

HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES AND OLDER PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE  
03 JULY2013

7.15pm-9.30pm

PRESENT: Councillors: Logie Lohendran (Chair), Peter McCabe (Vice Chair), Brenda Fraser, Maurice Groves, Gilli Lewis-Lavender, Judy Saunders, Debbie Shears and Greg Udeh

Co-opted members: Myrtle Agutter, Laura Johnson, Sheila Knight, Saleem Sheikh,

ALSO PRESENT: Rahat Ahmed-Man, Head of Commissioning, Julie Phillips, Safeguarding Adults Manager. Councillor Margaret Brierly.

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillor Logie Lohendran

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 17 April

The minutes of these meetings were agreed

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Panel members asked for the minute to include the response from the Better Services Better Value Team about their request for information on the daily rate for consultants. It is as follows; “ having discussed the matter with suppliers, I am advised that this information is commercially confidential as could prejudice their position in the market when bidding for other work. “

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5 SAFEGUARDING OLDER PEOPLE TASK GROUP – DEPARTMENT  
ACTION PLAN

Julie Phillips, Safeguarding Adults Manager gave an overview of each of the recommendations in the updated action plan. She reported that a review of the Safeguarding Team is taking place and by November of this year there will be more clarity about whether an additional member of staff can be recruited.

A panel member asked how effective CM2000 has been and how we can tell if they stay in the residents homes for the duration of the recorded visit. It was also asked if the CM2000 software is linked with other IT systems within the council. The Safeguarding Adults Manager reported that the system is not perfect and they try and tackle issues working with providers as well as with training and development. CM2000 is for domiciliary care providers and we rely on other measures such as spot checks, people reporting issues, the system is not completely fool proof.

A panel member expressed concern that GP's do not know where older people are based, therefore we should make use of ward profile information which lists where older people are concentrated. The Head of Safeguarding agreed to ask Health Liaison workers to provide a briefing on their role as a basis for further discussion.

A panel member asked for the action plan to be provided in the form of a traffic light system which would be a more accurate reflection of the progress with this work.

The Safeguarding Adults Manager reported that the task group recommended that safeguarding information is sent to this panel. Provision for this is now in place and a confidential update will be available for the next panel meeting.

It was also reported that a vulnerable person was wrongly pursued for money and it was clear that the different departments in the council were not talking to each other.

A panel member expressed concern about digital exclusion. It was reported that it was recognised that this could be an issue, however tools such as Merton enable all the relevant and up to date information to be in one place and people can get help to have the information printed for them.

A panel member asked for clarification on council approach to prevent cold calling for vulnerable people.

In regards to recommendation 13 on the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) checks, a panel member asked for further clarification on who decided that CRB checks on behalf of self funders was not viable. The Safeguarding Adults Manager agreed to report back on this.

A panel member said that some companies provide cheaper rates if we purchase a

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large number of CRB checks

A panel member asked if the preventing abuse DVD was widely available. It was reported that there is a cost to producing more copies of the DVD however this could be looked at if, there was an organisation that the panel members particularly wanted to send it to.

It was also reported that there will be a Dignity in Care conference in the autumn

RESOLVED

Panel to receive a briefing on the role of Health Liaison workers

Panel to receive confidential update on latest safeguarding figures

Clarification on funding available to provide CRB checks for self funders

Trading Standards to provide details on information to vulnerable clients on cold calling

## 6. ADULT SOCIAL CARE UPDATE

Rahat Ahmed- Man, Head of Commissioning gave an overview of the main  
Issues within adult social care

A panel member pointed out that the budget information was out of date and the panel need to be provided with the latest information. Also the panel would like to be reassured that the data sets will be streamlined to ensure that we do not have too many.

The Head of Commissioning said that there are a large number of performance indicators but hopefully they are standardised and meaningful. A report on the latest performance indicators will be brought to the next meeting.

A panel member said that there is not enough emphasis on prevention. We will be developing a dementia hub but we are reducing the transport fleet. It is disappointing that we are pushing prevention aside and that things have not moved on in the last few years.

The Head of Commissioning reported that the department is trying to be innovative, the dementia hub will be for the wider community. Best practice and different types of support is being looked at. There is a determination to improve services and prevention is vital. Lack of finance limits investment in prevention but team are looking at ways to release money

A panel member asked if we are investing in information technology in MASCOT.  
The Head of Commissioning said that she did not have the information to hand but

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would find out.

RESOLVED

Adult Social Care team to provide:

Updated Adult Social Care budget information including a benchmark on how it has changed and a health check of adult social care budgets

Latest Performance Indicator sets for Adult Social Care

Details of investment in information technology in MASCOT

7. SOUTH WEST LONDON JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON  
NHS CROYDON FINANCES

Councillor Peter McCabe gave an overview of the main provisions within the report

A number of panel members commended the report and thanked Councillor McCabe and Councillor Suzanne Evans for their work on the Joint Committee

A number of panel members were deeply concerned about this work especially that no-one was held to account for the financial loss prior to the work of the JHOSC, and that individuals were able to go on to work in other roles in the public sector.

A panel member suggested that there should be a statement at Full Council to support the findings of the Joint Committee and to encourage all councillors to read the report.

A panel member expressed concern that there may be legal implications in discussing the report at Full Council and suggested that this is discussed with respective group leaders.

RESOLVED

That the Panel ask Merton Clinical Commissioning Group to agree and implement the recommendations from the JHOSC report.

That group leaders consider whether to present the JHOSC report to Full Council.

## 8. WORK PROGRAMME

The Panel agreed the following:

To hold a task group review on 'lack of physical activity with links to ill health prevention'

Look at the progress on a previous review on access to buildings for people with physical disabilities

Visit the dementia hub when it is up and running

To visit hospitals to review their work on monitoring patient experience