PRESENT: Councillors John Muldoon (Chair), Stella Jeffrey (Vice-Chair), Pauline Beck, Peggy Fitzsimmons, Helen Gibson, Ami Ibitson, Chris Maines, Jacq Paschoud and Alan Till; and Val Fulcher (Lewisham LINk), Philippe Granger (Lewisham LINk)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Chris Best (Cabinet Member for Community Services & Older People), Dee Carlin (Head of Joint Commissioning), Eleanor Davies (Associate Director Joint Mental Health Commissioning), Joy Ellery (Director of Knowledge, Governance and Communications, Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust), Conrad Hall (Head of Business Management and Service Support), Mike Haw (Mayor's Political Assistant), Joan Hutton (Head of Adult Social Care), Robert Mellors (Finance for Community Services and Adult Social Care), Georgina Nunney (Principal Lawyer), Alison Potter (Liberal Democrat Political Assistant), Hilary Renwick (Head of Cultural Services), Sarah Wainer (Head of Strategy & Performance, Community Services), Charlotte Dale (Scrutiny Manager) and Fiona Kirkman (Prevention & Inclusion Manager, Supporting People)

1. Minutes of the last meetings: (a) 5 September 2012 and (b) 15 October 2012 (joint meeting)

1.1 RESOLVED: That the minutes of (a) the meeting held on 5 September 2012 and (b) the joint meeting with the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board held on 15 October 2012, be signed as accurate records of the meetings.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 Councillor Muldoon declared a non-prejudicial interest in relation to item 5 on the agenda as an elected Governor of the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust (SLaM) Council of Governors. Councillor Till declared a non-prejudicial interest in relation to item 4 on the agenda as a Member of the London Youth Games Board.

3. Mayoral Response to comments of the Healthier Communities Select Committee on Personalisation in Lewisham

3.1 RESOLVED: That the response be noted.

4. Savings proposals (2013/14)

4.1 Conrad Hall introduced the report, commented on the challenging financial outlook for all local authorities and suggested that savings of more than £40m might need to be made by the Council, depending on the outcome of the Local Government Finance Settlement, due to be published by 20 December 2012. Members discussed the fifteen savings proposals that had been allocated to the Committee and the following was noted/commented upon in relation to each one.
COM01 (Reorganisation of Cultural Services and Community & Neighbourhood Development Divisions reducing the total number of posts) (NOTED)

- The proposal was to create one generic service whilst trying to retain some of the specialisms within the teams.
- The saving of £500k would result in some redundancies across a range of staff grades.
- It would be important to focus on outcomes in relation to community development and social return on investment.

COM03 (Reductions to the sports development budget including support to the voluntary sector and a further reduction to the budget for the leisure contract with Fusion) (NOTED)

- Some sports development funding would be retained to allow officers to bid for funding from Sports England and the GLA, which required match funding.
- The London Youth Games would be supported next year and whilst Council support beyond then was currently uncertain, the Games were an important part of the Council’s offer and funding was unlikely to cease.

COM04 (Removing the Council subsidy from the CEL budget) (NOTED)

- £35k for running repairs to the CEL estate would be retained.
- There would be no impact on the CEL programme.

COM05 (Reducing management costs and delivering efficiencies within the Library Service) (NOTED)

- One vacant post would be deleted and library administration and security functions would be redesigned.
- The vacant post had been supporting the development of new premises and was no longer needed.
- All original savings linked to libraries had been achieved.

COM09 (Reduction in various funding streams, including residential rehabilitation, training and training material for schools and other professionals and communications and social media campaigns) (NOTED)

- The reduction in funding for residential rehabilitation equated to approximately 12 placements a year. The impact would be mitigated through increased preliminary panel work to reduce drop-out rates and the adoption of a more targeted approach.
- The success rate for residential rehabilitation mirrored the national picture (out of every 10 participants, 3 would overcome their substance misuse following the first placement, 6 would require further treatment (and of these 6, 2 would overcome the misuse at a later date) and 1 would drop out).
- Residential rehabilitation played a vital role in addressing substance misuse but aftercare in the community was essential and an aftercare service had recently been commissioned to address this need.
• An emergency 24 hour referral service would be retained.

COM12 (Reduction in Supporting People budget through decommissioning, framework call-off and contract reduction) **(NOTED)**

• The saving would be achieved via (a) re-commissioning services with Lambeth and Southwark to save money; (b) remodelling services, focussing on the services achieving the best outcomes; and (c) decommissioning some services.

• It was noted that a number of services provided through the Supporting People budget were non-statutory.

• It was difficult at this stage to comment on how particular groups of vulnerable people would be affected as the proposals needed to be worked up more fully, making it difficult for the Committee to comment on the proposal. It was suggested that a single, broad, floating support service might need to be created to replace the current three, more specialist, services.

• Floating support for elderly people had been re-commissioned very recently.

• There was a risk that decommissioning non-statutory community-based services might see the beneficiaries of these services requiring more expensive statutory services at a later date if their needs went unmet at an early stage. (Officers recognised this risk and would manage the risk very carefully, including carrying out gaps analysis).

• Monitoring arrangements for care homes would be maintained.

COM14 (Reduction in running costs of assessments service) **(NOTED)**

• This saving would be achieved through a reduction in conference attendances, some training provision and general office materials.

COM15 (Reconfiguration of the care and assessment staffing structure, including the amalgamation of teams and a reduction in the duplication of and the cost of assessments) **(REFERRAL TO PAC)**

• Systems and processes would be refined and the number of staff reduced over a three year period.

• The differing patient pathways followed by hospitals would continue to be taken into account when dealing with hospital discharge.

• Teams would work more closely together with each other and with partners.

