MINUTES OF THE HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES
SELECT COMMITTEE
Wednesday, 12 December 2012 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors John Muldoon (Chair), Stella Jeffrey (Vice-Chair), Pauline Beck, Chris Maines, Jacq Paschoud and Alan Till

ALSO PRESENT: Salena Mulhere, Roger Raymond, Councillor Christine Allison, Hilary Renwick, Antonio Rizzo, Sarah Wainer, Martin Wilkinson and Joy Ellery (Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Helen Gibson and Councillor Ami Ibitson

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2012

1.1 RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2012 be signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 Councillor Muldoon declared a non-prejudicial interest as an elected Governor of the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust (SLaM) Council of Governors.

3. Library and Information Service

3.1 Antonio Rizzo introduced the report and the following key points were:

• The main issues in respect of the community libraries were the commitment and support of the Council, and the commitment of the community organisations, to make the community libraries a success.

• The Council continues to provide library facilities and services in all twelve libraries. In the community libraries however, the management and development of the buildings themselves have been transferred to community organisations.

• In the last year, Lewisham has joined the London Libraries Consortium, introduced a new Library Management System, introduced SmartSM, a new piece of software that will analyse Lewisham’s collections of stock comparing them to those of the rest of the country, and restructured the service.

• At an operational level, the library service has continued to support the development of the community libraries, decommissioned Wavelengths Library and opened the new Deptford Lounge.
Overall, this intensive programme has led to a 20.6% increase in library opening hours, 10% increase in online reference enquiries, and 400% increase in eBook loans. The central library is also being refurbished, and scheduled to be complete by February 2013.

The commitment of the parties running the community libraries has been shown with the restorations of the buildings for Grove Park and Crofton Park libraries, the refurbishment of the Reminiscence Centre building and its reopening on 22 November of the new library, with new stock.

Also the development of the Deptford Lounge has seen 28,000 visits and over 10,000 issues per month. This library issued 160% more books than the former Wavelengths branch.

The New Cross community library has been successful in securing funds for its refurbishment, and the Council aided this development with a £60k grant.

The Council has worked in partnership with the community organisations running the libraries, involving regular meetings, engaging with residents, aiding with training and staff development, and helping the community groups to work together to share knowledge and best practice for running community libraries.

The latest figures for April-November 2012 shows an even better performance than is recorded in the papers, with New Cross and Sydenham showing a 20% increase in book issue, 12.3% increase in visits overall, with Sydenham showing a 24% up in visits. The Libraries are continuing to show an improved performance.

3.2 In response to questions from Members, Antonio Rizzo and Hilary Renwick advised the following:

The disruption in service caused by the planned refurbishments at the community libraries and the central library has affected the overall performance. However, by April 2013 all libraries in the borough should be fully operational - including ‘self-service’ in all branches - which should contribute to an improved performance in the library service.

The community organisations have done very well in terms of the maintenance, repair and refurbishment of the their respective buildings, and Eco Computer Systems have repaired all three roofs on the Crofton Park, Grove Park and Sydenham buildings. However the sheeting inside the Sydenham premises has been there for a considerable time, and officers will consider what advice the Council can offer to help improve the public space.

The Blackheath premises now have a better selection of books, and software is available to make it easier to track the stock that is available for issue from all Lewisham libraries.

Lewisham Central Library is closed at the present time for refurbishment, and will also be closed for a short period in early January 2013. The refurbishments are scheduled to be completed by the end of January 2013.
3.3. RESOLVED: That the report be noted and Members commended the successful introduction of, and support to, community libraries.

4. NHS and Public Health Reform update (Healthwatch)

4.1 Sarah Wainer introduced the report and the following key points were:

- The Health and Social Care Act (2012) introduced significant changes to patient and service user advice, signposting and advocacy. Healthwatch England was established in October 2012 as a new independent consumer champion and a statutory part of the Care Quality Commission, to champion service users’ and carers’ views across health and social care.

- It will cover both Children and Adults’ social care, will continue many of the LINks’ functions and will be represented on the Health and Wellbeing Board.

- A multi-agency steering group was established in early 2012 to lead on a programme of consultation which was used in the drafting of the specification for Healthwatch Lewisham. This group included representatives from Lewisham LINk; Lewisham Hospital’s Patient, Advice and Liaison Service; Lewisham CCG; SLaM NHS Trust and Lewisham’s voluntary sector.

- The programme of consultation ran for three months from June 2012 and resulted in 152 responses to the main survey. A series of focus groups was conducted with user groups including Lewisham Speaking Up, Pensioner’s Forum and the Lewisham Providers Forum.

- On the Health Complaints Advocacy Service:

  - All but six boroughs have indicated their agreement to participate in tendering a Pan-London contract. The Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) has indicated its support for the continuation of a pan-London arrangement.

