

Report from Adult Care and Health PDS Committee

Chairman Cllr Mary Cooke

Vice Chairman. Cllr Robert McIlveen

The Adult Care & Health PDS and the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee held a total of 9 meetings this year. The Sub-Committee considered moving its start time from 4pm to later in the day but after consultation with partners agreed that this would not be a positive move.

I begin by expressing thanks to all Committee Members, both elected and Co-Opted, officers and staff of LBB and the representatives of our health partners who have given unstintingly of their time and their expertise. In particular I would like to pay tribute to Kerry Nicholls, the Clerk to the Committees, who left LBB at the beginning of February. I wish her every success.

Review of 2018/2019

1. The Service is demand-led and the predicted overspend was mitigated by the release of funding from the Improved Better Care Fund, the Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group (BCCG) reserve and the work undertaken by the Invest to Save team.

2. During the year the Committee was pleased to note the “Good” outcome of the Reablement inspection in May 2018, the “Good” outcome of NHS England’s annual review of Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group, and the expected positive outcome of the Shared Lives Service Inspection which took place in early 2019.

3. There has been more proactive management of contracts reflecting the Committee’s role in scrutinising the improvement process and Members agree that they have a much improved line of sight of procurement and contract management. The previous flow of urgent decisions has ceased and at its last meeting the Committee was pleased to note that only one contract is red flagged and that is due to the proximity of the end of the contract.

4. The Committee scrutinised reports from the Public Health service which it found helpful. It resolved new funding of £603k to continue the Health Support to Schools programme targeted at children with medical and safeguarding needs to continue when the Better Care Funding ceases in March 2019.

5. Key highlights of the year include:

- Successful partnership working with the Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board including the provision of safeguarding training for all Members of the Committee.
- The recruitment of 15 newly qualified social workers strengthened the Adult Social Care Service.
- The procurement of a new Social Care Case Management IT system.

- Attention has been given to both Supported Living and Shared Lives Schemes and recommendations successfully introduced to meet winter pressure demands in 2017/18. These were enhanced for 2018/19 and a report from the BCCG is planned for the March meeting of the Health Scrutiny Sub Committee. made as to procurement process
- The comprehensive evaluation of winter health services carried out by BCCG. A range of services were successfully introduced to meet winter pressure demands in 2017/18. These were enhanced for 2018/19 and a report from the BCCG is planned for the March meeting of the Health Scrutiny Sub Committee.

6. Sustained efforts have been undertaken to strengthen our relationship with our partners. The Chairman and the Portfolio Holder now have regular meetings with Bromley Healthcare and, health representatives meet the Health Sub-Committee bi-annually. We are also confident that relationships with Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust will improve following the appointment of Matthew Trainer (previously COO at the PRUH) as Chief Executive at Oxleas and the appointment of Cllr Yvonne Bear to the Oxleas Council of Governors. King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has been subject to a number of severe challenges since it was placed in Financial Special Measures in December 2017, including the need to recruit a Chief Executive at the PRUH. However the inability to field a representative to attend the Sub Committee meeting in January or the meeting scheduled for the 6 March 2019 is more than regrettable.

Objectives for 2019/20

1. Continue to monitor the performance against budget with vigour paying particular attention to the Council's statutory duties that fall under the Committee's purview

2 Focus on mental health taking a holistic approach to encourage partners to work more closely to strive to ensure that physical, mental and social care needs of people are met. In particular scrutinise the process for transition from child to adult mental health services.

3 While appreciating the value of the present schedule of visits to Care Homes etc the Committee does not believe it is the appropriate forum for in depth scrutiny. It will, therefore, invite the providers of high value contracts and users of the service to contribute to the work of the Committee either by attending the meeting or giving feedback in a more appropriate way.

4. Scrutinise the contracts register and the contracts data base. Recognising that its role is to scrutinise the shaping of services and not to micro manage; it will scrutinise the in principle decision as to whether to provide a service and scrutinise the decision of the selection of a provider.

Councillor Mary Cooke
Chairman, Adult Care & Health PDS and Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee