



Meetings/events feedback form

Date of meeting: 30 November 2010

Title of meeting: Staffordshire County Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Audience: Staffordshire County Councillors and Scrutiny Officers. The meeting is open to the public and full minutes are published on the County Council web site.

LINK representative(s) attending: Dave Bassett

LINK representative completing feedback form: Dave Bassett

Rationale (*Why are we attending the meeting event*). *Note – if you are delivering a message/presenting re: what the LINK is about this needs to complement the standard presentation. If not provide details of message given.*

I attend as a co-opted non-voting member of the committee representing the Link. I am able to participate in debate, raise issues of concern and ask questions. I am also there to ensure that there is clear communication between Link and the Committee, ensuring collaboration where appropriate and the avoidance of duplication of work.

What were the main issues to come out of the meeting/event from the LINK perspective? (*List between 1 and 6 bullet points would be helpful*).

1. Disinvestment in Learning Disability Services commissioned by SSPCT and provided by SSSHFT

A presentation was received from Susan Meredith of the Developmental Neurosciences and Learning Disabilities Directorate of SSSHFT and Christine Adams from the Staffs JCU regarding the rationalisation of six Community Learning Disability Health Teams into two bigger teams that would concentrate on the delivery of more specialised care which was frequently clinic based. The teams would in effect no longer carry out the more social care aspects of their work which will be picked up by social care.

The outcome would be a more cost effective use of specialist NHS staff in delivering specialist support to people with LD who have the greatest health need as well as achieving required cost efficiency savings.

The most vigorous debate centred on whether social care would have the resources to pick up the additional work. The JCU Director made a commitment that there were already resources picking this up.

2. The Future of Bucknall Hospital in Stoke

A presentation was received from Roger Chitty, project manager at N Staffs Combined Healthcare NHS Trust (NSCHT), on the future of their Bucknall site in the context of their estates strategy.

Following the transfer of elderly care and stroke rehabilitation wards to other more modern facilities in the community hospitals across Stoke and North Staffordshire, the future of the aging Bucknall Hospital has come up for consideration. NSCHT have expressed a desire to move off the site by 2012, transferring the three remaining clinical areas to other sites and relocating administration and infrastructure support.

The committee resolved to support this move in principle but requested that full consultation is carried out on the move of clinical services which include EMI assessment and treatment,

parent and baby day unit, and neuro behavioural services.

Action Points/How can the LINK help? *(Bullet points re: what, if any, requests for LINK help were received and from who plus who needs to follow up?)*

1. LINK to note the need for consultation on EMI changes in particular which will be relevant to our work on the care of older people with dementia in acute hospitals.