratic Services

### **Health Scrutiny Networking**

#### **Summary**

1. This report is to inform Members of the Committee about recent events attended by both Members and Officers outside of the formal meeting cycle of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

#### **Background**

2. Both Members and Officers attend events on a regular basis and most of these occur outside of the formal meeting cycle. Many of these events are directly linked with some of the work set out in the Committee's work plan.

#### **Consultation**

3. The following paragraphs detail the events and meetings that have taken place.

#### **Planning for Healthier Communities (29.04.2009)**

4. The Scrutiny Officer and Councillor Fraser (the then Chair of the Committee) attended this event as did Councillors Morley and Potter). The event was presented in association with the Public Health Hub at Sheffield Hallam University and the Government Office for Yorkshire & Humber. It was part of a series of events under the 'Minding the Gap' banner and focussed on the central role that planning has in the health and well being of local communities.
5. The event illustrated how recent changes in policy have given planning practitioners a stronger remit to promote healthier communities and highlighted how hugely important planning was to the health and well being of communities. Copies of some of the presentations given are available from the Scrutiny Officer.

#### **Regional Health Scrutiny Officers' Meeting (13.05.2009)**

6. Health Scrutiny Officers across the Yorkshire & Humber meet on a regular basis to discuss matters affecting their various Scrutiny Committees. They also have a small amount of Government funding left to provide support to their various Committees.

7. At a meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May, Tim Gilling, from the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) attended to inform us of the latest support programme from CfPS. The amount of support has reduced since last year but they are offering 10 days support for regional network projects.
8. Officers were advised that there was some flexibility as to how networks could use the days available and various options were discussed. Officers' discussions highlighted the following as possible themes to use the support days for that could benefit all Scrutiny Committees across the region:
  - Information/Event around the theme of 'End of Life Care'
  - A Health Scrutiny Pack /DVD for all Members of Health Scrutiny Committees across the region (focus to be decided)
  - Delivering Healthy Ambitions (Presentations/Events in conjunction with the Strategic Health Authority)
  - A Health Scrutiny Event to be open to all (focus to be decided)
9. Brief updates were also given on the Northern Burn Care Network and on World Class Commissioning.

#### **CFPS Conference (09.06.2009-10.06.2009)**

10. The Scrutiny Officer attended both days of this event. This year the theme of the conference was 'a critical friend for critical times'. The conference covered all aspects of scrutiny, at local, regional and national levels and was not solely based on health related issues. The main two health scrutiny themes discussed were:
  - Patient safety matters to non-executives
  - Health Inequalities – An asset model

#### **NHS North Yorkshire & York Board Meeting (20.06.2009)**

11. Councillor Wiseman attended the above meeting and provided the following information for this report:
  - Received a report from the chairman detailing his activities for the previous month. He reported that 35 applications had been received for the position of a Non-Executive. He also reported that an agreement had been reached with the Appointments Commission about the job specifications for a new post of Independent Chair of the Community and Mental Health Services Board of the PCT.
  - Received a report from Chief Executive indicating Giles Wilmore has taken up the job of Director of Corporate Affairs. She updated the meeting on the Swine Flu advice. Since the last meeting, the Selby Community Project (a scheme to build a joint hospital and civic centre) had received full planning permission. This project was awarded a silver award from Association of Healthcare Communicators and is hoped to appoint a building contractor soon.
  - Received a report from the Clinical Executive (CLE), to update the Board of the progress of Practice based Commissioning and World based

- Commissioning. There had been local meetings to raise the profile of the CLE with clinicians and discussion as to how they can make clinical engagement more effective.
- Received a report from Director of Clinical Engagement regarding the Clinical Engagement and Leadership Strategy. It was acknowledged that there would be changes in policy direction to become World Class Commissioners. Underpinned by both the policy drivers and the emergent values, the strategy aims to achieve a number of goals. These aim to shape and drive the work over the next two years so there will be a demonstrable improvement in various areas.
  - The Board was presented with the Performance Dashboard and the Performance Framework 2009/10. It was reported that NHS North Yorkshire and York had set itself the overall aim of becoming the “most improved PCT in the country”. The document presented set out the intended local framework for monitoring, managing and improving performance.
  - Received a report on Commissioning for Quality. The report set out the roles that commissioners would be taking and the approach to measuring quality. These measures would be used for the Board to receive assurances about quality of care that is being provided.
  - Received a report of the Business Plan 2009/10. The officer summarised that the PCT is currently refreshing its 5-year commissioning strategy, which will be published in October 2009. The Business Plan sets out the five key priority areas for the Organisation in 2009/10.
  - Received a paper on ‘Delivering Single Sex Accommodation’. A task force had been established and the report indicated the allocation of funds to deliver the aim by various dates the latest being April 2010 in Scarborough and East Yorkshire NHS Trust. York Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust reporting scheme as green for completion by the end of June 2009 confirming the scheme will complete by the end of July 2009.
  - The Board received the Annual Accounts, Statement on Internal Control and the third Annual report.
  - Received a paper on ‘Transforming Community Services’ which laid out the future Programme purpose and business objectives. Community Services Strategy Development, Provider Development and Mental Health transfer.
  - Received a paper, which detailed the approach being taken to promote quality of service, seek assurances to the quality of service and intervene where there are areas of concern.
  - Ratified the minutes of Audit Committee, Provider Committee and the Yorkshire and Humber Specialised Commissioning Group.
  - Agreed next meeting to be 10:00am 28th July at The Galtres Centre Market Place, Easingwold.

