



**Buckinghamshire County Council**  
**Select Committee**  
Health and Adult Social Care

# Minutes

## *HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SELECT COMMITTEE*

Minutes from the meeting held on Thursday 14 November 2019, in Mezzanine Room 1, County Hall, Aylesbury, commencing at 10.03 am and concluding at 12.45 pm.

This meeting was webcast. To review the detailed discussions that took place, please see the webcast which can be found at <http://www.buckscc.public-i.tv/>  
The webcasts are retained on this website for 6 months. Recordings of any previous meetings beyond this can be requested (contact: [democracy@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@buckscc.gov.uk))

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

#### **Buckinghamshire County Council**

Mr M Appleyard (In the Chair)

Mr R Bagge, Mr W Bendyshe-Brown, Mrs P Birchley, Mrs L Clarke OBE and Mr D Martin

#### **District Councils**

Mr A Green  
Dr W Matthews  
Mr B Clarke OBE  
Ms J MacBean

Wycombe District Council  
South Bucks District Council  
Healthwatch Bucks  
Chiltern District Council

#### **Others in Attendance**

Mrs E Wheaton, Committee and Governance Adviser  
Ms H Cannon, Organisational Development Consultant  
Mr J Everson, Senior Commissioning Manager  
Ms J O'Neill, Head of HR & OD Consultancy  
Ms L Truett, Commissioning Manager  
Ms L Patten, Chief Executive, Clinical Commissioning Group

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP**

Apologies were received from Mr C Etholen, Mr S Lambert, Mr B Roberts and Julia Wassell.

Mr B Clarke substituted for Ms T Jervis from Healthwatch Bucks and Ms J MacBean substituted for Mr N Shepherd from Chiltern District Council.

Lin Hazell, Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing sent her apologies.



**South Bucks**  
District Council



## **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **3 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

## **4 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

The Chairman reported that a number of public questions had been submitted by Mr T Snaith in advance of the meeting. Mr Snaith's questions related to the future plans for primary care provision in Wycombe. The questions were sent onto the Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group who provided a written response to the questions. The responses had been sent to Mr Snaith and were also attached to the agenda for the meeting.

## **5 CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE**

The Chairman updated the Committee on the following events and activities since the last meeting.

- A key stakeholder event took place to discuss the future options for Chartridge Ward. The feedback from this meeting would assist Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust in shaping the future options.
- The Chairman had been invited to attend an Investors in Carers GP Standard award ceremony hosted by Carers Bucks.
- Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust's open day and AGM took place on 21<sup>st</sup> September. It was well attended with many local groups taking part in the event.

## **6 COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Committee Members provided the following updates.

- Healthwatch Bucks updated on the following:
  - Live Well, Stay Well (report published)
  - Musculoskeletal (report published)
  - Special Care for Veterans (ongoing project)
  - Dementia (ongoing project)
  - Healthwatch Bucks had hired an interim CEO.
- Mr B Bendyshe-Brown reported that he was the Chairman of the Community Covenant Board. The organisation was working hard to gain recognition of Veterans across the County. Bucks Healthcare Trust would be shortly signing the Community Covenant which was part of the NHS drive to recognise the vulnerability of Veterans. Mr Bendyshe-Brown also reported that those people leaving the services would be issued with a Veterans card and those who had already left the services would be issued one retrospectively.
- Mr D Martin reported that he was working with Mrs A Macpherson on a check and challenge of the Adult Social Care budget, as part of the pre-budget process.
- Mr R Bagge provided an update on his involvement with NICE, which included focussing on Community Pharmacy and improving outcomes for people. He was also Vice-Chairman of Public Health Community Engagement group which was reviewing how to reduce sexually transmitted diseases.

## **7 SUPPORT FOR CARERS - 6 MONTH RECOMMENDATION IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING**

The Chairman welcomed Mr J Everson, Senior Commissioning Manager, Ms L Truett, Commissioning Manager, Ms J O'Neill, Head of HR and OD Consultancy and Ms H Cannon, Organisational Development Consultant.

The purpose of the item was to update Members on the six month progress on implementing the recommendations in the support for carers inquiry report.

During the discussion, the following main points were made.

