

# **BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

## **JOINT COMMITTEE ON NHS CONSULTATION ON BEST CARE, BEST PLACE**

**2.00PM – 11 JANUARY 2005**

**HOVE TOWN HALL**

### **MINUTES**

Present: Councillors Bennett (BHCC), Mr R Chapman (ESCC), Rogers (ESCC) and Mrs Seward (WSCC)

### **PART ONE**

#### **6. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

6.1 **RESOLVED** – That, in the absence of Councillor Brown, Councillor Bennett be elected Chair of the Joint Committee for this meeting.

#### **7. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

##### **7A. Declarations of Substitutes**

7.1 Members noted that the substitutes provisions did not apply to the Joint Committee.

##### **7B. Declarations of Interest**

7.2 There were none.

##### **7C. Exclusion of Press and Public**

7.3 The Joint Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100A(3) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

7.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting during consideration of any of the items on the agenda.

#### **8. MINUTES**

8.1 In relation to 3.2 concerning Patient and Public Involvement Forums (PPIFs)

it was clarified that the PPIFs would be consulted separately by the NHS.

8.2 **RESOLVED** – That subject to the amendment referred to in paragraph 8.1 the minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2004 be approved and signed by the Chair.

## **9. NHS CONSULTATION ON BEST CARE, BEST PLACE**

### **9A PROGRESS OF THE CONSULTATION**

9.1 The Joint Committee noted two versions of the West Sussex good practice consultation checklist prepared by Mid Sussex PCT, one which covered the process of the consultation and one that covered patient and public involvement (see minute book).

9.2 Mr Mike Wood, Chief Executive of Mid Sussex PCT, introduced the checklists and reported that the current versions were intended to be the final format for the Best Care, Best Place consultation. He invited feedback on any omissions as soon as possible.

9.3 Members and officers reported on the public meetings that they had attended. Discussions had generally been good, although public attendance numbers were low. Concern had been expressed at Haywards Heath about the future of paediatric and maternity services at the Princess Royal Hospital. It was hoped that consideration would be given in the future to reintroducing paediatricians to the PRH when the Brighton Medical School was more established, as it could be a good source for recruitment.

9.4 Mr Wood reported that attendance levels at public meetings had been variable and there could be different definitions of 'real' public attendees. The PCT was keeping detailed attendance figures from the meetings.

9.5 **RESOLVED** – That the two versions of the checklist be approved as the final format for reporting on the process and patient and public involvement.

### **9B WORKING PAPER ON BEST CARE, BEST PLACE**

9.6 The Joint Committee considered the NHS working paper on Best Care, Best Place (see minute book).

9.7 Mr Mike Wood, Chief Executive of the Mid Sussex PCT reported that the working paper had been produced to address the issues raised and provide the information that had been requested in the first phase of public workshops on the Best Care, Best Place public consultation. He emphasised that the paper built on the proposals in the consultation document, rather than changing anything in it.

9.8 The Joint Committee was informed that the working paper provided more detailed estimates of the numbers of surgical patients who would be affected by the proposed changes and clarity about the difference between

neuroscience and neurosurgery services. More detail about the future of Brighton General Hospital and capacity at the Royal Sussex County Hospital site was also included.

9.9 Mr Wood reported that future spending projections were contained in the working paper that demonstrated the planned investment in primary care services, including capital.

9.10 The Joint Committee noted that the working paper provided more detail on the second option for the future of maternity services at the Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath, to demonstrate what would happen if the first, preferred option could not be achieved. Mr Wood advised that the recruitment of Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioners was going well, so it was hoped that the first option could be delivered.

9.11 Mr Wood reported that transport had been a recurring major issue during the consultation, which was an important partnership issue. He hoped that the consultation would act as a catalyst for local transport policy and advised that the NHS was involved with the ESCC rural transport development plan and on a demand responsive service plan in Mid Sussex. The NHS would investigate providing transport as a last resort if necessary.

9.12 Mr Wood agreed to circulate transport surveys that had been recently undertaken and reported that the local NHS may organise a transport seminar as part of the discussion.

9.13 The Joint Committee noted that the average travel times to hospital included in appendix 6 referred to car travel. The Sussex Ambulance Service NHS Trust had not been able to present average 'blue light' travel times. The Joint Committee queried the accuracy of some of the figures when compared to neighbouring wards and Mr Wood agreed to investigate them.

9.14 Mr Wood provided members with the itinerary for the visit scheduled for 14 January to NHS establishments affected by the proposals.

9.15 Members felt that the Mid Sussex District Council position statements on paediatric and maternity services and neuroscience and neurosurgery services should be considered at the next meeting. The executive summary of the National Childbirth Trust survey of birth services in Mid Sussex would also be considered.

9.16 The Joint Committee agreed that it was important to be aware of the comments of the PPIFs on the consultation. The Member Services Manager was asked to invite the PPIFs to submit written comments to the Joint Committee at a future meeting.

9.17 **RESOLVED** – That the position be noted.

## **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

10.1 **RESOLVED** – That the next meeting of the Joint Committee will be held on:  
25<sup>th</sup> January 2005 at 2.00pm

The meeting concluded at 3.30 pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2005