

COUNCIL SEMINAR
4th March, 2014

Present:- Councillor Wyatt (in the Chair); The Mayor (Councillor Foden); Councillors The Mayor (Councillor John Foden), Ali, Buckley, Dalton, Dodson, Doyle, Ellis, Hoddinott, Kaye, G. A. Russell, P. A. Russell, Sangster, Sims, Swift, Whelbourn, Wootton and Wyatt.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Clark and Jepson.

ROTHERHAM BETTER CARE FUND

Members received a presentation from Shona McFarlane (Director of Health and Wellbeing), Kate Green (Policy Officer) and Keeley Firth and Dominic Blaydon (Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Rotherham) about the Rotherham Better Care Fund. This Fund was previously known as the Integration Transformation Fund and is designed to support better working together for people in receipt of health and social care.

The presentation included the following salient issues:-

: the Better Care Fund plan for Rotherham will cover the next five years (2015/2016 to 2019/2020) and has been approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board;

: the coalition Government is not providing any 'new' money for this initiative;

: there are six national conditions for the Better Care Fund, stating that local plans should:-

- i) demonstrate how it will be used to protect social care services
- ii) be jointly agreed between the council and Clinical Commissioning Group;
- iii) demonstrate how seven-day services will be provided to support patients being discharged and prevent unnecessary admissions;
- iv) demonstrate how local areas will improve data sharing between health and social care, based on the use of the patient's NHS number;
- v) demonstrate a joint approach to assessments and care planning; and
- vi) identify what the impact will be on the acute sector.

: there are already agreed joint priorities through the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, informed by the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment; the Strategy will help in the delivery of the Better Care Fund local plan;

: the terms of reference of the multi-agency task group, established by the Health and Wellbeing Board, which is developing the Better Care Fund local plan;

: the nationally recognised definition of integration:-

'I can plan my care with people who work together to understand me and my carer(s), allowing me control and bringing together services to achieve the outcomes important to me' ('National Voices')

: the over-arching vision of Health and Wellbeing Board:- To improve health and reduce health inequalities across the whole of Rotherham;

: the Better Care Fund plan will contribute to four of the strategic outcomes of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy:-

a) Prevention and early intervention: Rotherham people will get help early to stay healthy and increase their independence;

b) Expectations and aspirations: all Rotherham people will have high aspirations for their health and wellbeing and expect good quality services in their community;

c) Dependence to independence: Rotherham people and families will increasingly identify their own needs and choose solutions that are best suited to their personal circumstances; and

d) Long-term conditions: Rotherham people will be able to manage long-term conditions so that they are able to enjoy the best quality of life.

: Better Care Fund local plans are required to deliver against five nationally determined measures:-

- admissions into residential care
- effectiveness of re-ablement
- delayed transfers of care
- avoidable emergency admissions
- patient and service user experience
- and, in addition, there is one locally agreed measure - 'emergency readmissions'

: Rotherham has also developed a set of 'I Statements' which demonstrate outcomes for individuals;

: details of the various outcome measures;

: the action plan includes twelve schemes agreed to deliver the Better Care Fund in 2015/2016 and are aligned to the four strategic outcomes of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy;

: the importance of measures to achieve prevention and early intervention;

: future expectations and aspirations – the success of the social prescribing pilot, which involves the voluntary and community sector in the care of people who have long-term medical conditions;

: the 'risk stratification tool' – computer software which helps in the identification of people, who suffer long-term medical conditions, who are most at risk of admission to hospital;

: helping people move from dependence to independence (encouraging people to self-manage their own condition);

: review of the care of people who suffer long-term medical conditions;

: the financing of the Rotherham Better Care Fund and the pay-for-performance element of the fund; details were provided of the share of funding for each of the twelve schemes being delivered in 2015/2016;

: NHS England will provide feedback on the Better Care Fund local plan, during March 2014, after which the final plan must be approved by Friday 4th April 2014;

: the Health and Wellbeing Board will ensure the implementation of the Better Care Fund plan in Rotherham and will also monitor the operation of the plan.

During discussion, Members raised the following issues:-

: the importance of 'dependence to independence' and support for individuals to be provided by the voluntary and community sector;

: the pressures on hospital accident and emergency services and upon the out-of-hours service provided by GPs; development of the emergency centre in 2015;

: the contents of the Better Care Fund plan, the arrangements for joint commissioning and the review of services; the amount of funding to be transferred from hospitals and the acute care services to prevention and early intervention;

: whether the performance targets are sufficiently challenging;

: Members requested further details of spending on the Better Care Fund plan.

Members asked that they be informed of the contents of the feedback from NHS England on the Rotherham Better Care Fund local plan.

The officers were thanked for their informative presentation.