

## HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2012 at 6.00 p.m.  
in Committee Room 2 at the Council House, Dudley

### PRESENT:-

Councillor Mrs Ridley (Chairman)  
Councillor J D Davies (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillors Mrs Aston, Barlow, K Finch, Mrs Harley, Kettle, Miller, C Wilson and Ms Angela Hill

### Officers

Director of Corporate Resources (as Acting Lead Officer to the Committee), Assistant Director of Housing Strategy and Private Sector, Assistant Director Older People and Physical Disabilities, Head of Service Private Sector Housing and Scrutiny Officer (all Directorate of Adult, Community and Housing Services), Drug and Alcohol Action Team Manager (Chief Executive's Directorate) and Mrs M Johal (Directorate of Corporate Resources)

### Also in Attendance

Mr Steve Corton – Head of Community Engagement, National Health Service (NHS) Dudley  
Ms Valerie Little – Director of Public Health  
Mr Richard Beeken – Director of Operations and Transformation (Dudley Group)  
Ms Tessa Norris – Director of Community Services and Integrated Care (Dudley Group)  
Ms Louise McMann – Dudley Group of Hospitals  
Mr Adrian Warwick – Dudley Group of Hospitals  
Ms Marsha Ingram – Acting Director of People and Corporate Affairs (Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust)  
Mr Derek Hunter – Urgent Care Lead, Dudley

### 38 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of the Assistant Director of Law and Governance (Lead Officer to the Committee) and Councillors Ms Harris and P Woodall.

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### 39 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Ms A Hill declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item No 10 (Update on Consultation of Dudley Walsall Mental Health Trust) in view of her being Chair of a user group that provides services to patients on the Dementia Ward at Bushey Fields.

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40 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed subject to Ms Marsha Ingram being included as being in attendance at the meeting.

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41 UPDATE ON THE MODERNISATION OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND THE HOME CLOSURE PROGRAMME (MINUTE NO 31/MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2011)

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Arising from consideration of the Minutes, the Assistant Director Older People and Physical Disabilities informed the meeting that a draft report on New Bradley Hall and proposals for conducting the consultation process would be circulated to all Members the following day for their comments. She explained that some of the options being consulted on for New Bradley Hall included whether the facility should remain open to long-term residents in its current state or whether residents should use the facility as short-term placements. The Assistant Director Older People and Physical Disabilities indicated that the consultation exercise would be undertaken by Age UK and that the consultation period would commence from 6<sup>th</sup> February 2012 until the end of April. The findings of the consultation exercise would be submitted to a meeting of the Cabinet in due course.

Arising from the verbal update and, in response to a query from a Member, the Assistant Director Older People and Physical Disabilities undertook to provide figures on the costs involved for undertaking the consultation exercise. However, it was pointed out that an external organisation had been chosen to conduct the exercise to enable a fair, reasonable and unbiased process to be undertaken.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the verbal update, regarding the position of New Bradley Hall and the consultation exercise being undertaken, be noted.
- (2) That a further update report be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

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42 CONSIDERATION OF PETITIONS (IF ANY) REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY THE PETITIONS OFFICER

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No petitions had been referred to the Committee.

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43 PUBLIC FORUM

No issues were raised under this agenda item.

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44 CHANGE IN ORDER OF BUSINESS

Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13(c), it was

RESOLVED

That agenda item number 7 be considered after agenda item number 15.

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45 TEMPORARY OVERNIGHT CLOSURE OF ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY AT STAFFORD HOSPITAL

A briefing paper prepared by the Head of Community Engagement NHS Dudley was submitted on the temporary night closure of the Accident and Emergency Unit at Stafford Hospital.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the briefing paper, on the temporary night closure of the Accident and Emergency Unit at Stafford Hospital, be noted.

