

EXECUTIVE AND RESOURCES PDS COMMITTEE

19th November 2014

14. UPDATES FROM PDS CHAIRMEN

(a) Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee – 15th October 2014

The Terms of Reference were agreed as on 29th March 2011.

Representatives from King's College Hospital Sue Field, Head of Capacity Planning and Service Development and Sally Lingard, Director of Communications gave an in-depth update on the performance of the Princess Royal University Hospital (PRUH) one year after the Hospital Trust's takeover.

The issues addressed were:

- Staffing – recruitment and retention
- Improving the patient pathway
- Patient discharge
- 4 hour emergency wait
- Maternity services
- Purpose built Clinical Decision Unit
- New, improved cardiologist schedule
- Improving medical record management
- Improved stroke outcomes
- Referral to Treatment (RTT) ie waiting times – cancer, gynaecology, blood tests etc
- How the Council/Councillors can help

An update was received on two projects supported from Public Health monies:

- Evaluation of the NHS Health Check
- Improvement of the diabetes element of the NHS Health Check

The take up of this service has been disappointing, its accuracy and outcomes questioned. As a result a new system has been put into place which will allow better monitoring.

A discount card for health related products was discussed.

Greenbrook Healthcare have been identified as the preferred bidder to run the Urgent Care Centre Service at Beckenham Beacon. The new service will begin on 14th December 2014.

The Work Programme was noted and an invite to add any additional issues was given. It was suggested that an update on Academic Health Service Networks would be useful.

(b) Environment PDS Committee - 4th November 2014 (to follow)

Budget Monitoring:

The Environment budget is currently predicted to be balanced. Management action and increased parking income has addressed the previously predicted overspend.

Revised Green Garden Waste Service 15/16:

The committee reviewed a proposal for savings in the waste budget. A reduction in opening hours of the Green Garden Satellite Sites would result in savings. This would involve opening 3 of sites on Saturday and two on Sunday. The committee supported the option resulting in a savings of £136 p.a.; although the potential for knock on effects was noted.

On Street Enforcement:

The committee supported a proposal to extend the Parks Security Contract to retain the Clean Neighbourhood, littering and dog fouling enforcement service and deliver it as a cost neutral service. A small, one off capital cost for equipment would be required. It is intended that enforcement will, in time, reduce littering and cleaning costs in the borough.

Congestion reduction scheme:

The committee reviewed proposals to address congestion around Orpington Station and congestion and road safety around the junction of Westerham Road and Heathfield Road. Both proposals were supported; though in the latter additional recommendations were proposed. These proposals continue to deliver the priority to reduce financial impact of congestion and accidents within the Borough.

Facilities in Parks:

The committee supported a proposal renew toddler facilities in Priory Gardens funded by S106 monies. The S106 funds came from a development with no amenity space for the children of residents. It is suggested that this should be standard for developments with insufficient amenity space.

Planned Highway Maintenance:

The programme for Planned Highway Maintenance for 2015/16 was reviewed. The committee supported the proposal. It also supported the release of the DfT funding from the central contingency to support maintenance of the borough's adopted roads.

Portfolio Plan:

The committee scrutinised the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services and the half year progress report of the Portfolio Plan.

**Cllr William Huntington-Thresher,
Chairman, Environment PDS Committee**

(c) Education PDS Committee - 5th November 2014

1. Portfolio Holder's Update

The Portfolio Holder Cllr Stephen Wells reported on the following matters:

- Work to develop the Education Portfolio budget for 2015/16 was underway and would be informed by a number of meetings with members of the public and residents' associations in November 2014.
- There continued to be a significant issue with the Bromley Adult Education College budget which was currently showing a predicted overspend of £260k for 2014/15.
- The demand for primary-level pupil places across the Borough continued to be high, and it would inevitably lead to a significant increase in secondary provision.
- Work was ongoing with La Fontaine Academy to identify a suitable permanent site for the bi-lingual primary school.
- A new planning application had recently been submitted for Harris Primary Academy Beckenham, and a planning application for Harris Primary Academy Shortlands would be considered at the meeting of Plans Sub-Committee No. 4 on 6th November 2014. (It was approved).
- Bullers Wood School had recently applied to the Secretary of State for Education to establish a six form of entry boys' secondary school in the Bickley area which was expected to receive a response in Spring 2015.
- Work to develop the alternative provision offer in the Borough for young people with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties was ongoing. The purchase of Beacon House had been approved by the Council's Executive on 10th June 2014, with the expectation of developing a provision which offered a wide variety of vocational courses at Key Stage 4 and 5 to both male and female pupils identified as having social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. A consultant had now been appointed to review the condition of Beacon House and identify the works needed to deliver a high quality learning environment.
- A conference would take place with Head Teachers and Chairs of Governors of Bromley Schools in November 2014 to consider how pupils with special educational needs and disabilities could best be supported in mainstream education. Work continued to review the use of the Phoenix Centre, Hawes Lane to ensure the provision of high quality initial assessment and ongoing support for children and young people with special educational needs into the future.

- A conference would take place with Head Teachers and Chairs of Governors of Bromley Schools in November 2014 to consider the new educational landscape which was developing to support academies and the role of the Local Authority. The Portfolio Holder would also be meeting with Local Authority Governors shortly to promote further inclusion of children with special educational needs and disabilities in mainstream settings.

2. School Performance

2.1 An update of recent Ofsted and school improvement activity across the Borough was given. Since September 2014, there have been Ofsted Inspections of Poverest Primary School, Worsley Bridge Primary School and Blenheim Primary School. In its Ofsted inspection, Poverest Primary School had been rated as 'Good', with its early years provision rated as 'Outstanding'. The result of the inspections of Worsley Bridge Primary School and Blenheim Primary School had not yet been published. The Ravensbourne School had received an Ofsted Inspection on 30th September 2014, and had been rated as 'Good'.

2.2 51% of Bromley Primary Schools have now converted to academy status, with 57% of all schools across the Borough now academies. It is expected that a majority of the remaining Local Authority maintained schools will convert to academy status by September 2015.

2.3 Intensive support is being provided to Mead Road Infant School by the School Improvement Service following the resignation of the former Head Teacher.

2.4 Similar support is also being provided to Holy Innocents RC Primary School by the School Improvement Service and a National Leader of Education through the Catholic Archdiocese. A new staff team is in place at the school, which includes a number of highly experienced teachers. Unvalidated data suggested that the school is now achieving good attainment results, and the school is progressing so it can join Catholic academies group.

2.5 An issue has been identified in the Chislehurst area around a number of junior schools that have chosen to become primary schools following conversion to academy status, with some infant schools no longer having associated junior school places. Work is being undertaken to address this issue.

3. The School Governance Working Group

3.1 The Committee received a report providing an update on progress in implementing the recommendations of the School Governance Working Group which included proposals on recruitment, selection and training process for Local Authority Governors, the development of best practice and work to promote the benefits of Local Authority Governors to academy schools.

3.2 The Council has identified 37 potential applicants with a wide range of experience and skills whose details had been provided to schools across the Borough.

4. Looked after Children

4.1 The Committee considered a report outlining the education outcomes for Bromley children in care for the 2013/14 academic year. The number of Bromley children in care has fluctuated over the year, showing a steady increase across all age ranges, but most significantly affecting the Bromley Virtual School across Early Years and Key Stage 1. The inclusion of the Year 12 and Year 13 cohorts with over 60 additional young people has brought the total number of pupils in the Bromley Virtual School to over 230. The academic progress of all Bromley children in care is closely monitored by the Local Authority; however the reporting cohort for education outcomes for Bromley children in care is limited to those who had been looked after continuously for a period of one year between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014.

5. Truancy and Missing Children

5.1 The Committee considered a report outlining the legal framework and the Local Authority's processes regarding truancy and children missing education.

