

Outside body Reports 2011/12

Affinity Sutton - Cllr Eric Bosshard

On 1st October 2011 the Affinity Group of Broomleigh Housing Association and Downland Housing Association amalgamated with the William Sutton Group to form Affinity Sutton Homes.

Three regional scrutiny boards (RSB) were formed and Bromley Council is represented on the London/East Region Board. The first introductory meeting of the three boards took place on 9th February 2012.

The key role of the RSBs is to examine performance against agreed performance indicators, identifying strengths and weaknesses in performance and working with residents forums to agree programmes for improvement, further assessment / scrutiny.

Four meetings of the London/East Region are scheduled for 2012 and the first was held on 12 March 2012.

Bromley Healthcare Council of Governors - Councillor Diane Smith

Many of Bromley's Community Health Services are now being provided by a new Social Enterprise organisation, Bromley Healthcare. Established in April 2011, the organisation is managed to ensure that local people and organisations who have a stake in local healthcare, can be involved in decision making and the delivery and development of services.

The Bromley Healthcare Council of Governors makes an important and genuine contribution to this objective and in this respect as the LBB representative I have a key role to play.

I have responsibility for ensuring that the interests of Local Authority are considered not only with regard to the planning and delivery of integrated community health and social care services, but also in conjunction with the emerging Public Health agenda and work streams being progressed by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Over the last year I have participated in the selection process and appointment of the Bromley Healthcare Chief Executive. Subsequently I have attended one to one meetings with the CEO and the Chairman where discussions have largely focussed on service priorities affecting both Health and Social Care including an emphasis on joint strategic direction and forward planning.

I have also routinely attended the Council of Governors quarterly meetings where the business planning objectives of Bromley Healthcare have been considered alongside operational issues and service outcomes against their core organisational objectives.

At these meetings there has additionally been the opportunity for Governors to consider and comment on reports and presentations such as the Quality Account – an annual report required by the Department of Health looking at a range of quality indicators including patient safety, clinical effectiveness, patient experience, access to services, finance, commissioning etc. as well as an annual staff survey and the development of the Bromley Healthcare website .

Clinicians and other Healthcare professionals have also presented reports on their services which have included the Wheelchair and Special Seating service, Continence service and the recently developed Intermediate Gynaecology and Dermatology services.

As part of my role as a Governor I have felt that it has been important to undertake visits to services in which LBB has a key stakeholder interest. I have therefore spent time observing the work of the Admissions Avoidance Service and PACE (Post Acute Care Enablement) team at the Princess Royal University Hospital and have subsequently been able to provide specific feedback to the Portfolio Holder for Care Services, giving assurance that by working collaboratively with partners in Health, the LBB funding and staffing components of these teams are effectively contributing to the delivery of care to some of Bromley's most vulnerable residents with improved outcomes. Of particular note the length of hospital stay has been reduced and there is the opportunity for people to be rehabilitated in their own homes at an earlier stage than was previously possible. Early social care intervention provide by LBB has also contributed to a reduction in the need for longer term care.

More recently I visited and spent time with the Bromley Healthcare Community Matrons Long term Conditions Team. They have an important role to play in planning and personalising health and social care for patients currently in our community who have a range of long term illnesses including Heart failure, Pulmonary disease, Dementia and Parkinson's disease.

The Government has proposed challenging Health and Social Care reforms which are aimed at working towards achieving the provision of more closely integrated health and social care in the future. In this respect I welcome the opportunity to continue to represent LBB on the Council of Governors for Bromley Healthcare.

Community Links Bromley – Cllr Tony Owen

Since becoming one of the Councillor Community Links representatives, I have had meetings with successive directors of Community Links Bromley, been on a panel to choose award winners at the annual celebration of achievements and attended a Voluntary Sector Reference Group/LBB joint meeting on 10th April

2012. I have explained the financial position in which the council operates and the importance of having records of the nature and frequency of demand from users of voluntary sector services.

Cllr Ellis has had a lot more engagement and is a more important councillor in terms of reporting contact. Although the 'Voluntary Sector' does use volunteers it would be far better if they were designated as a 'not for profit' service provider'.