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46 RECONFIGURATION OF VASCULAR SERVICES IN THE BLACK COUNTRY - UPDATE

A report of the Director of Commissioning Development, Black Country Cluster was submitted on progress on the reconfiguration of vascular services.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the report, on the reconfiguration of vascular services in the Black Country, be noted.
  - (2) That a further report on patients' experiences be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.
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47 UPDATE ON CONSULTATION OF DUDLEY WALSHALL MENTAL HEALTH TRUST

A verbal report on the outcome of the consultation of the Dudley Walsall Mental Health Trust to become a Foundation Trust was given by Ms Marsha Ingram – Acting Director of People and Corporate Affairs (Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust).

Ms Ingram briefly presented the findings of the consultation exercise and in particular pointed out that feedback had shown support to the Trust being named the Dudley Walsall Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust and that there had also been strong support to increase the number of appointed governors representing Local Authorities on its Council of Governors. The Dudley Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust had taken these views into account and it had now been agreed that a representative from each Local Authority would be appointed onto the Council of Governors. The Trust's constitution had also been altered, as the Trust would be identifying itself as Dudley and Walsall Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust, in line with consultation feedback.

In response to a comment made that the Department of Health were not expecting Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trust to acquire Foundation Trust because of funding, Ms Ingram stated that she was not aware of that issue and she pointed out that the Trust's financial position was relatively strong. There were no deficits and the Trust were in constant dialogue with the Department of Health. With regard to a comment also being made about there being disgruntled service users as they were being missed out, Ms Ingram indicated that service users were being encouraged to stand for the election of Governors.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the verbal report, on the outcome of the consultation exercise undertaken by the Dudley Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust to become a Foundation Trust, be noted.
- (2) That a further report detailing information on how patients were being engaged and also information on the Trust's financial position be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

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48 MATERNITY CAPPING

A report of the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust was submitted on progress made with regard to maternity capping.

Arising from the presentation of the report Members expressed some concern in particular about the length of time it would take to extend services and that there was no guarantee that the proposed expansion would be sufficient or whether further provision would need to be made as numbers had been based on predictions.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the report, on maternity capping, be noted.
- (2) That a further update report, to include information on timescales and costs involved in expanding maternity provision and statistical information for those mothers choosing Russells Hall Hospital and the pertaining geographical areas, be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

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49 RESCHEDULED OUTPATIENT APPOINTMENTS – 2011/12

A report of the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust was submitted on activity relating to hospital initiated appointment reschedules in the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust (DGFT) Outpatients Department.

Arising from the presentation of the report concern was expressed about the financial implications involved, particularly postage costs, when rescheduling appointments.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the report, on reducing the number of rescheduled outpatient appointments, be noted.
- (2) That a further update report outlining progress and information on costs involved in rescheduling appointments be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

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50 HOUSING ADAPTATIONS

A report of the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services was submitted on the current position relating to the provision of adaptations to private and public sector housing in the borough.

Arising from the presentation of the report Members expressed several concerns about the imbalance in property adaptations in that funds were wasted on properties that were adapted which were then let out to able-bodied people and also that there were problems with lengthy waiting lists for properties to be adapted leading to the adaptations no longer being required.

The Assistant Director, Housing Strategy and Private Sector acknowledged the concerns raised and in response to a query it was agreed that the number of adapted properties that had been let out to able-bodied people, including historical information, would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the report, and Appendix to the report, submitted on housing adaptations be noted.
- (2) That a further update report to include information on the number of adapted properties that had been let out to able-bodied people be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

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51 THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DUDLEY'S ALCOHOL STRATEGY – 2010/11

A report of the Chief Executive was submitted on progress made to date in the implementation of Dudley's 2010 Alcohol Strategy.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report, and Appendix to the report, submitted on the progress made to date in implementing the Alcohol Strategy be noted.

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52 EXCESS WINTER DEATHS

A report of the Director of Public Health was submitted on excess winter deaths in Dudley.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report, on excess winter deaths, be noted.

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53 RESPONSES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

A report of the Lead Officer to the Committee was submitted on responses to queries arising from the previous Committee meetings.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report, and Appendix to the report, submitted on the responses to queries arising from previous Committee meetings be noted.

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The meeting ended at 8.35 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

HASCSC/29