  - Lewisham will participate in the Pan-London tendering process and it is anticipated that the framework agreement will be signed in early 2013, following a competitive tendering process. The process should be officially completed by April 2013.

4.2 In response to questions from Members, the following was noted:

- Indicative funding for Healthwatch for 13/14 and 14/15 has been announced. Once the financial settlement from central Government has been confirmed on 19 December, the exact funding for Healthwatch can be set.

- The Government’s original intention was that the health complaints advocacy function would be a role for the local Healthwatch. However, it was decided that it would be a separate function from those assigned to Healthwatch. The Complaints Advocacy Service, which was previously commissioned by the NHS through the Independent Complaints Advocacy Service, will likely be
delivered through a Pan-London contract. Lewisham is participating in the Pan-
London tendering process.

• The Council wants to ensure that the good work that the LINk has
undertaken in the borough is maintained. The Council will look to bring together
the new Healthwatch providers with the LINk and local stakeholders to work
together to ensure a smooth transition.

• The focus of Healthwatch will cover those who receive services and
treatment in Lewisham as well as residents who have a vested interest in the
provision of services in the borough.

• At present there have been eight ‘expressions of interest’ in the contract for
Healthwatch. The closing date for bids is 14 December.

4.3 RESOLVED: That the report be noted. The Chair said that it would be
prudent for the Committee to receive an update on Healthwatch at the March
meeting as the successful bid would receive the contract in February 2013. Also,
the Health Scrutiny Protocol would need to be updated in light of the many
changes outlined in the Health and Social Care Act (2012).

5. CCG Authorisation and Strategy

5.1 Martin Wilkinson introduced the report and the following key points were
noted:

• A more detailed report on the QIPP (Quality, Innovation, Productivity and
Prevention) plans and commissioning strategy will be presented to the Committee
at its 6 February 2013 meeting.

• The Lewisham CCG Governing Group has been established and the
designate members have been appointed.

• The authorisation process by the NHS Commissioning Board involves
assessment against 119 criteria. The site visit took place on 17 October. An
external panel assessed the outstanding 36 criteria through themed plenary and
breakout sessions with members of the governing body and key partners. The
outcome of the site visit is that only 1 of the criteria remains outstanding.

• The outstanding criteria is concerned with having systems for safeguarding
in place, and work is continuing to ensure that this criteria is met well in advance of
consideration by the NHS Commissioning Board committee on 18 January 2013.

• Further work is needed on the QIPP plans for 2013/14.

5.2 RESOLVED: That the report be noted and a more detailed update on the
QIPP plans and commissioning strategy will be presented at the 6 February 2013
meeting.

6. Director of Public Health: Annual Report (Information Item)
6.1 The Chair noted that the report from NHS Lewisham, Director of Public Health – ‘Lewisham Annual Public Health Report 2011-2012’ had been distributed as part of the agenda as an information item. Councillors commented on the how the report was used and where it was distributed. Joy Ellery commented that such reports are used as base data that can be used as comparative data and as benchmark for further improvements in public health and general healthcare in the borough.

6.2 The Chair on behalf on the Committee thanked the Director of Public Health for his work and look forward to next year’s report.

7. Select Committee Work Programme

7.1 Salena Mulhere introduced the report. She noted the following changes:

- The draft report of the Trust Special Administrator for the South London Healthcare Trust was considered at a joint-meeting of the Mayor & Cabinet/Healthier Communities Select Committee/Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel on 10 December 2012.

- The item on the Social Care White Paper will be considered at the meeting on 19 March 2013.

- The proposal for the reconfiguration of the community mental health contract due to be considered under this meeting’s QIPP item will, instead, be considered at the meeting on 6 February 2013 to allow for necessary pre-consultation work to be carried out.

- The CQC Local Compliance Manager has accepted an invitation to address the Committee at the meeting on 19 March 2013.

- Speakers have been agreed in principle from Macmillan, St. Christopher’s Hospice and the GP Lead for End of Life Care for the Palliative Care item on the 6 February 2013 meeting.

- The Committee should also be aware for the potential for further budget savings proposals to be considered at the 6 February 2013 meeting.

- The possibility of moving the Alcohol Delivery Plan to the 19 March 2013 meeting to coincide with the update on Outcomes of Premature Mortality Review.

7.2 The Chair noted that the agenda and the timing of items would be discussed further at the next agenda planning meeting and he would make a decision under his powers as Chair under the Constitution to add the Budget Savings item to the agenda of the 6 February 2013 meeting if deemed necessary.

7.3 RESOLVED: That the work programme be noted
8. Matters to be referred to Mayor & Cabinet

8.1 None.