

## Wiltshire Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

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MINUTES of a MEETING held at WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL on 16  
JUNE 2004

PRESENT: County Councillors:

Mr P Allnatt  
Mr P Fox  
Mr J Osborn  
Mrs M E Groom  
Mr A I Moore  
Mr W R Moss  
Mr J P Thomson  
Mr W Braid

District Councillors:

Mr M Hewitt (Salisbury District Council)  
Mrs K Dixon (North Wilts District Council)  
Mr W Viles (West Wilts District Council)  
Mrs P Winchcombe (Kennet District Council)

OTHERS:

Mr R Jones (Wiltshire County Council)  
Mr T Skelton (Wilts Ambulance Service)  
Mrs J Edwards (Kennet & North Wilts PCT)  
Mr P Day (Kennet & North Wilts PCT)  
Mrs S Bowen (West Wilts PCT)  
Mrs A Nash (Swindon PCT)  
Mr P Paisey (Salisbury District Council)  
Mr R Jagger (Ambulance Trust Patient Forum)  
Mr N Westbrook (Health Advocacy Partnership)  
Mr T White (South Wilts PCT Patient Forum)  
Ms J Naylor (Officer - Wiltshire County Council)  
Ms M Gilmour (Officer- North Wilts District Council)  
Ms J Howes (Officer - Kennet District Council)  
Mr K Franks (Officer – Wiltshire County Council)  
Mr S Thorpe (Strategic Health Authority)

Members of the public present: 2

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## **15. Election of Chairman**

It was **resolved** to elect Mr J P Thomson as the Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year (for interim period).

## **16. Appointment of Vice-Chairman**

It was **resolved** to appoint Mr P G Allnatt Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

## **17. Chairman's Announcements**

- (i) The Chairman reported that since the last meeting he was saddened to hear of the death of Geoff Scaife, Chief Executive of the Strategic Health Authority (SHA). He notified the Committee that a letter of condolences had been sent to the SHA, to pass condolences on to his family and colleagues on behalf of the Committee.
- (ii) It was announced that thanks should be passed onto the former Chairman of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee, to acknowledge his involvement in the development of the Committee.
- (iii) The Chairman announced a review of the arrangements for health scrutiny was beginning. Members were to be consulted on possible options for revised arrangements during August and in advance of taking a final decision, at the next meeting of the Committee in September. This will take place as part of a Development Day to be organised during August.
- (iv) It was reported that the Primary Care Trusts were consulting the Patients Forum network on changes to GP Out of Hours services. It was therefore reported that it would not be considered by the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee at this time.
- (v) The Chairman also mentioned that the Avon Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership had plans to reconfigure services in order to meet their financial recovery targets. Details of the actual proposals in Wiltshire were awaited. These were due to be formalised and in the public domain by 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2004. Once this information is available, along with the substantial variation impact assessment scores, it was reported that Members may then wish to consider this topic for further scrutiny.
- (vi) It was reported that in addition to Agenda Item 14, Committee Members would receive a presentation from Tim Skelton, Chief Executive of the Wiltshire Ambulance Trust.

**18. Apologies**

Apologies were sent by Mrs P Rugg who was substituted at this meeting by Mr W Braid.

**19. Members' Interests**

Mr P Fox declared a personal interest in the item in relation to Marshfield Road Surgery as a former patient of the Surgery.

**20. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> January 2004 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**21. Minutes from the Panels**

It was **resolved** to endorse the minutes of the Panel meetings held on:

16<sup>th</sup> April & 6<sup>th</sup> May – Kennet & North Wiltshire Scrutiny Panel  
4<sup>th</sup> May – Salisbury Health Scrutiny Panel  
11<sup>th</sup> March – West Wiltshire Health Scrutiny Panel

**22. Presentation from Wiltshire County Council Director of Adult and Community Services**

A presentation was made by Dr R Jones, Director of Adult and Community Services outlining the issues affecting the health community in Wiltshire.

