



Helen Wayland, Committee Administrator
Buckinghamshire County Council
Administration Division, County Hall,
Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 1UA
Telephone: (01296) 382015
FAX: (01296) 382538 e-mail:hwayland@buckscc.gov.uk

AGENDA ITEM: 4

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE PARTNERSHIP FORUM HELD ON TUESDAY 3 APRIL 2001, AT THE GREEN PARK CENTRE, ASTON CLINTON, COMMENCING AT 10.30 AM AND CONCLUDING AT 12.40 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Aylesbury Vale CHC

Ms J Hunt

Aylesbury Vale HFA

Ms A Brett

Buckinghamshire County Council

Officers

Mr J Beckerleg (Director of Social Services)
Ms J Campbell (Assistant Director Social Services) (Adults)
Mr D Jones (General Manager Care Services for Adults)
Ms L Ward (Head of Inspection Unit)
Mrs H Wayland (Committee Administrator)

Buckinghamshire Health Authority

Ms I Short (Chairman)
Mr J Spargo (Director of Partnerships and Planning)
Ms T Ironmonger (OHN Strategy Manager)

South Buckinghamshire CHC

Mr G Clark

Chiltern and South Bucks PCG

Mr S Young

South Bucks District Council

Mrs J Kverndal
Mr R Barber

Wycombe District Council

Councillor C Oliver
Ms C Hughes

Voluntary Organisation Representatives/User Carer Representatives

Ms A English OBE
Ms L Short
Ms P Vincent

In Attendance:-

Chiltern District Council

Ms J Downward

Locality Forum Representatives

Mr M Bailey
Ms V Hall
Mr T Parkin
Mr C Lumbers

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

Apologies for absence were reported to have been received from Mrs M A M Aston, Mr R H St Carey, Mr B Carmen, Mr T Cox, Cllr S Kendrick, Ms A Linington, Ms J Mee, Mr N Roberts and Mr P Scott.

1 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That the appointment of a vice-chairman from the non-statutory sector be deferred until the meeting on 5 June 2001

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2001 were agreed subject to the following amendment:

Minute 9 "Direct Payments" - the sentence "within the current framework with insufficient funding being allocated this year" be amended to read "within the current framework within fixed funding".

3 MATTERS ARISING

None were reported.

4 DIRECT PAYMENTS

The Forum received a report, which was circulated at the meeting, from Janice Campbell which updated members on the current position on Direct Payments. It was reported that 24 people currently receive Direct Payments with a focus on clients with a physical disability. It was reported that the government had indicated that it would like the scheme extended to include older people and people with a learning disability.

Members were advised that the stakeholder meeting which had been expected to be held in March had been postponed until May. An evaluation of the possible options was due to be completed at the end of April and would be reported to the meeting. It was noted that the current Manager of the project from Peoples Voices was involved in the discussions and had indicated an interest in continuing to contribute to the service.

Concern was raised over funding allocated to administration, in response Members were reassured that the first priority would always be the service user.

Members also expressed a wish for the service to remain independent and to continue to be based at the Brookside Physical Disability Resource Centre.

RESOLVED

That a progress report be submitted to the next meeting.

5 FUTURE ROLE OF THE PARTNERSHIP FORUM

Members received a presentation from John Spargo on the future role of the Forum linked to the establishment of a local Modernisation Board, the key purpose of which was to drive forward the local NHS Plan.

It was proposed that the full membership of the Board could be formed by combining the Health Economy Reconfiguration Board (HERB), the Bucks Partnership Forum and the Milton Keynes Health Forum. The Partnership Forum and the MK Health Forum cover many NHS Plan aspects and have arrangements in place for public involvement. HERB was envisaged as the core of the Board and would become the Modernisation Executive Group (MEG). Full Board meetings with the respective Forums could be held biannually, with the Executive Group meeting more regularly.

The linking together of the groups would strengthen the role of the Forums and their executive support. The focus would be on strategic service planning, health improvement, joint commissioning and integrated care. Links with other strategic partnerships (community safety, economic development, environment etc.) would also be strengthened.

During discussions the following comments were received:

- The role of the District Councils and how they would fit into the structure
- Look to involving a wider audience in some way e.g. Parish Councils, school governors
- How would other groups fit into the process e.g. Aylesbury Vale Health for All

John Spargo advised members that the guidance for the implementation of the NHS Plan was prolific but the application at a local level was left to individual authorities to interpret and put in place. It was intended that a model which would best reflect the views of the local community through the various groups would be adopted.

The Forum was requested to forward their views on the proposals to Jackie Haynes at BHA by 16 April. It was acknowledged that this was a short timescale, however there would be time to make further adjustments before the summer when the arrangements would be put in place.

6 A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH TO DEVELOPING AN EQUITY PROFILE AND SETTING EQUITY TARGETS FOR CORONARY HEART DISEASE IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AND MILTON KEYNES

The Forum received a presentation from Tracey Ironmonger on developing an equity profile and setting equity targets for Coronary Heart Disease (CHD). It was reported that the setting of equity targets for CHD was a national requirement. The development of the targets through a partnership process would offer a valuable opportunity to demonstrate the inter-relationship between a number of apparently diverse local plans and strategies. The approach was to convert the national targets to a local level through connecting the work of local strategic groups at various levels to achieve a countywide set of targets.

The Forum was requested to use their organisational networks to comment on the targets, this information would be fed into the final document.

During discussion a number of comments were received including:

- A Member commented on the definition given for equity policies suggesting that the negative section of the phase should be removed. In response it was noted that this statement had been taken from the national document.
- Members advised caution when describing the indicators as they could be seen to be making value statements.
- Causative factors should be separated from determinants.

7 JOINT REVIEW

The Forum received a report from Lynne Ward on the Joint Review which would be carried out by the Social Services Inspectorate and the Audit Commission during the latter part of this year or early in 2002. It would provide a thorough external review of Social Services. A position statement would be submitted by Social Services on 1 October, this would give the opportunity to set out the work carried out prior to the review. The Joint Review Team would also be examining a great deal of information about Buckinghamshire before they commenced their fieldwork.

The Forum noted that it was intended that as many stakeholders as possible would be involved in the process and meetings would be arranged with any group who expressed a wish to meet.

8 APPOINTMENTS AND RECONFIGURATION PROCESS BHA AND MODERNISING THE COUNTY COUNCIL BCC

A recent paper from the Health Reconfiguration Board was tabled which contained the recent developments in the reconfiguration process and the appointments made to date.

John Beckerleg explained the recent changes in the County Council arising from the modernising process. A paper was tabled which set out the new structure. Members were advised that the Council has adopted the Cabinet and Leader model, the Cabinet, comprising eight Members including the Leader and Deputy Leader. It was noted that each Cabinet Member was responsible for a 'portfolio', Mrs M A M Aston was responsible for Children and Families and Mr Carey was responsible for Adult Social Care. A number of Select Committees were also in place, these included a Partnership Select Committee which had recently examined winter pressures. It was noted that the Partnership Select Committee would also be expected to scrutinise decisions of the Health Authority.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that the Training and Enterprise Council's had now been dissolved and replaced by the Learning and Skills Councils. It was agreed that the Learning and Skills Council would be approached for a representative to join the membership of the Forum.

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held at 10am instead of the previously published 10.30am on Tuesday 5 June 2001 in Seminar Room 2, Green Park Centre, Aston Clinton.

CHAIRMAN

CONTACT OFFICER : HELEN WAYLAND (01296) 382590