

Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee

27 September 2018 – At a meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee held at 10.30 am at County Hall, Chichester.

Present: Mr Turner (Chairman)

Dr Walsh	Ms Flynn	Cllr Caroline Neville
Mrs Arculus	Mrs Jones	Cllr Edward Belsey
Lt Cdr Atkins	Dr O'Kelly	Cllr Tina Belben
Mr Barling	Mr Petts	Cllr Kevin Boram
Mrs Bridges	Cllr Keith Bickers, Left at lunchtime after item 6.	Cllr David Coldwell, Left at lunchtime after item 6.
Mr Edwards	Cllr George Blampied	Miss Frances Russell

Apologies were received from Mrs Smith

Also in attendance: Mrs Jupp

12. Declarations of Interest

12.1 In accordance with the code of conduct, the following personal interests were declared: -

- Mrs Bridges in relation to item 6 (Strategic Budget Options 2019/20) as she has a relative who uses mental health provision in Bognor Regis and receives care via Adult Social Care from West Sussex County Council
- Mr Belsey in relation to item 6 (Strategic Budget Options 2019/20) as his wife is a trustee of Age UK East Grinstead & District
- Mr Belsey in relation to item 7 (Bailey Unit – Midhurst Community Hospital) as a governor of Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust
- Miss Russell in relation to item 7 (Bailey Unit – Midhurst Community Hospital) as the Healthwatch West Sussex representative on the task and finish group to champion local voices and to challenge NHS and local authority thinking re Bailey Unit closures

13. Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee

13.1 Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 22 June be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

14. Responses to Recommendations

14.1 Resolved – that the Committee notes the response by the Cabinet Member for Adults & Health.

15. Forward Plan of Key Decisions

15.1 Resolved – that the Committee agrees that: -

- i. The decision regarding the procurement of mortuary services for West Sussex should be discussed at the next meeting of the Business Planning Group.

16. Strategic Budget Options 2019/20

16.1 The Committee considered reports by the Executive Director Children, Adults, Families, Health & Education and the Interim Director of Adults' Services (copies appended to the signed minutes). The reports on Housing Related Support and the Local Assistance Network were introduced by Amanda Jupp, Cabinet Member for Adults & Health, and Kim Curry, Executive Director Children, Adults, Families, Health & Education who assured the Committee that the County Council would work with all concerned parties, look at all options and understand the impact before any decision was taken.

16.2 Summary of responses to Members' questions and comments: -

- The Committee emphasised the importance of engaging with the voluntary sector, service users, other public sector organisations, the Corporate Parenting Panel, Members of the County Council, district and borough councils, youth offending service, drug & alcohol service, Local Government Association and the Department for Housing and exploring any costs to them that this decision may cause
- Many other councils had already made this type of budget reduction and West Sussex could learn from their experience
- There were a number of officers who had been deployed to work on these projects and meetings had been arranged with providers who would be given due notice if the proposed changes went ahead
- The Council was working with the district and borough councils regarding the potential implications of the proposals as they were the statutory authority responsible for the prevention of homelessness
- Engagement with service users would be through the providers, with advocates for service users where required
- The Council should be aware that this issue may affect the health and wellbeing of vulnerable adults
- The consultation outcome should be presented to list views by sector
- All discretionary spending, including the impact on the most vulnerable people would be reviewed
- There should be clear labelling in committee papers of which spending was statutory and which was discretionary
- The Council was helping voluntary sector organisations develop the infrastructure that would help them access funding

16.3 Resolved – that the Committee asks that: -

- i. All service users likely to be impacted by these proposals have the opportunity to be consulted
- ii. Members of the Committee have the opportunity to take evidence prior to, and at the next meeting of the Committee, where practical, from different providers, the voluntary sector, service users, local authorities, the NHS and police

- iii. The next meeting of the Committee include the Children & Young People's Services Select Committee and the Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Panel to take into account any cross-cutting issues
- iv. The next meeting of the Committee's Business Planning Group to discuss and finalise the arrangements for the Committee's evidence gathering prior to consideration of any final proposals taking into account the Committee's discussion on 27 September

16.4 The Committee considered a report on the Minimum Income Guarantee for Working Age Adults by the Executive Director Children, Adults, Families, Health & Education and the Interim Director of Adults' Services (copy appended to the signed minutes).

16.5 Summary of responses to Members' questions and comments: -

- The proposed change would bring the Council in line with most other authorities
- The allowance for a single person would decrease by £5.28 a week and by £8.04 a week for couples
- There was provision to take into account disability and some housing-related expenditure when assessing how much money each person would receive
- Assessors would make sure that people were claiming all the benefits they were entitled to
- Money from the Minimum Income Guarantee was intended for food and utilities
- Consultation would take place with all parties and the results shared with Members before any decision was taken

16.6 Resolved – that the Committee asks that the Council seeks proper evidence from service users, highlights the importance of advocacy within this consultation and the need for real evidence from real people who are subject to this, including from those voluntary groups that can help with further information.

16.7 The Committee considered a report on Adults In-house Social Care provision – Choices for the Future by the Executive Director Children, Adults, Families, Health & Education and the Interim Director of Adults' Services (copy appended to the signed minutes).