5.2 Truancy figures compare favourably to a number of our statistical neighbours and surrounding boroughs. Illness continued to be the main reason for absence and Bromley Education Welfare Service has requested schools be more challenging when looking at illness.

5.3 Children missing education is defined as all children of compulsory school age who are not on a school roll, nor being educated otherwise, and who have been out of any educational provision for a substantial period of time. When undertaking inspection of local authorities, Ofsted has broadened this definition to include those young people who are attending alternative provision, been permanently excluded, in receipt of home tuition due to medical needs, receiving elective home education or are looked after by the Local Authority. In Bromley there are currently 74 children and young people accessing alternative provision, 40 permanently excluded, 59 receiving home tuition, 111 receiving elective home education, and 197 looked after children.

5.4 Families and children who cannot be traced are placed on a national database which is used by other local authorities to confirm if children reported missing have been identified within their authority.

5.5 There has recently been an increase in both secondary and primary schools requesting the Council to issue Education Fixed Penalty Notices in response to unauthorised leave, which are charged at £60 per parent per pupil missing education.

5.6 Further reports on children missing education and home education will be considered at the next meeting of Education PDS Committee on 27th January 2015. We have asked that the children missing education report include information on the proportion of Education Fixed Penalty Notices that have been issued for persistent truancy and the effect that the Fixed Penalty Notices had on the school attendance of children and young people, as well as providing details on the number of missing children in the Borough and the work that was undertaken to trace these children. The home education report will include information on the number of children being home educated across the Borough, including the age of these children and the level of support that was available to their parents and carers.

6. Families and Children's Centres

6.1 The Committee has established a working party to look at the effectiveness of Family and Children's Centres

7. Joint meeting with Care Services PDS on Child Save Guarding

7.1 There will be a joint meeting of the Education and Care Services PDS Committee exploring child safeguarding on 25th February 2015.

Cllr Nicholas Bennett JP
Chairman, Education PDS Committee

(d) Care Services PDS Committee – 11th November 2014

Changes were made to the Co-opted Members.

Officers addressed a problem of feedback and information being sent to all Members.

Two additions were made to the Work Programme: a report on Kent Association for the Blind and Young Carers.

Comments were made on a recent Member visit to Astley Day Centre.

A short joint Working Party was agreed with Education PDS regarding Children's Centres.

The Committee considered the latest budget monitoring report based on activity up to the end of September 2014. Areas of concern were discussed. The latest projected overspend is £2,768,000, with a full year effect of £4,557,000.

A report summarised the contract with Mediquip under the London Consortium Framework and sought authorisation to extend this, which was agreed.

The Committee was asked to note and comment on the Public Health Commissioning Report. This report outlined the various types of contracts that are

commissioned and the reasons why. Members asked several questions with regard to the contracts.

Older People's Day Opportunity Service was updated. Members commented on Officer's recommendation to establish an Innovation and Development Fund. Providers can bid for a grant on the basis of achieving specific outcomes in terms of service development and change in order to continue to drive change in this sector and particularly with regard to dementia.

A report was given setting out the options for the future delivery of advocacy support services for older people with mental health, older people with sensory and physical disabilities, learning disabilities and general advocacy.

An update was given on four invest to save schemes -

- Dementia
- PDSI
- Children's Social Care
- Bellegrove – temporary accommodation.

Two were performing better than the others – further updates were requested.

The committee received five Information Briefings:

- Annual Corporate Parenting Report 2013/14
- Adult Social Care Local Account 2014
- Care Services Portfolio Plan 2014/2015
- Housing Services 2014/15 Priorities
- Education outcomes for Looked After Children

**Councillor Pauline Tunncliffe, Chairman,
Care Services PDS Committee**

(e) Renewal and Recreation PDS Committee – 18th November 2014 (to follow)

**Ian Payne, Chairman,
Renewal and Recreation PDS Committee**