



Minutes of the Essex and Suffolk Joint Health Scrutiny Committee on the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership for North East Essex, Ipswich and East and West Suffolk Meeting held on 13 March 2019 at 10.33 am at Colchester Town Hall, High Street, Colchester

Present: Essex

Councillor Anne Brown, Essex County Council
Councillor Andy Erskine, Essex County Council
Councillor Dave Harris, Essex County Council
Councillor Andy Wood, Essex County Council

Suffolk

Councillor Helen Armitage, Suffolk County Council
Councillor Peter Coleman, Suffolk Coastal District Council
Councillor Jessica Fleming, Suffolk County Council
Councillor Elizabeth Gibson-Harries, Mid Suffolk District Council

Supporting officers present: Susan Cassedy, Democratic Services Officer, Suffolk County Council
Theresa Harden, Business Manager, Democratic Services, Suffolk County Council
Peter Randall, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Essex County Council

1. Public Participation Session

There were no applications to speak at the public participation session.

2. Apologies for absence and substitutions

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Colin Sargeant, substituted by Councillor Andy Erskine

3. Declarations of interest and dispensations

Councillor Andy Wood declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 5 'Update on the development of the Suffolk and north East Essex Integrated Care System (ICS)' and Agenda Item 6 'East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation

Trust – Draft Strategy 2019/24’ as he sat on the Council of Governors of the Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust.

Councillor Peter Coleman declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 5 ‘Update on the development of the Suffolk and north East Essex Integrated Care System (ICS)’ and Agenda Item 6 ‘East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust – Draft Strategy 2019/24’ as he was a member of the Council of Governors at Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Update on the development of the Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care System (ICS)

At Agenda Item 5 the joint committee considered a report providing an update on the development of the Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care System (ICS) following the recommendations made by the joint committee on 30 November 2018 in relation to the development of the ICS. The report also updated the Committee on progress made in relation to the development of the Draft Stage Two Governance Framework for the ICS.

The joint committee was joined at the meeting by the following witnesses:

Rebecca Driver, Director of Communications and Engagement, ESNEFT

Dr Shane Gordon, Director of Strategy, ESNEFT

Wendy Herber, Suffolk Community Foundation

Susannah Howard, STP Programme Director

Nick Hulme, STP Lead and Chief Executive of ESNEFT

Caroline Procter, STP Primary Care Programme Manager

Simon Morgan, STP Head of Communications

Maddie Baker-Woods, Chief Operating Officer, NHS Ipswich & East Suffolk CCG

The Chairman invited witnesses to comment on the information provided and highlight any key points they considered the joint committee should be aware of.

The Chairman invited the joint committee to ask questions and comment on both the written evidence and the information provided to them by the witnesses.

Decision: The joint committee agreed:

- a) to request that the STP Board should take steps to maximise opportunities for engagement with organisations across the wider health and care system on the development of the ICS and neighbourhood integration;
- b) to highlight the importance of ensuring that organisations receiving referrals from statutory bodies under the social prescribing initiative had access to adequate resourcing in order to undertake this role;
- c) to ask the STP Board representative for the community and voluntary sector to circulate to councillors in Suffolk and Essex further information about the criteria for the higher ambitions fund and how voluntary and community sector

organisations could apply, once this information was available, so that councillors can raise awareness in their communities;

- d) to highlight to the STP Head of Communications that the circulation list for the “Can Do Health and Care” Newsletter will need to be updated following any changes resulting from the District and Borough council elections on 2 May 2019;
- e) whilst noting the comments from the STP Lead, to encourage Health and Wellbeing Boards to consider whether there are opportunities for a more flexible use of Better Care Fund monies to improve outcomes; and
- f) to seek further information on what action was being taken to align budgets to consider at a future meeting.

Reason for Decision:

- a) The joint committee explored concerns about variable stakeholder engagement on the STP and the ICS process across the STP footprint. The joint committee was advised by witnesses that the Local Medical Committee (LMC) Chairs had expressed differing views with regard to the level of engagement and that the new GP contracts would give local primary care a much more influential role. The Committee was advised that engagement had also taken place at neighbourhood level through the alliances and at a strategic level through the ICS. It was noted that discussions on delivery of care which had taken place through the primary care networks had also been welcomed. Nick Hulme, STP Lead and Chief Executive of ESNEFT stressed the importance of involving mental health services, borough and district councils and the voluntary sector in the engagement process. The Committee, in recognising the importance of continuing effective engagement, requested that the STP Board take steps to maximise opportunities for engagement with organisations across the wider health and care system on the development of the ICS and neighbourhood integration.
- b) The joint committee noted that it was hoped the social prescribing initiative would be a successful new way of working but caution was raised with regard to those community groups and charities receiving referrals having adequate resources to respond to the increase in demand. Witnesses advised that demand would be tracked in order to understand local issues. The Committee acknowledged the importance of ensuring that voluntary and community sector organisations receiving referrals under the social prescribing initiative had the capacity to undertake this role and ensuring the level of service provided did not drop due to increased demand.
- c) The joint committee noted that local community and voluntary sector organisations would be invited to submit, via a grants programme, proposals for projects where they believed a broader contribution could be made to achieving the ‘Higher Ambitions’ prioritised by the alliances. The joint committee had also noted that the funding and information on how to apply was to be circulated to local community and voluntary sector organisations in April 2019. The joint committee requested that councillors be added to the circulation list for further information on the criteria and how voluntary and community sector organisations could apply so that awareness could be raised by councillors in their local communities

- d) The joint committee noted that District and Borough council elections were to take place on 2 May 2019 and, in recognising the importance of councillors being kept up to date with developments via the “Can Do Health and Care” Newsletter, highlighted the need to update the distribution list to reflect any changes;
- e) The joint committee, in noting the plans for a national review of the Better Care Fund, queried whether there were opportunities for a more flexible use of Better Care Fund monies in order to improve outcomes.
- f) The joint committee noted that the NHS ten-year plan made reference to continued support for *“local approaches to blending health and social care budgets where councils and CCGs agree this makes sense”* and considered that further scrutiny on what action was being taken to address this would be required at a future meeting.