16.8 Summary of responses to Members' questions and comments: -

- It was not possible to tell from the consultation report how each group of service users felt about the changes that would affect them
- It was generally accepted that the residential home buildings were no longer fit for purpose and were underused
- Any changes to the day services would be brought in over six to nine months to allow users to prepare for them
- 60% of people that used the Wrenford Centre in Chichester came from Bognor Regis, so for most people, travel time to the new centres would decrease
- Travel training for individuals would continue

- The centres had a number of rooms that could be used to separate people with different needs
- Some people with learning difficulties also had dementia and some visited old peoples homes to the benefit of both groups
- Reviews (and assessments where necessary) would take place to establish what people wanted to do so that the correct facilities could be provided and to find which venues would be appropriate
- The Council would continue to work with the voluntary sector to provide services
- Respite services would still be part of new services
- Sensory equipment would still be provided at the new centres
- Both Glen Vue in East Grinstead and the Maidenbower Centre in Crawley were leased buildings that would be retained – feasibility studies were being undertaken to see how they could be used by the Council in the future
- The Council would fully explore all possible alternatives for people at Maidenbower and Glen Vue
- The Committee felt that consideration should be given to the suggestion put forward by the Friends of Wrenford and also to the use of Helping Hand cards by public transport drivers for people with dementia but in general supported the progression of the proposals based on the committees discussions

16.9 Resolved – that the Committee asks that, if the proposals are approved by the Cabinet Member, that an update should be provided to its Business Planning Group before transfer of the day services at Glen Vue and Maidenbower takes place in March 2019 to provide reassurances regarding the arrangements for the service users affected, along with an update on the proposals for merging the Wrenford Centre with the Chestnuts and Judith Adams sites. As requested at the previous meeting, the Committee should then receive an update on how the transition went – to include feedback from service users affected by the changes.

17. Bailey Unit - Midhurst Community Hospital

17.1 The Committee considered a report by Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust (SCFT) (copy appended to the signed minutes) which was introduced by Dr Richard Quirk, Medical Director (SCFT) who told the Committee that: -

- The closure of Bailey Unit was a temporary measure due to staff shortages which had led to an increase in incidents and complaints
- Due to concerns over safety, the number of beds available had been reduced to eight, but the staffing problems continued, leading to closure whilst care in Midhurst in future was reassessed

17.2 Dr Rowena Hill, Riverbank Medical Centre, Midhurst raised the following concerns and points: -

- After a previous temporary closure, Bailey Unit had reopened with only one staff vacancy – why had so many more vacancies arisen?
- Why was the situation not discussed by the Committee at its 22 June meeting, which was two days before the closure?
- Was the latest closure temporary or permanent?

- The medical centre would have sent 12 patients to the unit if it had been open last month
- There had been no increase or planned increase in the number of district nurses in Midhurst
- The manager of Pendean, Midhurst, was unaware of a contract with SCFT for the use of its beds by SCFT patients

17.3 Roger Bricknell, Trustee and Secretary - Friends of Midhurst Community Hospital and Riverbank Medical Centre raised the following concerns and points: -

- Had SCFT looked into the reasons why staff had left the Bailey Unit?
- Would the number of clinics at Midhurst Community Hospital increase?
- Would the Pearson Unit continue?
- A Frailty Unit in Midhurst would be welcomed
- A £1m legacy was available for structural works on the community hospital
- Part of the site could be used for housing

17.4 Marie Dodd, Area Director, SCFT, told the Committee: -

- The 'One Call' system was responsible for arranging the night sitting service and allocating patients to beds (including at Pendean and Cavell House, near Shoreham)
- Pendean and Cavell House were high quality provision that had been used over the August Bank Holiday
- Nine beds had been opened at Salvington Lodge, Worthing
- Continued recruitment at Salvington meant that staff could be flexible and transferred to Midhurst if necessary
- There was capacity in the community nursing team, but more people were needed for the sitting service
- Most of the people who used the Bailey Unit came from Worthing and would rather stay closer to home
- 66% of Bailey Unit staff were agency
- Four attempts had been made recently to recruit a ward manager for Bailey Unit

17.5 Amanda Fadero, Transition Director, Coastal West Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group (CWS) told the Committee: -

- The governing body of CWS sought assurance that the alternative capacity was secured and how this would be monitored. This was particularly important for winter resilience planning and any potential requirement for additional capacity. CWS was working with SCFT to do this
- Flexible staffing arrangements have been explored
- CWS was liaising with primary care through the local community networks

17.6 Summary of responses to Members' questions and comments: -

- Beds at Pendean and Cavell House were spot purchased without problems

- SCFT worked with local authorities to get packages of care in place to help people remain at/return home, but there was a shortage of good providers
- SCFT thought that the situation could be mitigated so did not bring the issue to the Committee earlier
- The move from acute beds to primary/community care requires a review to reflect the changing needs and demand of the population. A review of community bed usage was taking place – this would involve developing community bases from NHS, community and voluntary sector assets
- The review of community beds was clinically driven and led
- The CWS Estates Strategy was looking at what facilities would be needed in the future
- The Sustainability Transformation Partnership was reviewing estate assets, IT and digital and workforce solutions
- The staff vacancy rate for SCFT was variable in different teams, at one it had been as high as 27% in one team. The situation was improving with no vacancies in Bognor Regis or Chichester – turnover was 13%, similar to NHS community services across the country. Particular information for rural areas could be provided
- Staff that left were given exit interviews – reasons for leaving included people retiring for the second time, difficult journeys to work, the stress of extra shifts due to staff shortages and unwillingness to change ways of working
- A frailty hub was being explored as an option for Midhurst
- The possible number of intermediate care centres was limited by available staff and affordability
- It was possible to send patients to units in Hampshire and Surrey

17.7 Resolved – that the Committee understands the rationale behind the closure of the Bailey Unit, however, it is not completely assured that the plans in place will meet the needs of the West Sussex population and would like to consider the outcome of those plans for community provision as they develop and the impact of the upcoming winter period.

18. Date of Next Meeting

18.1 The next scheduled meeting of the Committee is on 15 November 2018, County Hall, Chichester at 10.30.

18.2 The meeting ended at 15.16.

Chairman