



AGENDA

Meeting: Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Place: Wiltshire County Council, County Hall, Trowbridge
Committee Room: Committee Room 5
Date: Tuesday 19 September 2006
Time: 10:30

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	Tue 19 June	9:30	Scrutiny Office

Membership:

Councillors (WCC):

Mr J M English (Vice Chairman)
Mrs M E Groom
Mr M Hewson
Mr W Moss
Mr J B Osborn
Mrs P Rugg
Mrs J H Seager
Mr R S While (Chairman)
Mrs M White

Councillors (District Councils):

Mr M Hewitt (Salisbury District Council)
Mr E Manasseh (West Wiltshire District Council)
Mrs P Winchcombe (Kennet District Council)
Mrs J Wood (North Wiltshire District Council)

Stakeholders:

Patient & Public Involvement Forum:

Dr P Biggs – West Wiltshire PPI Forum
Mike Griffiths – Kennet & North Wilts PPI Forum
Terry White – South Wiltshire PPI Forum

Wilts & Swindon User's Network:

Jean Cole

Part 1

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

1. Apologies

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2006

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 submitted by 12.00 noon on Friday 15 September 2006. Anyone wishing to ask a question or make a statement should contact the officer named above. Speakers are limited to two minutes.

6. Pathways for Change

The Pathways for Change consultation ended on 7 July 2006 and the Kennet & North Wilts and West Wilts PCTs have been collating the information gathered during the consultation period.

The PCT Boards had been due to meet on 14 September to discuss the findings and make key decisions regarding the future of community services for Kennet, North and West Wiltshire.

However, following the announcement that the Chief Executive of the PCTs was leaving prior to the Board meetings, the decision was taken by the Transition Group which is overseeing the wider PCT merger, that decisions relating to Pathways for Change should be taken by the new Wiltshire PCT.

The Wiltshire PCT has not appointed a substantive Chief Executive, Chairman or Board of directors and it is not clear when the decisions on Pathways for Change will now be taken. A press release regarding this delay is attached.

Members will receive a verbal update regarding the status of the Pathways for Change consultation.

7. Mainstreaming Mental Health

The Mainstreaming Mental Health consultation ended on 7 July 2006 and the Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership Board met on 25 August to discuss the findings and agree on a set of recommendations to make to the Boards of Kennet & North and West Wiltshire Primary Care Trusts who, as the commissioners, have to make decisions about the direction of travel for services in the future.

The PCT Boards had been due to meet to consider the recommendations from AWP on 14 September and it had been hoped that a number of key decisions, termed Stage 1, would be taken by the PCTs at that meeting. However, as with decisions relating to Pathways for Change, it has been decided that all decisions on Mainstreaming Mental Health will be taken by the new Wiltshire PCT.

The Mainstreaming Mental Health Scrutiny Task Group met with officers from the Trust on 31 August for a briefing on the recommendations and the view of the Task Group is captured in the covering report.

Members will receive an explanation of the recommendations AWP will be making to the Wiltshire PCT and guidance on the possible time frame for all decisions flowing from Mainstreaming Mental Health.

Members are advised that the papers from the AWP Board Meeting held on 31 August were written before recent decisions regarding the time frame were taken. However, the intentions for the future of services described in the documents remains the same.

Members are asked to note the report of the Task Group and the content of the recommendations to the PCTs from AWP.

8. South Wiltshire PCT – Changes to the Management of Services Provided by the PCT

South Wiltshire Primary Care Trust is intending to transfer the management of its provider services to Salisbury Foundation Trust prior to the merger of the three Wiltshire Primary Care Trusts on 1 October 2006.

Both South Wiltshire PCT and Salisbury Foundation Trust view this change as purely a management issue and therefore not subject to consultation under Section 11 of the Health & Social Care Act, 2001. However, given the imminent PCT merger, members will have the opportunity to ask questions of South Wiltshire PCT officers regarding the reasons behind the decision to separate provider services in South Wiltshire and any implications arising.

Members are asked to study the attached information and consider the recommendation in the covering report.

9. National Framework for NHS Continuing Health Care and NHS Funded Nursing Care in England - Consultation

The national criteria for Continuing Health Care and NHS Funded Nursing care have been under consultation since 19 June 2006 and will close on 22 September.

The Department of Adult and Community Services has formed a response on behalf of Wiltshire County Council. Report to follow.

Members are asked to note the response that will be sent on behalf of the Council.

10. Changes to the Structure of Patient and Public Involvement

In July 2006 the Department of Health published its framework for future public involvement, entitled "A Stronger Local Voice" which is designed to strengthen public involvement in the planning and delivery of health services.

There are also a number of changes to the local Patient & Public Involvement Forums which are outlined in the paper.

Members are asked to note the paper.

11. Work Programme & Health Scrutiny Support Programme

The current work programme is attached.

At the last meeting on 26 June members were asked to consider whether there are any topics they would like to examine further with a view to carrying out a full scrutiny review. Since then two potential topics have emerged.

Two members of the committee have raised separate concerns about NHS dentistry, which were brought to them by practitioners in their local areas. The Committee has carried out a preview review of NHS dentistry, which was not subsequently followed up in any detail. The Committee could combine a review of the previous study with an exploration of the current issues, which concerned NHS dentistry contracts.

The Great Western Ambulance Trust was formed on 1 April 2006. Since that date officers and non-executive directors have been working hard to understand the challenges facing the service and the Chief Executive has requested some dedicated time to get to know Committee members and to start to talk through the problems the Trust has to overcome and possible solutions.

Members will receive in a separate pack feedback from the Health Scrutiny Support (HSS) days that were facilitated by Dr Chris Russell on behalf of the Centre for Public Scrutiny and the I&DeA. The HOSC is entitled to five more HSS days before the end of the financial year 2007.

Members are recommended to request that the Health Scrutiny Officer carries out further investigation regarding the issues around NHS dentistry and report back to the Committee at the December meeting, and to arrange a dedicated meeting with the Great Western Ambulance Trust.

Members are also asked to consider how they might want to use the HSS days to which they are entitled.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee will take place on 13 December 2006 at 14:30

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.