

**REPORT FROM THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

*The Committee met on 15 December 2015*

**1. NHS IN HERTFORDSHIRE'S BUDGETS AND QUALITY OF CARE (FRANIES REPORT) SCRUTINY CAFÉ QUESTIONS**

- 1.1 The Committee agreed the questions to be put to health organisations in advance of the NHS in Hertfordshire's Budgets and Quality of Care (Francis report, published in 2012 which investigated the quality of care provided by all NHS organisations) Scrutiny Café on 17 March 2016.

**2. PROCUREMENT OF 111 AND GENERAL PRACTITIONER OUT OF HOURS (GPOOH) SERVICE IN HERTFORDSHIRE**

- 2.1 The Committee was provided with information on plans for the process of procurement with regard to 111 and GP Out of Hours services in Hertfordshire.
- 2.2 The Committee noted that the aim nationally was to bring 111 and Out Of Hours services closer together and that the current provider in Hertfordshire was already working in this way.

**3. FEEDBACK FROM HERTFORDSHIRE COMMUNITY TRUST (HCT) REGARDING THE CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) INVESTIGATION**

- 3.1 The Committee considered a report providing a summary of the improvements and changes that had been made by HCT following the inspection by the CQC and further detail of their future plans. A representative of HCT attended the meeting and provided further detail, and the following key points were noted:
- HCT are now completely aligned with County Council policies and safeguarding champions are present in every team.
  - Workforce remains a challenge but a resourcing plan is in place and the mandatory training level for all staff has increased to 90%
  - A major training scheme for Macmillan on personalised planning for End of Life care was due to be implemented in March 2016.

- 3.2 The Committee welcomed the update and progress made and noted that most areas were on target.
- 3.3 A further update from HCT will be provided to the Committee in Spring 2016.

#### **4. HEALTHWATCH WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE**

- 4.1 The Committee received an update on the work Healthwatch was doing with young people in the community from the Healthwatch Youth Health Ambassador.
- 4.2 The Committee commended the quality and clarity of the information provided by Healthwatch and welcomed the work being carried out with young people. The Committee agreed to invite the Youth Health Ambassador back for a further update in due course.

#### **5. SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016/17**

- 5.1 The Committee has considered its future work programme, noting those scrutinies recently concluded and those scheduled for the forthcoming period. Attention was drawn to the fact that the Better Care Fund seminar is due to be held in late spring or summer 2016.

#### *The Committee met on 21 January 2016*

##### **1. EAST OF ENGLAND AMBULANCE SERVICE TRUST (EEAST) UPDATE**

- 1.1 The Committee received an update on the performance and future plans of the East of England Ambulance Service Trust (EEAST).
- 1.2 The Committee welcomed the fact that work on recruitment is going well in terms of attracting applicants to the roles and the number of student paramedics being taken on. In addition to this, work on upskilling existing staff is being carried out and additional staffing is being implemented in emergency control centres, including a cohort of practitioners appointed recently.
- 1.3 It was agreed that a further breakdown of information on cases where the national targets have not been met (including the time margin by which the targets were missed) will be provided to the Committee, along with statistical analysis on performance at each of the hospital trusts within the County. The Committee will decide if a future scrutiny (such as a topic group) on this subject should be added to the work programme after consideration of this additional data.

## **2. HEALTH AND COMMUNITY TRANSPORT, EAST AND NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE**

- 2.1 The Committee considered a report providing an update on Health & Community transport to acute services in East and North Hertfordshire. The report outlined current provision of health related transport; changes in provision and the impact of this on transport to acute services and current levels of demand and future work.
- 2.2 In recognition of the changes and limited funding across Health and Social Care for services of this kind, East and North Hertfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (ENHCCG) have committed to carrying out a root and branch review in order to identify a better way of providing patient transport across the sector. The Committee welcomed such a review and it was agreed that district and borough councils be involved in any consultation. An update on this work will be provided to the Committee in September 2016.
- 2.3 The Committee noted the report and agreed that the following information be provided to the Committee:
- A list of patient transport available in West Herts and criteria for use
  - An update following the root and branch review of patient transport due to take place at ENHCCG.

## **3. SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17 AND GUIDANCE ON THE BUDGET AND QUALITY OF CARE (FRANCIS) SCRUTINY CAFE**

- 3.1 The Committee was provided with an outline of the timetable and guidance for the budget and quality of care (Francis) scrutiny café to be held on 17 March 2016 to gather evidence with a follow up meeting on 31 March to agree the recommendations.
- 3.2 The Committee has considered its future work programme, noting those scrutinies recently concluded and those scheduled for the forthcoming period.
- 3.3 Following the diabetes and stroke care pathways topic group held on 14 and 15 January 2016, Members suggested the scrutiny of other care pathways (such as cardiac, A&E or cancer.) The Committee agreed to give these suggestions further consideration after the conclusion of the Health Budget and Quality of Care (Francis) scrutiny café in March 2016.

**Seamus Quilty, Chairman**  
**February 2016**