

County Council 22 September 2016

Agenda Item

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Written questions and answers attached

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Written Questions & Responses – County Council Meeting 22nd Sept 2016**Questions from Robin Stuchbury to the Cabinet Member for Education & Skills**

Q1 *How many permanent and qualified teaching staff are recruited overall in each of the 4 Buckinghamshire districts in the financial year 2015/16 in relation to the subjects English, Maths, and Science?*

a) *Out of these overall figures provided above, please can you provide a breakdown by selective and non-selective school types?*

Overview of Data Requested by each District:

Subject	<i>Selective</i>	<i>Non-selective</i>	<i>Total No of Vacancies</i>	<i>Total No of Posts Successfully Filled</i>
<i>English</i>				
<i>Maths</i>				
<i>Science</i>				

Q2 *How many permanent qualified teaching staff are successfully retained by the respective recruiting secondary schools in each of the 4 Buckinghamshire Districts in 2015/16*

Template Data Requested for each District:

<i>Staff in post for 2015/16*</i>	<i>Selective Headcount</i>	<i>Non-selective Headcount</i>	<i>Total Headcount Overall</i>	<i>Total FTEs Overall</i>
<i>1 year</i>				
<i>2 years</i>				
<i>3 years</i>				
<i>More than 3 years</i>				
<i>5 or more years</i>				
<i>10 or more years</i>				

** in the same school*

Q3 *How do upper schools, comprehensive schools and grammar schools (including LA, free schools/academies/faith schools) compare to each other in relation to:*

a) *The categories above (please provide a breakdown)?*

b) *Generally in terms of recruitment and retention success rates?*

Q4 *What are the comparison staffing turnover rates in selective and non-selective Buckinghamshire Schools?*

Data template request

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Selective</i>	<i>Non-selective</i>	<i>Overall</i>
<i>% Voluntary Turnover*</i>			
<i>% Turnover (less than 1 year's service)**</i>			
<i>% All Turnover***</i>			

**Calculated by dividing the total number of voluntary leavers by the average*

***Calculated by dividing the total number of leavers with less than a year's service with the Council by the average headcount for the rolling year (unless otherwise specified)*

****Calculated by dividing the total number of leavers by the average headcount*

Data notes:

a) *Please do not include teachers who are on fixed-term contracts or supply within the figures provided.*

b) *Please only include teachers who are recruited to teach their core subject specialisms. E.g. figures should not include a qualified Maths teacher who is recruited to teach English or Science.*

Answer

The data in the format requested by Mr Stuchbury is not collected by the County Council.

The following headcount, FTE and turnover data is from the Quarter 4 of 2015/16.

Schools Total	Employee & Vacancy No	Headcount	8020
		FTE	5091.72
	Turnover	% Voluntary Turnover	19.0
		% Turnover (less than 1 year service)	4.6
		% All Turnover	21.6

Question from Robin Stuchbury to the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

Q1 Does the County Council believe that NHS outcomes and services for Buckinghamshire have improved or not over the past five years?

Answer

I do not believe it is my place to comment on whether I believe that NHS outcomes and services for Buckinghamshire have improved or not. My suggestion would be that you either address this question directly to the NHS or this could be a question for the Chairman of the HASC Committee.

Q2 Has the County Council been consulted about the NHS' sustainability and transformation plan covering Buckinghamshire? If so, what does the STP propose and what is BCC's response?

Answer

The Council has not yet been formally consulted on the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) covering Buckinghamshire. However, Council Officers are fully engaged in the planning and delivery processes for both the development of the STP and the Buckinghamshire 'chapter' of that plan i.e. the local health and care system plan.

Buckinghamshire is part of the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire & Berkshire West (BOBW) footprint which covers the three local health and care systems. Berkshire East is part of a separate arrangement - the Frimley footprint. The population across BOBW is 1.8 million and the total allocation is £2.5 billion for all commissioned services – primary care through to highly specialised care. The footprint covers seven Clinical Commissioning Groups, six Foundation and NHS Trusts, 14 local authorities and several other arm's length bodies (e.g. Thames Valley Clinical Senate). The footprint lead is David Smith, Chief Executive of Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

The BOBW STP has four key programmes and two enabling work streams where Buckinghamshire will work across the footprint to tackle issues that cannot be resolved by acting entirely locally. These are:

- Prevention of ill health 'at scale'
- Urgent & emergency care e.g. accident and emergency treatment
- Acute services particularly specialised services such as heart transplants
- Mental health especially tertiary level and out of county care e.g. mental health high secure services
- Workforce and the labour market
- Digital interoperability and technology-enabled change

In addition to this, Buckinghamshire is developing its local health and care system plan up to the period 2021.

Council Officers are engaged at both the STP footprint level and locally to develop the plans:

- The Council's Managing Director (Communities, Health & Adult Social Care) is a member of the BOBW Leaders' Group which is the Chief Executives' strategic leadership team for the footprint
- The Council's Chief Executive, Managing Director (Communities, Health & Adult Social Care) and Managing Director (Children's Social Care & Learning) are key members of the *Healthy Bucks Leadership Group*, the Chief Executives' strategic leadership team for the Buckinghamshire health and care system which is overseeing development of the Buckinghamshire system plan
- A Buckinghamshire health and care system Transformation Board is being set up to develop plans and ensure their delivery.

The STP is still in development stage as is the Buckinghamshire local health and care system plan.

