

ADULT SERVICES AND HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL
6th January, 2011

Present:- Councillor Jack (in the Chair); Councillors Barron, Blair, Goulty, Middleton, Steele and Wootton.

Also in attendance were Councillor John Doyle (Cabinet Member for Adult Independence, Health and Well-being) and co-opted members Mrs. A. Clough (ROPES) and Mr P Scholey (UNISON).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Burton and Turner and from co-opted member Mr. J. Richardson.

65. COMMUNICATIONS

NHS Rotherham was organising a focus group to consider the issue of older people keeping warm at home. The first meeting of the focus group would take place on Wednesday, 23rd March, 2011. Councillors Jack and Steele and co-opted member Mrs. A. Clough expressed an interest in attending this meeting. Details of this study would be provided for all members of this Scrutiny Panel.

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

67. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

There were no members of the press and public present at the meeting.

68. THE DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE FOR ROTHERHAM

Further to Minute No. 59(2) of the meeting of the Adult Services and Health Scrutiny Panel held on 9th December, 2010, Miles Crompton, Research Co-ordinator, gave a presentation about demographic change in Rotherham. The presentation and the Scrutiny Panel's subsequent discussion included the following salient issues:-

- Rotherham's total population was now at its highest level since records began;
- life expectancy has increased, both for men and women – this increase has previously been under-estimated and, in small part, has contributed to the pension crisis;
- the population of people aged 60 years and older is now higher than the population of people aged 23 years and younger;
- large increases in the population aged 65 years and over and aged 85 years and over;
- increases in the number of households and of the number of pensioners living alone; possible future pressure upon the availability of certain types of housing and accommodation;

- people living to an older age may subsequently live more years whilst suffering a long-term illness;
- the availability and inclination of adult children to provide care for ageing parents; otherwise, care duties are performed by spouses or the state;
- higher birth-rates in the Black and Minority Ethnic communities (the trend in Rotherham mirrors the trend throughout the country);
- health improvements due to advances made in medical science and methods of treatment;
- pressure on service costs and delivery (eg: caring and health services) due to the increase in the population aged 65 years and older;
- service providers are concentrating upon early intervention and prevention, in an attempt to reduce the future pressure upon services and funding;
- overall, the demographic changes in Rotherham are similar to those both in South Yorkshire and in the country as a whole.

Resolved:- (1) That the details of the presentation be noted.

(2) That a seminar be arranged for all Members of the Council about this issue.

(3) That a copy of the presentation be provided for all members of this Scrutiny Panel.

69. DIABETES REVIEW - FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Further to Minute No. 61 of the meeting of the Adult Services and Health Scrutiny Panel held on 9th December, 2010, Caroline Webb, Senior Scrutiny Adviser, gave a presentation about the scrutiny review of health inequalities due to diabetes. The presentation and subsequent discussion included the following salient issues:-

Diabetes

Type I : is genetic and begins in childhood

Type II : begins in adulthood and is influenced by race and lifestyle/diet

Diabetes in Rotherham

- 11,000 people – more than 2,500 on insulin (plus approximately 1,100 undiagnosed)
- Obesity is everywhere
- Spend in 2008/09: £2.3 millions per 100,000 population but outcomes not linked to spend

Deprivation and Demographics

- High levels of deprivation in Rotherham
 - Lower levels of physical activity and poor diet
 - Greater risk of diabetes
- More people living longer
 - More diagnosed and undiagnosed diabetes
 - Side-effects of diabetes will be more prevalent

Treatment and Management

- General Practitioners
- Hospital-based specialist care
- Education
 - DAFNE (Dose Adjustment for Normal Eating)
 - DESMOND – aimed at newly diagnosed Type II patients
 - Learning Disability (for health professionals)

Issues Raised

- Management of diabetes when attending hospital as an in-patient for another matter
- Rotherham branch of Diabetes UK
- Retinopathy screening