Alternative options: None considered.

Declarations of interest: Councillor Andy Wood declared a non-pecuniary interest as he sat on the Council of Governors of the Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust.

Councillor Peter Coleman declared a non-pecuniary interest as he was a member of the Council of Governors at Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust.

Dispensations: None reported.

6. East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust – Draft Strategy 2019/24

At Agenda Item 8 the joint committee considered a report which provided an update on the developments taking place at East Suffolk and North East Essex NHS Foundation Trust, following the merger of Ipswich and Colchester hospitals in July 2018, focusing on the Trust’s Draft Strategy for 2019/24.

The joint committee was joined at the meeting by the following witnesses:

Nick Hulme, STP Lead and Chief Executive of ESNEFT

Dr Shane Gordon, Director of Strategy, ESNEFT

Rebecca Driver, Director of Communications and Engagement, ESNEFT

The Committee received a PowerPoint presentation on the draft strategy 2019-24 which can be found under ‘Tabled Information’ at: [Essex and Suffolk Joint Health Scrutiny Committee: 13 March 2019](#)

The Chairman invited witnesses to comment on the written evidence provided and highlight any key points they considered the joint committee should be aware of.

The Chairman invited the joint committee to ask questions and comment on both the written evidence and the information provided to them by the witnesses.

Decision: The joint committee, in thanking the representatives of ESNEFT for their helpful presentation on the ESNEFT Draft Strategy 2019-25, agreed that the developments taking place under the Strategy should be kept under review,

to ensure that any statutory consultation required with the joint committee took place at the appropriate time.

Reason for Decision: Nick Hulme, Chief Executive of ESNEFT provided the committee with an update on the Draft Strategy 2019/24 confirming that consultation would take place as appropriate before any final decisions were made. He advised the joint committee that services would only be moved if there was; evidence of strong clinical benefit, improved access, reduced waiting times or if there were workforce issues. The joint committee heard that clinical care was becoming more specialised and given the extraordinary pressure on the acute sector, beds for elective care could not always be protected. Nick Hulme explained that the £69.3m additional capital resource available via the STP/ICS to support the reconfiguration of services was a huge investment and consideration had to be given on how to use this to provide maximum benefit and advised that outputs could increase by separating emergency work and planned elective care. Nick Hulme confirmed that the Trust was now in a much better financial position being on track to deliver a 'control total' and paid tribute to his staff for achieving this.

Dr Shane Gordon considered that the development of the strategy was at a very important stage, encompassing the whole of the new organisation. He explained that the strategy was currently in draft but would be approved at the end of June 2019 and when finalised, would reflect accurately as possible the direction for the next 5 years, aligning closely with other strategies. Dr Gordon advised that the strategy needed to address the challenges in recruitment and he also stressed the importance of the use of technology, such as the Patient Portal, allowing more time for face to face consultation for those patients requiring it. Dr Gordon referred to the importance of the Trust's partnership role and its responsibility to work in an integrated way.

Alternative options: None considered.

Declarations of interest: Councillor Andy Wood declared a non-pecuniary interest as he sat on the Council of Governors of the Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust.

Councillor Peter Coleman declared a non-pecuniary interest as he was a member of the Council of Governors at Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust.

Dispensations: None reported.

7. Forward Work Programme

At Agenda Item 7 the joint committee considered its forward work programme.

Decision: The joint committee agreed:

- a) to ask the Senior Democratic Services Officer, Essex and Business Manager (Democratic Services), Suffolk to put together a draft list of potential items for the forward work programme, for the new joint committee's consideration following the District and Borough Council elections in May 2019;
- b) that it was important to ensure appropriate representation on the joint committee from the west Suffolk going forward;

- c) that a workshop should take place to provide induction for new members and briefing/update for current members of the joint committee in June/July 2019 in Ipswich.

Reason for Decision:

- a) The joint committee noted that the pace of developments in the ICS and ESNEFT would accelerate and therefore so would the areas for possible scrutiny going forward. Officers suggested patient experience and patient transport be included on the list of items for future consideration. It was also noted that more task and finish groups could be set up to look at issues outside of formal committee meetings.
- b) The joint committee considered that the absence of a member who represented people in the west of Suffolk should be addressed to ensure the whole of Suffolk had adequate representation on the joint committee going forward. The joint committee noted that the Suffolk Health Scrutiny Committee should take this into consideration when nominating its future members to the joint committee.
- c) The joint committee noted, as a possible outcome to the District and Borough council elections taking place on 2 May 2019 and, some current members not standing, that there would be changes in membership of the joint committee. In recognising the importance of both the induction for new members and briefings/updates for ongoing members, the joint committee agreed that a workshop should be arranged to take place in June/July 2019 and that this workshop would take place in Ipswich.

Alternative options: None considered.

Declarations of interest: None declared.

Dispensations: None reported.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The joint committee agreed that an appropriate date for the next meeting Committee should be discussed and agreed outside the meeting and published once this was available.

The meeting closed at 1.30 pm.

Chairman