

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

20 July 2016

SCRUTINY OF HEALTH COMMITTEE – STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The main topics arising since my last statement are:

NHS Place Based Planning and its Implications for North Yorkshire

I welcome the Government's decision to give more time for Sustainability and Transformational Plans to be finalised. While the 30 June deadline remained the Plans submitted will form the basis of discussion rather than be for final decision.

I still remain very concerned about the whole process and the configuration of STPs covering North Yorkshire, but this new sense of realism should allow more time for local authorities, the voluntary sector, patients and the public to be more involved in the planning process. This should form the basis for a full public consultation and allow us to turn this potential threat into an opportunity to improve all aspects of health and care across North Yorkshire and to develop new integrated models of care which would be local to where people live.

Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area - "Transforming our Communities" (Including the Lambert Hospital, Thirsk)

Against a background of the temporary closure of the Lambert Hospital in Thirsk and the public meeting organised by County Councillor Gareth Dadd on 22 March 2016 the CCG and the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust have been carrying out joint public engagement activities to seek views and suggestions on the future provision of care in the Thirsk area.

A formal public consultation is taking place from July until September 2016 on 3 options:

- 1) Do nothing – The Lambert Memorial Hospital would remain closed and additional beds would continue to be commissioned alongside the current provision of community rehabilitation beds on the Rutson Ward in Northallerton.
- 2) Re-open the Lambert Memorial Hospital with a new North Yorkshire based service provider delivering inpatient care, services on the Rutson ward would remain unchanged.
- 3) Provide step up and step down beds supported by integrated locality teams.

Step-up beds are those in community facilities where people are admitted from home as an alternative to acute hospital admission. Step-down beds act as a transfer from acute hospital for people who require additional time and rehabilitation to recover but are unable to have this provided at home.

The Scrutiny of Health Committee has been involved in these developments over the last 18 months and will continue to be closely involved. We will be formally consulted at our meeting during the autumn period of this year. This will include the CCG briefing us on messages they have received as part of their wider consultation.

Ambition for Health: Transforming Health and Social Care Services in Scarborough, Ryedale, Bridlington and Filey

Ambition for Health is a five-year programme to deliver joined-up and transformed health and social care services for local people, in a way that is effective and financially sustainable. The programme is collaboration between eight local NHS and local authority organisations, and covers the Scarborough, Ryedale, Bridlington and Filey areas. The initiative is addressing 4 key issues:

- Changing health needs of communities creating more demand for health and care services
- Poor health outcomes for people living in deprived and geographically isolated areas
- Workforce pressures from an inability to recruit and retain staff
- Financial pressures from a reduction in funding for health and care services

The “ambition” is to inspire people to lead a healthy lifestyle, provide more care at home – joined up health and social care in our communities and providing sustainable services for local people which are safe, of a high quality and are within budget. Securing a sustainable future for Scarborough Hospital, in particular maintaining core services including emergency medicine, obstetrics and paediatrics is a key part of the vision.

The Scrutiny of Health Committee supports the principles underpinning the Ambition for Health programme. The Scarborough and Ryedale CCG is now launching a widespread engagement process with stakeholders, patients and the public. The Committee will continue to be involved including ensuring that formal consultation is carried out if necessary.

Better Health Programme (Durham, Darlington and Tees Valley)

Plans to reorganise health provision in Darlington, Durham and the Tees Valley could result in changes to accident and emergency and consultant-led maternity and paediatric services at the Darlington Memorial Hospital.

Members will recall that when consultant-led maternity and paediatric services were removed from the Friarage Hospital in Northallerton one of the reasons supporting the change was that these services are available in Darlington.

A Joint Health Scrutiny Committee comprising councillors from across all affected local authorities has been set up to oversee the programme including any service change/review proposals and associated statutory consultation. North Yorkshire County Council is represented on that joint committee by County Councillors Caroline Dickinson and John Blackie and myself.

The Joint Committee and the North Yorkshire Scrutiny of Health Committee will be keeping a close eye on these developments which could have a major impact on North Yorkshire residents, particularly in Richmondshire and Hambleton.

A formal consultation will begin in the autumn.

End of Life Care - Dying Well

Our committee meeting on 1 July 2016 also marked the launch of an in-depth project which the Committee is going to undertake into End of Life Care (EoLC) across North Yorkshire.

In July last year the Health and Wellbeing Board accepted the Committee's recommendation that the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) 2015-2020 should include a greater emphasis on improving EoLC and supporting friends and relatives deal with bereavement and, in some cases, the longer term problems around isolation and loneliness. We also recommended that the Strategy should contain a specific priority - "Dying Well".

Over the coming months we will be engaging with commissioners, GPs, nurses, patients, carers and bereavement groups to help inform the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment which provides the evidence base underpinning the JHWS and to help set out what a good End of Life Care Service should look like.

National Review of Congenital Heart Disease (Adults & Children)

Last year NHS England published new national commissioning standards for congenital heart disease (CHD) services covering both adults and children in England.

Over the last 5 years I have represented North Yorkshire on the Joint Scrutiny of Health Committee looking at CHD services across the Yorkshire and the Humber region. Retaining specialist congenital heart disease surgery for both children and adults in Leeds and Newcastle has always been our objective.

I am pleased to say that last week NHS England announced that Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust will retain specialist surgical status as will Newcastle Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

This is very good news for North Yorkshire.

Retirement of Bryon Hunter

On 8 August 2016 Bryon Hunter, Scrutiny Team Leader retires after almost 30 years with North Yorkshire County Council. Bryon has been involved with the Scrutiny of Health Committee since its formation in 2003. His wide experience of health matters is widely appreciated by not only the Council but also by the wider health community throughout North Yorkshire.

Bryon's valuable contribution will be greatly missed and we wish him a long and happy retirement.

County Councillor Jim Clark
Chairman: Yorkshire County Council Scrutiny of Health Committee

July 2016