- The action plan had been co-produced with carers and was aligned to the aims of the Better Lives strategy.
- Emergency planning information was now included as part of the assessment form.
- Carers Bucks had recruited link workers in schools to provide training for teachers around how to identify young carers and provide the relevant interventions and support.
- An independent review was being undertaken of the GP Award for Supporting Carers. Four GP surgeries had been awarded with the Carers Award and a further four surgeries were being evaluated.
- There would be more engagement on the Carers Strategy in early 2020.
- Young carers were able to access three levels of support:
  - Group sessions with other young carers;
  - More targeted interventions;
  - 1:1 counselling.
- The same levels of support were available to adult carers and work was being carried out to ensure a seamless transition between young carers and adults.
- Carers Bucks were also delivering early help mental health intervention in schools.
- The challenges around young carers identifying themselves as carers was acknowledged and work was underway to help address this and to ensure they receive the required support.
- A Member asked whether there was evidence to show that more young carers were being identified. Mr Everson responded by saying that 9 months ago there were 880 young carers registered with Carers Bucks and the latest figure was 1,252 young carers.
- There was also a drive to promote "Time to Talk" within families to highlight the value of discussing issues within the family setting.
- In response to a question about what was being done to address those who were left behind in their education, Mr Everson explained that Carers Bucks were working hard with the young carers aged 16-17 years onwards to ensure they overcome barriers to achieving their educational potential and also assisting them with gaining employment.
- In developing the carers strategy, engagement with partner organisations such as the Local Enterprise Partnership and Bucks Business First would be key. The strategy was due to be finalised and approved in 2020.
- In relation to recommendations 6, 7 and 8, which all related to the support for carers provided by the County Council, Ms O'Neill explained that an E-Learning module had been launched for employees which focussed on what it means to be carer and signpost to various support services.
- A Carers Support Forum had been set-up for employees.
- The Employee Assistance programme had been promoted further across the Council and information on the support for carers was included on the website within the Health & Wellbeing pages.

The Chairman thanked the presenters for their update. Members agreed to delegate the assigning of a RAG status to each recommendation to the Chairman.

## **8 TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CHARTRIDGE WARD, AMERSHAM**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

## **9 THE FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR NHS COMMISSIONING WITHIN THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, OXFORDSHIRE AND BERKSHIRE WEST INTEGRATED CARE SYSTEM**

The Chairman welcomed Ms L Patten, Chief Accountable Officer for Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

During the presentation and discussion, the following main points were made.

- The way in which the NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) in the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West (BOB) Integrated Care System (ICS) would be changing. An engagement document had been produced which sought the views on two new ways of working:
  - Local working in each of the three counties (the integrated care partnerships);
  - Wider, at-scale working across the three areas (the integrated care system).
- The NHS long-term plan set an expectation that each ICS would be covered by a single CCG.
- The engagement document outlined the proposals to:
  - Appoint a single Accountable Officer and Shared Management Team;
  - Design a stronger Integrated Care Partnerships, constituted using a set of common principles;
  - Create a single commissioning organisation across the BOB geography.
- In order to become the delivery vehicles for more local care services, much more would be required of Primary Care Networks (PCNs) than could be delivered within the current commissioning arrangements.
- There was a need for greater oversight and accountability for the ICS which did not currently have permanent leadership or statutory governance.
- Greater collaborative working would provide the best opportunity to support each ICP with its work to improve healthcare, tackle health inequalities and ensure consistency of services in terms of quality and availability across BOB.
- Through the new PCNs and ICPs, GPs and other healthcare providers would focus on developing and delivering services to meet healthcare needs in their local areas, whilst still being involved in strategic commissioning.
- There were 12 PCNs across the County and the PCNs would be working closely with Community Boards as these develop to improve outcomes for each local population.
- Ms Patten stressed that embedding services at the ICP level was important and services, such as 999 and 111 could be provided by the ICS in order to maximise efficiencies and maintain consistency across the 3 areas.
- In response to timings around appointing a single accountable officer, should the proposal be approved, Ms Patten explained that the recruitment process would commence in January 2020 with the aim of appointing the single accountable officer by June and thereafter appoint a shared management team.
- The proposed merger of the CCGs would take effect in April 2021.
- In Bucks, care home admissions were around 9 months earlier than the national average. Ms Patten explained that if effective multi-disciplinary working exists, then admittance would be later. There was a need for closer working between health and social care in order to achieve this. A pilot was being carried out in Aylesbury and Wycombe and progress was already being made.
- The need for a scrutiny function across the ICS was recognised and the Chairman reported that informal meetings between the BOB ICS scrutiny Chairman was taking place.
- A Member asked what was meant by “better outcomes” for local residents. Ms Patten responded that the role of the PCNs was to deliver local GP services and wrap-around services and each PCN would respond to their local challenges.

- A general comment was made about the engagement document and the need for the language to be understood by the public. The use of acronyms was confusing and it was felt that there should be more public engagement about the proposed changes and what that means for local people. Ms Patten agreed to feedback to the ICS communications team.

**ACTION: Ms Patten**

- A Member commented that the PCNs should be mapped to Community Boards in order to create greater cohesion.
- In response to a question about moving to 7 day working across the whole system, Ms Patten said that there was a move to develop 7 day working and there was already 24/7 access to GP services but there were still some services not operating across 7 days and this would be reviewed over the coming months.

The Chairman thanked Ms Patten for her presentation and Committee Members agreed to send a formal response to the CCGs on their proposals for future commissioning within the specified deadline (1<sup>st</sup> December 2019).

**ACTION: Chairman**

## **10 COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The last Select Committee meeting of this authority will take place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020. This meeting would be an opportunity to hear from partners across the health and social care system on the key issues discussed at Committee meetings over the last 12-18 months.

There would also be an opportunity to reflect on the work of the Committee and discuss issues that the new authority may want to review.

## **11 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in Mezz Room 1, County Hall, Aylesbury.

**CHAIRMAN**