

## HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERSHIPS) held in Civic Suite 0.1A, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, PE29 3TN on Thursday, 6th September 2018.

PRESENT: Councillor T D Alban – Chairman.

Councillors B S Banks, R E Bellamy, S Bywater, J W Davies, K I Prentice and Mrs J Tavener.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors B S Chapman, S J Criswell, Ms A Diaz and D R Underwood.

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor J M Palmer.

### 19. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2018 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 20. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor T D Alban declared a non-statutory disclosable interest in relation to Minute Number 22 as an employee of a company that engages in commercial activities with North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust.

Councillor R E Bellamy declared a non-statutory disclosable interest in relation to Minute Number 22 as his wife works for the National Health Service.

Councillor S Bywater declared a non-statutory disclosable interest in relation to Minute Number 22 as his wife works for the National Health Service.

Councillor S Bywater declared a non-statutory disclosable interest in relation to Minute Number 24 as a Member of Cambridgeshire County Council.

### 21. NOTICE OF KEY EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

The Panel received and noted the current Notice of Key Executive Decisions (a copy of which has been appended in the Minute Book) which has been prepared by the Executive Leader for the period 1st September 2018 to 31st December 2018.

In response to a question the Executive Councillor for Partnerships and Well-Being explained the principle of the Community Chest Grant Aid Awards scheme and why some groups were awarded grants and

others were not.

## **22. CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP DISCUSSION**

With the aid of a report by the Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) and a report by the Director of Corporate Affairs at the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) (copies of which have been appended in the Minute Book) the Panel held a discussion on the work of the CCG.

Jenny Raine, the CCG's Interim Director of Finance and Cath Mitchell, Director of Community Services and Integration at the CCG were in attendance and introduced the report.

It was explained to the Panel that the issues addressed in the report were the factors that led to the inadequate rating from NHS England. The CCG are rectifying issues at leadership level and have recruited a strong permanent senior management team. Ms Raine added that the CCG are addressing the fundamentals.

In response to the question what have the CCG learned from other CCGs, the Panel was informed that there is a wealth of data including surveys and bench marking in which the CCG can pick out good practice from.

Members were informed that as a result of the rating, the CCG have moved into special measures. This means that the CCG has a high interaction with NHS England and that they are aware of the improvements the CCG are making.

Ms Mitchell explained to Members that the increase in prescribing costs was due to national pricing changes. With regards to new drugs, they are managed by joint prescribing group and they ensure that the drugs are compliant with The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence regulations.

When questioned on supporting new models of care and extended access to appointments, the Panel was informed that there are currently 500 people waiting for assessments and that this priority is designed to alleviate that.

The Panel was informed that the CCG have agreed a plan with NHS England to reduce the deficit by £7m. This includes moving to Guaranteed Income Contracts with providers as well as trying to reduce costs where appropriate.

A discussion ensued on how the District Council could assist. Ms Mitchell stated, using the example of diabetes, that exercise and diet could help and that the District Council could assist by preventing cases of diabetes by providing places for exercise such as leisure centres and parks and in deciding what food outlets are permitted within the Council's jurisdiction. It was recognised that more could be done and that if the District Council's customer services had the information they could signpost residents, when appropriate, to various services.

When the question of cost was raised, the Panel was informed that each organisation has responsibilities and budgets to carry out those responsibilities. By targeting budgets and activities more strategically, it could end up producing big benefits for each organisation.

In response to a question, Members were informed that Huntingdonshire is not affected disproportionately to the rest of the county and the CCG are not targeting any part of the county differently.

The Panel's representative to Cambridgeshire County Council's Health Committee stated that they will monitor CCG budget issues closely as mixed messages are being delivered by the CCG.

The Panel is reassured that Huntingdonshire is not being treated differently to the rest of the county. In addition, Members want to investigate whether reduced leisure memberships for those people with health issues would bring extra users in. The users would benefit from leisure memberships and the Council would be receiving income it otherwise wouldn't have.

**23. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting because the business to be transacted contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

**24. HINCHINGBROOKE COUNTRY PARK OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE**

With the aid of a presentation from Executive Councillor for Partnerships and Well-Being and the Operations Manager (Environmental Services), the Hinchingsbrooke Country Park Outline Business Case was presented to the Panel.

As background information, Members were informed of the current offering on the site and the challenges facing the country park.

The Panel was informed of the issues facing the site and the options available. The strengths and weaknesses of each option were outlined and Members were invited to comment on the options.

The Panel asked questions on various aspects of the preferred option and in addition suggested a number of improvements. The Panel supported the preferred option.

**25. RE-ADMITTANCE OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED

That the press and public be re-admitted to the meeting.

**26. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

At the commencement of the item, the Panel agreed to change the recommendations in the report to the following:

- 1) That the agreed work programming sub-group of Councillors T D Alban, B S Chapman, K I Prentice and Mrs S Smith meet to make recommendations for the work programme and time table for the Panel's work programme, which will be considered at the Panel meeting in October.
- 2) That the Chairman will write to each Member of the Panel and ask them to identify areas of interest and expertise which they might like to contribute to the Panel's work programme.

With the aid of a report by the Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme was discussed by the Panel. In addition to this the Corporate Director – Services outlined, via a presentation, the challenges the Council is facing and the draft work programme.

The Panel praised the draft work programme as it brings difficult challenges to the attention of Members. A Member commented that some solutions could arise out of working smarter and not necessarily harder. It was mentioned that if the Panel was to consider homelessness then having a breakdown of areas creating homelessness would be beneficial.

The Panel agreed with the amended recommendations.

*(At 8.33pm, during the consideration of this item, Councillor J M Palmer left the meeting and did not return.)*

Chairman