Any full formal consultation is most likely to take place in Spring of 2017 subject to NHS England's approval to proceed.

Question from Robin Stuchbury to the Chairman of the HASC Select Committee

Q1 What measures does the HASC Select Committee use to measure improvement (or deterioration) of outcomes and services?

Answer

The HASC uses external sources (such as The King's Fund which combines publicly available data on selected NHS performance measures) to review trends in NHS performance and highlight areas of specific concern. These issues are then considered as part of the Select Committee work programming discussions. When an issue is discussed by the HASC, representatives are asked to report on service performance and patient outcomes as part of their presentation, where appropriate. Representatives are often invited to attend a future meeting so that the Committee can monitor progress on specific issues. The Committee can also decide to carry out an in-depth review on a specific issue. For example, the Committee has undertaken a review into the 15 minute Care Visits and Learning Disabilities.

Q2 Where are the results of this scrutiny of NHS outcomes and services published?

Answer

HASC meetings are webcast and all papers and reports relating to the meetings are available on the Council's website. Recommendations made during in-depth inquiries are discussed at Cabinet meetings and also sent to relevant health organisations for a response.

Q3 How is HASC Committee holding the decision-makers to account?

Answer

The HASC is made aware of key issues through its regular discussions with key stakeholders and regular monitoring of the relevant websites and online updates. Committee Members can recommend issues for the HASC to consider as part of the work programme and Members of the public can also submit their concerns through public questions at HASC Select Committee meetings. Concerns are then raised with the relevant organisation and a response is prepared and included as part of the HASC Select Committee paperwork. Recommendations which are made in an Inquiry report are then monitored by the Select Committee at six months and twelve months by inviting senior officers to report on progress at a Committee meeting.

Q4 When the remaining complex vascular surgeries transfer to the John Radcliffe hospital from Wycombe hospital on 1 September, how will this impact on older and/or poorer patients who will have to travel from Wycombe to Oxford for surgery; how will this impact on the existing wide gap in health inequalities between poorer and richer residents of Bucks; and what is BCC and the Trust doing to mitigate the adverse impact?

Answer

An important principle of the new arrangements is that patients will only be asked to travel for procedures where there is clear evidence of benefit in doing so – namely for complex procedures. All other services will continue to be delivered locally.

Patients will receive their pre-operative care and their follow-ups at Wycombe Hospital. This move affects 60 to 100 patients a year who currently have carotid endarterectomy surgery at Wycombe Hospital.

The distance between High Wycombe and Oxford is less than 27 miles. The route is mainly on the M40 motorway and takes 31 minutes without traffic (google maps).

Should a patient already be an in-patient at Wycombe Hospital, they would be transferred by patient transport or ambulance. If a patient is entitled to support with their transport to NHS appointments, then this arrangement applies. If a patient is not an in-patient and not entitled to support with hospital transport, then they will be expected to make their own arrangements to travel. Similar arrangements exist across the country.

For information, there are details of the Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme on NHS Choices. Please find more details on the below link:

<http://www.nhs.uk/chq/Pages/1079.aspx?CategoryID=68>

Arrangements have been put in place to monitor the move to providing complex vascular surgery at the John Radcliffe Hospital with patient experience gathered and regularly analysed.

Question from Avril Davies to the Cabinet Members for Public Health and Planning & Environment

Q Bucks County Council are equal partners with Aylesbury Vale District Council in the Bucks Air Quality Management Group.

In 2010 an action plan was published for the three air quality management areas (AQMA) in Aylesbury town. <http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/air-quality-management-areas>

Public Health England has recently published that air pollution is responsible for 40,000 early deaths per year in England.

Can you please tell me:

a. What proportion of that 40,000 occur in Bucks?

Answer

The Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollutants (COMEAP) estimates 29,000 deaths annually from exposure to air pollution (i.e. fine particles, PM_{2.5}) in the UK. This figure increases to around 40,000 if the effects of nitrogen dioxide are taken into account.

At the county level, we only have Public Health England estimates of the fraction of annual deaths from all causes among people aged 30+ years of age attributed to air pollution related to fine particles, PM_{2.5} so it is not directly comparable to the national figures which includes deaths from nitrogen dioxide. In Buckinghamshire, 5.28% of all deaths over 30 were attributed to air pollution from fine particles in 2013 which is similar to England average of 5.3 %. The Buckinghamshire average dropped from 5.6% in 2010 to 5.28% in 2013. In 2013, there were 3,854 deaths over 30 years of age in Buckinghamshire. Applying the 5.28%, that suggests approximately 200 deaths per year are attributed to air pollution.

b. What progress has been achieved in the last five years in reducing air pollution in the areas in the Bucks Air Quality Management Group action plan?

Answer

Work has been ongoing delivering against the two Priority Measures that have identified BCC as the lead within the AVDC Air Quality Management Plan. The majority of the work associated with the AQMA is undertaken by my colleague Mark Shaw as Transport Cabinet Member, so I will work with him to provide you with a more detailed written response to this question and the one below by Friday 30th September.

c. *How many other AQMAs are there in the County and what action is being taken on them and with what results?*

Answer

Each District Council has an AQMA and the details of these can be found on the following links:

South Bucks: https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/details?aqma_id=112

Wycombe: https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/local-authorities?la_id=323

Chiltern: https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/local-authorities?la_id=60

Aylesbury Vale: <http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/air-quality-management-areas>