

## North Yorkshire County Council

### Thirsk and Malton Area Constituency Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at The Friends Meeting House, 17 Castlegate, Malton, YO17 7EP on Friday 10 January 2020 at 10.30 a.m.

**Present:**

County Councillors Caroline Goodrick (Chair), Val Arnold, Robert Baker, Lindsay Burr MBE, Caroline Patmore, Janet Sanderson, Peter Sowray, Helen Swiers, Roberta Swiers and Greg White.

**Apologies:** County Councillors Gareth Dadd & Keane Duncan

**Also in Attendance:** County Councillor David Chance; Simon Cox – Director of Acute Commissioning, North Yorkshire CCG; Adrian Clements – Medical Director at South Tees NHS Foundation Trust;

**Officers in Attendance:** Gary Fielding - Corporate Director for Strategic Resources; Robert Ling - AD Technology & Change; James McCluskey - NYCC Trading Standards Officer; Melanie Carr - Principal Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer, Luke Macintosh & Mike Cratchley - Business Support Officers. Richard Marr (Area Highways Manager, Highways and Transportation, BES),

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**Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book**

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#### **49. Welcome by the Chair – introductions and updates**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed there were no updates to provide.

#### **50. Minutes of the meeting held on 30 August 2019**

**Resolved –**

That the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Thirsk and Malton Area Constituency Committee held on 30 August 2019, having been printed and circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

#### **51. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

#### **52. Public Questions or Statements**

There were no public questions or statements.

### 53. Health Service Update for the Friarage Hospital & Malton Hospital

Members received a presentation from Simon Cox, the Director of Acute Commissioning for North Yorkshire CCGs, which provided an overview of the ongoing consultation on the future of the Friarage Hospital, which started in September 2019 and had been extended to Mid-January 2020 due to the general election.

Adrian Clements, Medical Director at South Tees NHS Foundation Trust went on to detail a number of issues that had resulted in the introduction of a temporary revised service model for Emergency Care Services in March 2019. These included:

- The long term availability of the appropriate workforce i.e. Doctors and Nurses, in particular intensive care unit specialists.
- The need for much more specialisation

He confirmed the temporary service model had been designed by the clinician groups delivering the services, which was currently delivering:

- Access to urgent care or treatment in an Urgent Treatment Centre including children's minor illness
- Acute assessment via a triage call by clinical consultants, who were on site until 8:30pm (Mon to Fri) & 6:30pm (Sat & Sun)
- Ambulatory emergency care unit with 24/7 crash team
- Consultant-led medical care with reduced opening hours for daily medical admissions, (Anaesthetist on site up to 9pm)
- Daily inpatient care for people that did not need specialist services
- A full range of diagnostic services and outpatient services
- Category 1 Ambulance transfer with practitioner, with prompt transfer to and from specialist services at other hospitals, and more repatriations from the James Cook and Darlington Hospital
- Integrated services for frail and elderly people, supporting them to stay at home for as long as it was safe to do so – It was confirmed 40-50% of patients previously admitted no longer needed to be and could be treated at home
- Short stay elective surgery and day cases for specialities (including orthopaedics, urology, breast surgery and gynaecology) – It was confirmed that more orthopedic operations had been undertaken since the new model's introduction

In response to Members' questions, it was confirmed that:

- The temporary model had proven to be safe and robust with no patient safety issues recorded since its introduction
- An assessment of the impact on other providers had shown an average of 11 additional patients attending James Cook
- Consultant diagnosis at triage stage was reducing the number of unnecessary tests and giving junior doctors a clear directive.
- The Friarage now had medical students and was attracting clinicians who wanted to teach.
- A & E nurses were being trained to be Nurse Practitioners
- Additional staff accommodation would be required in the future as trainee numbers increased
- An additional Ambulance had been funded to support the change in service delivery model
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service had embraced the new working arrangements for telephone triage, making it easier to decide where best to take a patient.
- A shortage of beds was a national issue, requiring an investment in social care in order to reduce the delays in transfer of care
- An investment in secondary care was required and better integration with community pathways - there had been a 77% increase in hospital attendance by the over 75s and a 50% increase in their admittance

Simon Cox confirmed the long term sustainability of the temporary model was now the focus of the consultation, including whether the urgent treatment centre should be made available 24/7. He provided an overview of the criteria to assess the options being consulted on, and confirmed there had been a series of focus group meetings held and approximately a 1000 completed questionnaires received to date.

Members confirmed they were pleased with the approach to workforce training and noted the re-establishment of nursing training in Scarborough (approximately 30 a year), and the introduction of a number of European GPs across the region. They agreed the public needed reassuring that the Friarage was here to stay and that a positive marketing campaign would help in that regard, and that improvements in the interface with social care should be prioritised.