### **LINKs (Local Involvement Networks) Development Event (30.06.2009)**

12. A further event took place as part of the “Minding the Gap” project on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009, concerning the development of LINKs, which was attended by Councillor Sandy Fraser, as a member of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC).

Included in the event were sessions on:

- An overview of LINKs – statutory basis, role, powers, relationships with commissioners and role in commissioning policy, engaging with stakeholders
  - LINKs Development across the Yorkshire & Humber Region
  - Effective Engagement – current stages of development, expectations of LINKs & stakeholders
  - Developing a Support Programme
13. It was clear that the LINKs in the Region were all at very different stages of development, and that York was one of the few that had actually already established some degree of joint working between the OSC and the LINK and other Health/Social Care partners; some were still trying to establish their first contact.
14. Further events in the “Minding the Gap” are planned for later in the year.

#### **Regional Health Scrutiny Officers’ Meeting (07.07.2009)**

15. Following their meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2009 the Regional Health Scrutiny Officers met again to discuss their possible ideas for the CfPS support programme (paragraphs 7 & 8 of this report refer). After discussion it was agreed that the Regional Health Scrutiny Officers would ask the CfPS to split the ten days free support offered over the following two topics:
- Produce DVD and cribsheet around commissioning for e.g. 10 questions to ask about commissioning
  - Produce a pack for non-health scrutiny Members to embed health into the work of other scrutiny panels
16. On submission of these ideas the CfPS indicated that they would be happy to support the Officers with the production of a pack for non-health scrutiny Members. However, they did not feel that the commissioning element of the bid met the aim of being a joint piece of work. Officers, therefore, agreed to discuss the matter further at their next meeting.
17. An update was given on the Northern Burn Care Network, which had recently decided that there would be 2 adults centres and 1 children’s centre in the Region. One of the adult centres would be in Wakefield and the children’s centre would be located at Manchester.

#### **Meeting with Chief Executive of NHS North Yorkshire & York (10.07.2009)**

18. The Chair, Vice-Chair and Scrutiny Officer met with Jayne Brown, the Chief Executive at NHS North Yorkshire & York. The meeting was primarily to introduce the new Chair and Vice-Chair to Ms Brown but discussions also touched on key themes and priorities for NHS North Yorkshire & York over the coming months.

### **Meeting with LINKs (17.08.2009)**

19. The Chair, Vice Chair and Scrutiny Officer met with the Partnership Co-ordinator from LINKs and the following topics were discussed (these are set out in more detail in the report on LINKs in today's agenda):
  - Update on LINKs input into feasibility studies and how this is working
  - Discussion on how the Committee should receive the Annual Report from LINKs
  - Update on LINKs current work plan
  - How referrals from LINKs would be made should they arise
  - Viability of co-opting a Links representative onto the Committee

### **Health Scrutiny Information Day (18.08.2009)**

20. This day was organised for Members to receive updates on the current issues from the Yorkshire Ambulance Service, NHS North Yorkshire & York, York Hospitals Foundation Trust and LINKs. Members also received information on 'Delivering Healthy Ambitions', the five year strategic plan for NHS North Yorkshire and York as well as an update from Dr David Geddes on referral guidelines.

### **September Regional Health Scrutiny Officer's meeting (10.09.2009)**

21. Following their meeting on 7th July 2009 Regional Health Scrutiny Officers met again to discuss how best to use the 10 free days support the CfPS were offering for regional work. A bid had been submitted to CfPS and they had expressed interest in working with Officers on the pack for non Health Scrutiny Members (paragraph 15 of this report refers). However, they did not feel that producing a DVD and crib sheet regarding commissioning met the criteria needed for a successful bid. In addition to this, the CfPS is aiming to produce documentation relating to commissioning and they do not want anything to duplicate the work they are doing.
22. Other topics of discussion included the Regional Health Scrutiny Protocol for joint scrutiny working, the Annual Health Check and forthcoming events being organised by Minding the Gap.

### **Options**

23. This report is predominantly for information only; but Members are asked to consider whether they would like to look at any of the issues raised in more detail.

### **Analysis**

24. Members and Officers who undertake work in relation to Health Scrutiny attend many events outside of the Committee's formal cycle. This report has been prepared for the purposes of transparency and information sharing.

## Corporate Strategy 2009/2012

25. This relates to the following theme of the recently refreshed Corporate Strategy:

'We want to be a city where residents enjoy long, healthy and independent lives. For this to happen we will make sure that people are supported to make healthier lifestyle choices and that health and social care services are quick to respond to those that need them'.

### Implications

26. There are no known financial, human resources, equalities, legal, crime & disorder, information technology, property or other legal implications associated with this report.

### Risk Management

27. This report is for information only and there are no known risks associated with it.

### Recommendations

28. Members are requested to note the information within this report and consider whether they would like to look at any of the issues raised in more detail.

Reason: To keep Members informed of events attended that are relevant to Health Scrutiny.

### Contact Details

**Author:**

Tracy Wallis  
Scrutiny Officer  
Scrutiny Services  
Tel: 01904 551714

**Chief Officer Responsible for the report:**

Quentin Baker  
Head of Civic, Legal & Democratic Services  
Tel: 01904 551004

Report Approved

Date 14 September 2009

**Specialist Implications Officer(s)**

None

**Wards Affected:**

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

**Background Papers:**

None

**Annexes**

None