It was **resolved** that:

- (i) The presentation be noted.
- (ii) The Strategic Health Authority be invited to make a presentation to the Committee regarding the financial deficit of the Wiltshire Primary Care Trusts and to provide accurate levels of the current financial deficit.
- (iii) Correspondence be sent to the Department of Health regarding the financial deficit of local PCTs and the Strategic Health Authority's position.

**23. Update on Marshfield Road Surgery, Chippenham**

A letter was circulated to the Committee from the Chief Executive of the Kennet & North Wiltshire PCT describing the current situation in relation to Marshfield Road Surgery and offering a private briefing for members.

It was **resolved** that the offer of a briefing meeting be accepted by Councillor Paul Fox and the Chairman.

**24. Health Scrutiny Review Report of Maternity Services in Kennet & North Wiltshire**

The Chairman of the Kennet & North Wiltshire Health Scrutiny Panel introduced the report, which had been commissioned by the Panel and achieved through the appointment of a maternity expert, Dr Suzanne Tyler.

It was **resolved** that:

- (i) The Committee endorse the Panel's Maternity Review Report and recommendations and acknowledged the effort of those involved in its production.
- (ii) Within the recommendations, Option 1 was the preferred option as agreed by this Committee.
- (iii) The Committee note its disappointment in the lack of response to the Panel from the Primary Care Trust within the 28 day period.
- (iv) The Primary Care Trust be requested to consult with both Gloucestershire County Council and South Gloucestershire Council Health Overview & Scrutiny Committees to determine the impact of maternity proposals for residents in the Cotswold and Vale district area.
- (v) The findings of the transport mapping exercise being conducted by the Primary Care Trust in conjunction with Wiltshire County Council be submitted to the Primary Care Trust Board along with the Maternity Review Report, to highlight the transport implications for residents in the event of closure of the maternity units in Devizes and Malmesbury.
- (vi) Copies of the Maternity Review Report be sent to the Primary Care Trust Board Members attaching the Committee's resolutions.

**25. Decision to adopt the “Substantial Variation” document/Impact Assessment Tool**

Mr S Thorpe, Head of Partnerships at the Strategic Health Authority introduced the document and described its intended use.

It was **resolved** that the Impact Assessment Tool be adopted for a trial basis of 12 months with a review after 8 months to determine its effectiveness.

**26. Learning Disabilities Service**

Ann Nash, the lead officer on the learning disabilities service for the Kennet & North Wiltshire PCT, introduced the Primary Care Trusts proposal to transfer management arrangements for the service to an Oxfordshire based provider. Impact Assessment Tool scores were provided.

It was **resolved** that::

- (i) The current change to service provision did not represent substantial variation to the service at this point in time.
- (ii) The Patient Forum continue be included in the development of the Plans for the service.

**27. Bids to the Centre for Public Scrutiny for Funding**

Papers included on the agenda outlined the criteria for making a bid.

It was **resolved** that:

- (i) Officers draft a bid with the Chairman of the Committee for financial support to map the existing patient and public involvement organisations and to assist with developing protocols for the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee to work jointly with the Patients Forum network.

**28. Wiltshire Ambulance Service**

A presentation was received from Mr T Skelton, Chief Executive of the Wiltshire Ambulance Service Trust.

It was **resolved** that:

- (i) The presentation be noted.

- (ii) A Task Group be established to look into the performance of the Ambulance Service.
- (iii) The timeframe for the establishment of the task group and completion of the work be mindful of the deadline for submission of proposals to the Strategic Health Authority.
- (iv) To consider involvement of the local Patients Fora and Swindon Borough Council Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee members as the task group considers appropriate.

(Duration of meeting: 2pm – 4.45 pm)

The Officer who has produced these notes is Jo Naylor, Health Scrutiny Officer within Democratic & Members' Services, direct line (01225) 713004; e-mail [jonaylor@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:jonaylor@wiltshire.gov.uk)