Recommendations

- General Themes
 - Education and prevention
 - Earlier diagnosis
 - Spreading good practice
 - Better self-management
- Education and Prevention
 - Include diabetes awareness in school PSHE classes
 - Raise awareness among high risk groups
 - Ensure those at risk due to obesity are offered early support
- Earlier Diagnosis
 - Pharmacies
 - Non-invasive testing
 - NHS Health Checks Programme
- Spreading Good Practice
 - Prescribing
 - Support for the recently diagnosed
- Better Self-Management
 - Regular retinopathy screening
 - Closer links between patients and service commissioners/providers
- the importance of a healthy diet and, particularly of healthy eating in schools.
- the costs to the state of medical and care provision and to the individual in terms of health complications.

- developments in non-invasive testing and the possibility of demonstrating this process at the Town Hall.

Resolved:- (1) That the details of the presentation be noted.

(2) That the recommendations, now discussed, be included in the report of the Health Inequalities and Diabetes Scrutiny Review, which is to be provided for all members of this Scrutiny Panel and appropriate Council Departments and partner organisations.

(3) That the report of the Health Inequalities and Diabetes Scrutiny Review be submitted to the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee and to the Cabinet for further consideration.

70. YORKSHIRE AMBULANCE SERVICE - POTENTIAL INDICATORS FOR 2011/12 QUALITY ACCOUNTS

Consideration was given to a report presented the Head of Scrutiny Services and Member Support concerning the potential indicators for Quality Accounts for the Yorkshire Ambulance Service (NHS Trust) for 2011/12. After discussion of the indicators, it was agreed that Scrutiny Panel members would provide their detailed comments to the Scrutiny officers. The response to the Yorkshire Ambulance Service would have to be submitted by 28th January, 2011.

Resolved:- That the report be received and its contents noted.

71. THE ROTHERHAM FOUNDATION TRUST - IMPROVEMENT AREAS FOR 2011/12 QUALITY ACCOUNTS

Consideration was given to a report presented by Mrs. Jackie Bird (Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust) concerning the potential indicators for Quality Accounts for the NHS Trust for 2011/12.

The Scrutiny Panel noted that the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust Quality Accounts would :-

- : demonstrate accountability to the public for the quality of services
- : enable a review of the services provided, to identify good services and where improvements are needed;
- : identify the improvements achieved;
- : demonstrate how patients, public and others are involved in the work.

The report stated that three new quality improvement areas had been identified for the local community, one from each area of (i) Patient Safety, (ii) Clinical Effectiveness and (iii) Patient Experience. The Scrutiny Panel agreed that the appropriate recommendations from the Diabetes Review (reference: Minute No. 69 above) should be included in the improvement areas.

Reference was made to:-

- the early discharge of patients from hospital (and the financial pressures caused by 'bed blocking');
- patient experience tracker – asking patients to provide feedback about their experience when staying in hospital;
- information leaflets provided to patients about their medication.

Resolved:- That this Scrutiny Panel supports the suggested areas of improvement outlined in the submitted report.

72. FALLS COLLABORATIVE - EVALUATION

The Scrutiny Panel received a presentation from Mrs. Jackie Bird (Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust) about patients falling and the actions being taken to prevent falls. The presentation and the Scrutiny Panel's subsequent discussion included the following salient issues:-

- the collaborative study of hospital in-patient falls;
- study of hospital ward data about patients' falls from height (2008 to 2010);
- outcomes of the study – reducing the incidence of falls, subsequent cost savings; increased use of bed rails; providing patients with slippers to prevent falls;
- provision of appropriate training; health community approach;
- dissemination of good practice, both regionally and nationally.

Resolved:- That the contents of the presentations be noted.

73. MINUTES OF THE ADULT SERVICES AND HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Adult Services and Health Scrutiny Panel held on 9th December, 2010, be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chair.

74. CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT INDEPENDENCE HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Resolved:- That the minutes of the Cabinet Member for Adult Independence Health and Wellbeing held on 22nd October and 6th December, 2010, be noted and received.