

# **MINUTES OF THE HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday 27 June 2018, 7.30pm**

Present: Councillors John Muldoon (Chair), Coral Howard (Vice Chair), Sue Hordijkeno, Peter Bernards, Juliet Campbell, Carl Handley, Octavia Holland, Sakina Sheikh and Bill Brown (Chair of Overview and Scrutiny).

Apologies: Georgina Nunney (Principal Lawyer).

Also Present: Fiona Kirkman (Prevention and Early Intervention Lead), James Lee (SGM, Prevention, Inclusion and Public Health Commissioning), Alison White (Lead Nurse, Women's and Sexual Health, Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust) and Catherine Moniz (Matron, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust), Dee Carlin (Head of Joint Commissioning), Nigel Bowness (Healthwatch), and John Bardens (Scrutiny Manager).

## **1. Confirmation of the Chair and Vice-Chair**

John Bardens (Scrutiny Manager) opened the meeting and asked Members to confirm the appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Resolved: that Councillor John Muldoon be confirmed as the Chair and Councillor Coral Howard be confirmed as the Vice-Chair of the Select Committee.

## **2. Minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2018**

*Resolved: the minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.*

## **3. Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **4. Responses from Mayor and Cabinet**

Fiona Kirkman (Prevention and Early Intervention Lead), introduced the Mayor and Cabinet response to the committee's in-depth review of social prescribing. The following key points were noted:

- 4.1 The committee noted that the council's work on social prescribing may have some financial implications if it is to work effectively.
- 4.2 The scrutiny manager informed the committee that an update on the Mayor and Cabinet response to the recommendations is due in December.

*Resolved: the committee noted the response.*

## **5. Sexual and reproductive health services**

James Lee (SGM, Prevention, Inclusion and Public Health Commissioning), Alison White (Lead Nurse, Women's and Sexual Health, LGT) and Catherine Moniz (Matron, Sexual and Reproductive Health, LGT) introduced the report. The following key points were noted:

- 5.1 Officers outlined the proposed changes to the opening hours of the Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) service provided by Lewisham and Greenwich Trust (LGT), as set out in detail in the agenda papers.
- 5.2 The SRH service is currently stretched and clinics often reach capacity before their stated closing time. Consolidating service provision would allow the clinics to be staffed with enough people with the right skill mix.
- 5.3 The changes are intended to maximise clinical time and increase access. If the Sydenham service is removed, more comprehensive services will be offered elsewhere.
- 5.4 Commissioners are satisfied that the proposed changes will improve clinical outcomes and are happy for the changes to proceed with staff consultation. It is better to have fully staffed clinics open all the time. It cuts out the confusion with different opening hours on different sites.
- 5.5 There is no trial period for the proposed changes, as any impact would take a long time to notice, but they would nonetheless be kept under constant review. A delay in service change to carry out a public consultation would not be a justifiable use of resources.
- 5.5 A survey was carried out over four weeks with young people attending the Sydenham and Downham outreach sites. 57 people were surveyed, which likely represented all service users over the four weeks the survey ran.
- 5.6 The proposed changes will be communicated using posters and various websites (including those targeted specifically at young people). The overall Lewisham, Southwark and Lambeth sexual health strategy will include a communications and engagement strategy.
- 5.7 The committee raised a number of questions and concerns about how the changes would be communicated to service users. The committee queried whether there would be any communications targeted at young women and girls, given their greater representation among service users.
- 5.8 The committee noted that it is important that the proposals are taken forward quickly and that a long public consultation would cause significant delay. The

committee also noted the importance of communicating the changes effectively and following up to assess their impact.

- 5.9 The committee noted that data on sexual orientation in the Equality Impact Assessment did not appear to follow the NHS standard, using the word “homosexual”.

*Resolved: the committee noted the report and resolved to refer its views to the Health and Wellbeing Board:*

*The committee notes the proposed changes to the opening hours of the Sexual and Reproductive Health service and appreciates the importance of making the changes without unnecessary delay. However, during discussions on the proposals, members of the committee expressed a number of queries and concerns about how service users would be made aware of the changes, if agreed, particularly those service users who may currently consider attending the outreach service at the Sydenham Green Group Practice, which would no longer be available following the proposed changes. The Committee therefore seeks further information about the plans for communication and engagement with service users in order to be reassured that the changes will be communicated as effectively as possible and avoid any negative impact on access to sexual and reproductive health services among service users.*

## **6. Select Committee work programme**

John Bardens (Scrutiny Manager) introduced the draft committee work programme for 2018/19. The committee made the following comments and suggestions:

- 6.1 To include an item to review how the council assesses applications for Blue Badge disabled parking permits.
- 6.2 To include a written update on progress with latent tuberculosis testing and treatment in the borough.
- 6.3 To consider a potential in-depth review into the cost of residential social care and the alternatives to expensive private residential social care once the government green paper on social care has been published in the autumn.
- 6.4 To include an item on the outcome of the latest CQC inspection of South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust. The final report of the inspection is expected in early 2019.
- 6.5 Members agreed that committee meetings would start at 7.30pm unless there is a particularly busy agenda, in which case the start time would be 7pm.

*Resolved: the Committee agreed the work programme for 2018/19.*

## 7. Referrals

Resolved: The committee agreed to refer its views on item 5, Sexual and Reproductive Health services, to the Health and Wellbeing Board:

*The committee notes the proposed changes to the opening hours of the Sexual and Reproductive Health service and appreciates the importance of making the changes without unnecessary delay. However, during discussions on the proposals, members of the committee expressed a number of queries and concerns about how service users would be made aware of the changes, if agreed, particularly those service users who may currently consider attending the outreach service at the Sydenham Green Group Practice, which would no longer be available following the proposed changes. The Committee therefore seeks further information about the plans for communication and engagement with service users in order to be reassured that the changes will be communicated as effectively as possible and avoid any negative impact on access to sexual and reproductive health services among service users.*

The meeting ended at 21.25pm

Chair:

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Date:

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