Finally, Simon Cox confirmed there were no major changes planned for Malton Hospital and offered to attend a future meeting to provide a more detail overview of the Malton Hospital delivery model.

Resolved – That:

- i. The presentation and verbal update be noted
- ii. That an update on Malton Hospital be added to the work programme for a future meeting

### **54. Highways England Update**

As no representatives from Highways England were available to attend the meeting, Members agreed to defer the item until the Committee's next meeting in March 2020.

### **55. Annual Budget Update**

Gary Fielding, Corporate Director for Strategic Resources gave a presentation on NYCC's latest financial position, and the ongoing savings requirement and plan. He highlighted:

- The £62m cumulative temporary funding confirmed for 20/21, with future years still to be confirmed
- The planned use of Reserves
- The shortfall in Directorate savings of £18.8m.
- The proposed increase in Council Tax of 3.99% in 2020/21
- The planned areas of investment

He went on to focus on the unrelenting demand led pressures in Adult Social Care and Children's Services, and highlighted the specific issues affecting the Thirsk & Malton constituency area e.g.

- New Inclusion locality hub model reflecting SEND multi-disciplinary teams
- New Scarborough, Whitby, Filey & Ryedale locality board and new Hambleton & Richmondshire locality board comprising Headteacher representation for school improvement and SEND
- Continued transformation of Hambleton PRS and continuation of ROOSE
- Implementation of new targeted provision (from Sept 20)
- Transport – policy changes (free and nearer, pick-up from curtilage of the road) + review of solo travellers + independent travel training
- Impact of PSVAR
- Review of Young People's Accommodation Pathway (Oct 21)
- The limited availability of Health & Adult Social Care, particularly in the more rural areas
- The increasing challenge of finding providers willing to accept NYCC's approved rates – currently 41% did not accept NYCC fee rates

Members noted the number of schools in financial difficulties across the area (17%) and the expected increase by March 2022 (64%), and the difficulties for rural schools that prevented them from academising. They agreed federation was the right route for those schools but acknowledged the associated issues.

In regard to HAS, they acknowledged it was a low paid sector which made recruitment and retention more difficult, which again the rural environment did not help. They agreed that for the benefit of patients, the market needed addressing through closer working with the Health Sector and improved processes.

Resolved – That the presentation and update be noted.

### **56. Trading Standards Presentation**

As a number of members needed to leave the meeting by 12:30pm, the Committee agreed to defer the presentation on Trading Standards to their next meeting in March 2020.

### **57. Digital Strategy Update**

The remaining Members received an abridged brief update on Digital Strategy from Robert Ling – AD for Technology & Change. The update included an overview of the new joint strategy for the whole of North Yorkshire which had been collaborated on with District Councils, the Health & Wellbeing Board and other partners, and Third Sector Organisations, which included a focus on:

- Its guiding principles;
- Its vision to become a smart County that uses technology in our operations and service delivery;
- its vision for the improved Health and wellbeing of residents and the objectives;
- The associated core objectives and agreed strategic actions;
- The benefits that could be achieved through improved data and analytics e.g. the transfer of data between Health Services, Social Care Providers and GPs etc;
- Digital opportunities for:
  - responding to the changing demands of residents e.g. digital appointments and the introduction of supplementary digital support for befriending Services etc;
  - Developing the workforce and uplifting volunteer skills etc
  - Improving Community awareness
  - Upskilling the capabilities of the existing business base across the area

Members were pleased to note that digital by default did not mean digital only and that by increasing digital opportunities it would free up time to better support those who had neither the means or the capability to access services and support online.

Members went on to discuss the problems associated with the delivery of 4G across the constituency area, particularly as some areas were now starting to see the erection of 5G aerials.

Robert Ling confirmed that work was still ongoing to deliver the County Council's ambition to have 100% 4G coverage. He also allayed some members' health concerns around the masts required for 5G, confirming that Public Health England and DCMS were advising that there were no associated health concerns.

Finally, the Chair noted that in some areas there was still a lack of basic services such as gas, electric and sewerage which for residents in those areas was just as important as digital access.

### **58. Cycle Strategy Update**

As a number of Committee Members had left the meeting, the Chair chose to defer this item to the next meeting of the Area Constituency Committee.

### **59. Work Programme**

Members considered a report by the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) which contained the Committee's current work programme.

In light of the discussions at the meeting, it was agreed that the following be added to the work programme for the next meeting of the Committee, in March 2020:

- Attendance of Highways England
- Presentation on Trading Standards
- CCG Update on Malton Hospital
- Cycle Strategy Update

The meeting concluded at 12:50pm