• It was agreed that the Committee would make a referral to the Public Accounts Select Committee, expressing its concern that, should the proposals in the South London Healthcare Trust Special Administrator’s draft report go ahead, staff may need to deal with a larger number of, or different, hospital patient pathways and this may have an impact on the achievability of this saving.

COM16 (Reviewing the way the ‘Shared Lives’ adult placement service is managed within and out of borough)**(NOTED)**

• 17 people were in the scheme and 6 were placed out of borough.
• The staffing costs for the service were very high and out of proportion with the number of people on the scheme.
• The service would still operate, but in a different way.

COM17 (Reducing expenditure on re-ablement packages and placements and retendering and reviewing the use of a number of contracts.) (NOTED)

• An electric monitoring service would be brought in for external domiciliary care; the meals on wheels service would be re-tendered in partnership with Lambeth and Southwark; the equipment service would be retendered as part of a London-wide consortium arrangement and a move towards the prescription model would be made; and a new method of arranging accommodation for people with no recourse to public funds would be implemented.
• Fewer people were buying meals on wheels due to the large number of cheaper alternatives including supermarket delivery of ready meals.
• Officers felt that these savings were achievable, over time.

COM18 (Review of day care provision (in-house and purchased) and associated transport costs) (NOTED)

• It was acknowledged that this proposal still needed to be fully worked up.
• Reliance on building based day care would be reduced and, via the personalisation agenda, there would be lots of alternative options.
• Personal budgets would mean that recipients could join together to purchase collective services such as transport to shops or other facilities.
• Services to young people would be retained but may not take place in the buildings currently used: there would be a re-location rather than removal of services.

COM19 (Reducing expenditure on taxis through better route planning and procurement and reviewing the provision of transport to service users who are not eligible for community care services) (NOTED)

• This proposal would involve ensuring that residents assessed as eligible for community care services, who have identified transport needs, to access the most cost effective and appropriate form of transport to meet their needs. This could, for example, include shared taxi use where appropriate or the provision of a direct payment to enable users to secure their own transport as and when required.
• For those residents not assessed as eligible for community care services, the Council would steer users to existing alternatives, such as volunteer driver and travel assistance schemes.

COM20 (Reducing the cost of the re-ablement service through tendering) (NOTED)

• The hourly rate for the in-house re-ablement service was very expensive. To reduce the cost, the service would be either externalised
or existing staff would reconsider their terms and conditions and 'spin out' to form a mutual to provide the service at a cheaper rate.

COM21 (Changing the charging policy for adult social care - increasing charges for clients with higher levels of income and capital and improving timeliness of assessments and reassessments) (NOTED)

- The saving would involve increasing the percentage of net disposable income taken into account when assessing charges, widening the scope of the charging policy to include supported accommodation and making improvements to the process.
- The Council was unusual in not having an upper limit on the amount of disposable income taken into account.

RNR16 (Adult Social Care Learning & Development reductions) (NOTED)

- There would be no detrimental effect caused by reducing this budget in the short term, although secondments might be reinstated in the future should staffing changes necessitate this.

4.42 RESOLVED: That, in relation to COM18, a case study be provided in relation to personal budgets being used collectively; and a referral be made to the Public Accounts Select Committee meeting on 12 November 2012, outlining the Committee’s views on:

COM15 (Reconfiguration of the care and assessment staffing structure, including the amalgamation of teams and a reduction in duplication and the cost of assessments)

The Committee is concerned that, should the proposals in the South London Healthcare Trust Special Administrator’s draft report go ahead, staff may need to deal with a larger number of, or different, hospital patient pathways and this may have an impact on the achievability of this saving.

5. Reconfiguration of Mental Health for Older Adults Provision NHS Continuing Healthcare services in Lewisham - outcome of consultation

5.1 Dee Carlin and Ellie Davies introduced the item and it was noted that a decision to close Granville Park Specialist Continuing Healthcare Unit had been made on 1 November 2012 and four residents would be transferred from Granville Park to Inglemere before Christmas as a result. It had also been agreed that there would be a reinvestment of a proportion of the efficiency savings (£800k on an annual basis) into a clinical team to support residential and nursing homes in the borough. The Committee was informed that the four transferred residents would have their placements reviewed after three months and then on an annual basis.

5.2 Members commented that the consultation on this reconfiguration of services had been far from ideal. The Committee agreed that its health and social care protocol, which outlined how its statutory role in monitoring the performance and development of health services in the area would be supported and how the consultation process for proposals involving a substantial development or substantial variation in the provision of services
should work, would be reconsidered and revised in the near future. It was also agreed that officers would confirm whether or not the positive aging council had been consulted on the proposals.

5.3 **RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

6. **Select Committee Work Programme**

6.1 It was agreed that A3 colour copies of the work programme would be provided at the next meeting, should the printing of the work programme in the agenda papers remain unsatisfactory.

6.2 **RESOLVED:** That the work programme be noted.

7. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

7.1 **RESOLVED:** that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the item of business entitled “Briefing on Hamilton Lodge Nursing Home and Oakcroft Nursing Home” on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as amended by the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (Amendments) (England) Regulations 2006 and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

8. **Briefing on Hamilton Lodge Nursing Home and Oakcroft Nursing Home**

8.1 The Committee discussed, in detail, the recent CQC and Council inspection and monitoring activity that had been carried out in relation to both homes.

8.2 **RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

8.3 Part 2 of the meeting was then closed by the Chair and Part 1 reopened.

9. **Matters to be referred to Mayor & Cabinet**

9.1 None, but a referral would be made to the Public Accounts Select Committee on 12 November 2012, in relation to item 4 on the agenda. The Committee thanked Charlotte Dale, Scrutiny Manager, for her work and wished her well for her maternity leave.

The meeting ended at 9.40 pm

Chair: 

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Date: 

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