

Scrutiny Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, 17 June 2015 at 18:00

PRESENT:

Councillor Williamson (in the Chair), Councillors M Coleman, Collins, Grant, Grey, Jeal, Jones, Lawn, Mavroudis, Myers, Sutton and Walker.

Councillor Pratt attended as substitute for Councillor Wainwright.

Mr G Mitchell (Chief Executive Officer), Mrs K Watts (Transformation Programme Manager), Mr C Skinner (Monitoring Officer), Mr R Hodds (Cabinet Secretary) and Mr A Radford (Chief Financial Officer).

Mr A Evans (Chief Executive Officer of the CCG) also attended.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. BRIEFING - ROLE AND POWERS OF SCRUTINY

The Committee received a briefing from the Cabinet Secretary and Chairman on the role and powers of the Scrutiny Committee.

3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Myers be appointed as Vice-Chairman for the 2015/16 Municipal Year.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd April 2015 were confirmed.

5. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

The Monitoring Officer reported on Members legal rights with regard to issues relating to attendance at meetings and on the rights for Members to obtain committee documents. The Monitoring Officer reported that regulations governing this issue were

covered by statute, the Councils own Constitution and Common Law.

With regard to the receipt of committee documents, the Monitoring Officer reported that Members would need to demonstrate a "need to know" common law concept and that they would be able to obtain documents if they could show a special need to fulfil their role as a Councillor in order to obtain these documents.

The Committee in particular discussed the rights of Members to obtain copies of CBS papers and the Monitoring Officer reported that under the terms of the Councils Constitution the Leader had the authority to determine whether Members should be allowed to receive these documents.

The Monitoring Officer also stated that Members would have the right to inspect Council documents except where there was exempt information involved.

RESOLVED:

That the Monitoring Officer be requested to provide a briefing note on the Constitutional issues outlined above, including details of exemptions where applicable.

6. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

The Chief Executive Officer updated Members with regards to progress in relation to the Councils Transformation Programme. He reported that the programme was currently on plan and that the Transformation Board was continuing to meet regularly to progress the projects involved in the programme. The Chief Executive Officer reminded Members that the Medium Term Financial Strategy was an intricate part of the Transformation Programme, and any changes to the MTFS would effect issues within the programme itself. The Committee was reminded that Council had previously given the Chief Executive Officer delegated authority, in consultation with the Transformation Board, to expend ESG Funding.

The Chief Financial Officer reported in detail of the expenditure that had been made under the ESG Funding.

The Chairman thanked the Chief Executive Officer for his update on the Transformation Programme, and Members asked for clarification with regard to the present position in respect of the IT Programme.

RESOLVED:

That a progress report be considered at the Scrutiny Committees next meeting with regard to the IT Programme.

7. DEVELOPING MODERN AND SUSTAINABLE HEALTH SERVICES IN GREAT YARMOUTH AND WAVENEY

The Committee a presentation from Andy Evans (Chief Executive Officer of the CCG) with regard to the following consultations:-

a) GP Practice Premises in Gorleston and Bradwell.

Andy Evans reported that GP Practices in Gorleston and Bradwell need to change. Currently there are 5 GP practices in the northern part of Gorleston to meet the needs of local people. Andy Evans reported that there are a number of issues which would

mean there was a need to change the shape of GP services in Gorleston and Bradwell as follows:-

- The population of Gorleston and Bradwell is expanding rapidly. New houses are being built in the south of the town further away from where practices are currently located. Over the next 10 years there is a predicted increase of 3500 people on the Beacon Park site.
- Major issues with current practice accommodation in the GP surgeries at the Falklands Surgery, Gorleston Medical Centre and on the Shrublands site and Family Healthcare Centre. These practices are in buildings which are not fit for 21st century healthcare.
- We know that one of the main predictors of whether people will attend an Accident and Emergency department is how close they live to it. New housing next to the James Paget Hospital and further away from current practice locations therefore risk swamping our local A&E department whilst not always providing best care for these families.

This consultation was not proposing any changes to Millwood Surgery or Central Surgery who are both well established in their existing premises and are not currently looking to relocate.

Andy Evans reported on the options which were now subject to consultation as follows:-

- Proposal 1 - Relocating the 3 GP practices to a new purpose built Primary Care Centre on the James Paget University Hospital Site.
- Proposal 2 - Relocating the 3 GP practices to a new purpose built Primary Care Centre on the Shrublands site.
- Proposal 3 - Relocating the 3 GP practices to a new purpose built Primary Care Centre on the Beacon Park site.

Andy Evans reported that a final decision on the above proposals would be made by NHS England. The CCG's Governing Body will meet in November 2015 to agree their recommendation to NHS England. The consultation would close on Tuesday 2nd September 2015.

b) "The Shape of the System - Developing Modern and Sustainable Health Services in Great Yarmouth and Waveney"

Andy Evans reported that the document entitled "Shape of the System" was about making substantial changes to the way better healthcare is delivered for patients in Great Yarmouth and Waveney. The proposals in the document had been developed by NHS Great Yarmouth and Waveney Clinical Commissioning Group.

Members are advised that services covered by this consultation are:-

- Community based services for Great Yarmouth and Waveney with new out of hospital teams and integrated community hubs.
- GP beds in Community Hospitals in Southwold, Halesworth (Patrick Stead Hospital), Beccles, Northgate Hospital in Great Yarmouth and All Hallows Hospital in Ditchingham.

The consultation is all about:-

- How care is provided in communities and in Community Hospitals.

- Where services are based across the CCG area to ensure equity for everyone who lives in Great Yarmouth and Waveney.

Andy Evans reported that the CCG believed that they should be developing services to care for people in their communities as that is the best place for people to be. To do this, CCG need to have more services based there closer to peoples homes. Their ambition was to provide care to people in their own homes or as close to their homes as possible.

Andy Evans reported in detail on the following proposals:-

- Proposal 1 - Developing more community based services.
- Proposal 2 - Community Hospitals

Andy Evans reported that the final decisions relating to these proposals are expected to be taken by the CCG's governing body in November 2015 and the consultation on this document would close on Tuesday 2nd September 2015.

Following the presentation of the consultation documents, Andy Evans then answered a number of questions from Members with regard to the details of the proposals contained in both consultation documents. In particular Members expressed their concern on the likelihood of the number of people being serviced by any one surgery and on the general overall effect that the proposals would have on the communities based in the Borough of Great Yarmouth.

RESOLVED:

That consideration of the consultation documents be deferred to the July meeting of the Scrutiny Committee and that in the meantime the Chairman will prepare a proposed response to the consultation papers to be circulated to all Members prior to the Committees next meeting.

8. WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

The Cabinet Secretary reported on the proposed Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2015/16. The Chairman asked Members to consider this document in detail and to give this matter further consideration at the Scrutiny Committees next meeting when Members may have additional items for inclusion in this programme.

RESOLVED:

That further consideration of the 2015/16 Work Programme be given at the next meeting.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members are advised that the next meeting had been rescheduled from 30th July and would now meet on the 15th July 2015.

The meeting ended at: 20:45