



AGENDA

Meeting: Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Place: Wiltshire County Council, County Hall, Trowbridge
Committee Room: Committee Room V
Date: Wednesday, 9 March 2005
Time: 2.30 pm

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Jo Howes of Democratic & Members' Services, Corporate & Library Services Department, County Hall, Trowbridge, direct line (01225) 713004 or (email) johowes@wiltshire.gov.uk

Briefing Arrangements:	Date	Time	Place
Committee Members Only	Weds 09/09/05	1.30 pm	Committee Room V

Membership:

Councillors (WCC):

Mr P G Allnatt (Vice-Chairman)
Mr P J Fox
Mr J B Osborn
Mrs M E Groom
Mr A I Moore
Mr W R Moss
Mrs P Rugg
Mr J P Thomson (Chairman)
Mrs M S Taylor

Councillors (District Councils):

Mr M Hewitt (Salisbury District Council)
Mrs P Winchcombe (Kennet District Council)
Mrs K Dixon (North Wiltshire District Council)
Mr V Oakman (West Wilts District Council)

Stakeholders:

Patient & Public Involvement Forum:

Dr P Biggs – West Wiltshire PPI Forum
Bill Brown – Kennet & North Wilts PPI Forum
Terry White – South Wiltshire PPI Forum

Wilts & Swindon User's Network:

Jean Cole

PART I

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1. Apologies

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2004

3. Chairman's Announcements

4. Members' Interests

To receive any declarations of personal or prejudicial interests or dispensations granted by the Standards Committee.

5. Public Participation

The County Council welcomes contributions from members of the public. This meeting is open to members of the public who may ask a question or make a statement. Written notice of questions or statements should be given to the Deputy Chief Executive by 12.00 noon on Monday 7 March 2005. Anyone wishing to ask a question or make a statement should contact the officer named above. Speakers are limited to two minutes.

6. Ambulance Service Task Group – Final Report

The purpose of this item is to endorse the Ambulance Service Scrutiny Task Group's final report and recommendations, published on 25 February 05 (copy attached). The report outlines the research carried out by the Task Group and its findings, which have informed the recommendations made to the Wiltshire Ambulance Trust.

The Committee is asked to receive and endorse the Task Group's report.

7. Response to South Wiltshire PCT's Consultation on Mental Health Services

The Task Group established at the last meeting met on the 2nd February 05 to produce a response to South Wilts PCT's public consultation on mental health services. This response was forwarded to South Wilts PCT.

Members are asked to receive and endorse the response. (copy attached).

South Wilts PCT will bring full details of the outcome of their consultation to an extra meeting of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee to be held at County Hall on 23 March 05 at 11.00 am.

8. Kennet & North and West Wiltshire PCTs Strategic Service Review

To receive a verbal update from Neil Lockwood of Kennet & North and West Wiltshire PCTs regarding planning arrangements for the forthcoming strategic service review.

9. Update on PCT Financial Briefing Meeting – 23 February 05

At the informal briefing members identified a number of points for future action. It was requested that the targets set jointly by health and social services be reported on. There is a considerable number of jointly delivered NHS and social care targets. Some of those significant targets are included in the Council's Performance & Improvement Plan, which is monitored by the Scrutiny Performance Task Group.

At the briefing Members posed a number of questions, which members felt should be directed to the Strategic Health Authority (SHA):

- What is the SHA's current financial position and what position does it expect to be in at the end of the financial year?
- Is there a possibility that the Department of Health will write off the historical debt of £90.000k if the SHA as a whole can move back into a position of financial balance?
- What guidance is the SHA giving to the PCT's in terms of financial recovery and service review, and what support is the SHA giving KNW & WW PCT's current planned strategic service review?
- How is the impact of the new out of hours service, brought about by changes to the GP contract, being monitored across the SHA area, particularly in relation to the impact on A & E departments and the ambulance services?

Members are asked to consider whether to formally put these questions to the SHA.

10. Update on Maternity Services in Kennet & North Wiltshire

Copies of letters sent in December 2004 at the request of the Committee to and replies received and from the Secretary of State for Health, Avon, Gloucestershire & Wiltshire Strategic Health Authority, Kennet & North Wiltshire Primary Care Trust and the Independent Reconfiguration Panel, regarding the process by which the referral of maternity services in Kennet & North Wiltshire was handled by the Department of Health are attached.

The Committee is asked to note these for information.

11. Guidance for Joint Health Scrutiny Committees

The Centre for Public Scrutiny has recently issued further guidance on the establishment of joint health scrutiny committees, which is summarised in the attached document.

Members are asked to note the guidance and agree to develop joint health overview & scrutiny arrangements in Wiltshire to allow for full participation in joint committees when an issue has been identified as a substantial variation, or of particular interest, for more than one local authority area.

12. Health OSC Work Programme

The Committee's Work Programme is attached for information.

Carol Clarke, Chief Executive of Kennet & North and West Wilts PCTs has asked that members include the issue of care for people with long-term conditions as part of the future work programme. Kennet & North and West Wilts PCTs will be considering ways of improving care for people affected in this way and Mrs Clarke has suggested that, due to the integrated nature of this area, consideration by the scrutiny committee would be of benefit. Time-scales for this work have not yet been set, but Members are asked to consider this request.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee will be on Wednesday 23 March 2005 at 11.00am. This is an extra meeting to deal with the final outcomes of South Wiltshire PCTs consultation on the future of mental health services in the area. This will be a single item agenda.

The next scheduled meeting of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee is 29 June 2005 at 10:30am.

14. Urgent Items (If any)

PART II

Items during whose consideration it is recommended that the public should be excluded because of the likelihood that exempt information would be disclosed.

None