

Minutes

Name of meeting	POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
Date and Time	MONDAY 4 MARCH 2024 COMMENCING AT 5.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs M Lilley (Chairman), J Nicholson (Vice-Chairman), R Downer, J Robertson and P Spink
Co-opted (Non-Voting)	Chris Orchin (Healthwatch Isle of Wight)
Also Present	Cllr D Andre Laura Gaudion, Laura Rice, Megan Tuckwell and Melanie White Joanna Smith (Healthwatch Isle of Wight), Darren Cattell (Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board) , Joe Smyth (IW NHS Trust), Nigel Hartley (Mountbatten), Leanne Arnold and Rev. Mark Evans (The Pyle Street Pantry)
Also Present (Virtual)	Simon Bryant Michelle Legg (Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board), and Lesley Stevens (IW NHS Trust)
Apologies	Cllrs W Drew and J Lever

38. **Apologies and Changes in Membership (If Any)**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Warren Drew and Joe Lever.

39. **Minutes**

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2023 be approved.

40. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were received at this stage.

41. **Public Question Time - 15 Minutes Maximum**

Mr Richard Knowles of Carisbrooke submitted a written question in relation to sharps disposals. A written response was provided (PQ 01-24). It was noted that a

related matter had been raised by the committee in September 2023 seeking a permanent solution for sharps bin collections. The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health agreed to investigate the matter and determine where the responsibility lies.

A supplementary question was asked, seeking information on what patients on the Isle of Wight were expected to do with their sharps waste in the meantime if they could not obtain appropriate bins. The chairman confirmed that a written response would be sought as a matter of urgency.

42. **Progress Update**

The chairman introduced the report which provided an overview of the progress against actions and outcomes from previous meetings. Discussion took place regarding the public question raised at the committee in September 2023 regarding compliance with accessibility standards and the ability to contact staff at the Integrated Care Board. The chairman advised that the Clinical Director of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight ICB would be contacted for a response.

RESOLVED:

THAT the progress report be noted.

43. **Health Inequalities - Food Poverty**

The committee received and considered the local data on food poverty, in order to gain an understanding of the extent to which it affects local residents. Representatives of Healthwatch Isle of Wight and The Pyle Street Pantry were in attendance to give evidence of their experiences, and the committee received data from the Isle of Wight Food Bank.

Questions were raised regarding the extent to which food poverty impacted the health of the population, with respect of mental and physical health and dental issues. The committee sought details on the knock-on impact this may have on health services and the Clinical Director for the Isle of Wight at the Integrated Care Board agreed to seek data on this.

The committee sought data on the food model provisions for Island residents (in respect of both accessibility and effectiveness). The Director of Adult Social Care confirmed that the draft Anti-Poverty Strategy (including the outcomes of consultation) would be presented to the committee in 6 months' time.

RESOLVED:

THAT the information be received and noted.

44. **Mountbatten Hospice**

The Chief Executive of Mountbatten was in attendance to provide information on the future of the hospice, following concerns around government funding. Attention was drawn to funding streams, population growth, and the various services offered by the charity. It was requested that the All-Party Parliamentary Group (AAPG) report

on government funding for hospices be taken seriously across the whole healthcare system.

Questions were raised regarding commissioning, and how the committee could support Mountbatten in raising awareness and securing future funding. It was agreed that the committee would write to the Chief Executive of the Integrated Care Board in support of Mountbatten seeking an uplift in line with inflation and the cost of delivering services. Following discussion, it was:

RESOLVED:

THAT given that the local community funds two-thirds of Mountbatten, the committee supports Mountbatten in seeking an uplift in line with inflation and the cost of delivering services.

45. **GP Surgeries**

The committee received the outcomes of the Island-wide GP survey, undertaken by NHS England in 2023, to review the work taking place in primary care and to monitor and improve capacity and access to services. Representatives of the Integrated Care Board and the Primary Care Network were in attendance to present the findings, with particular respect of patient experience, ease of access, demand management, and the accuracy of recording in appointment books.

Concerns were raised regarding the survey being sent to people who had recently had an appointment (which was likely to generate positive feedback) and whether there were plans to survey those patients who have been unable to get an GP appointment or had experienced long delays.

Questions were raised regarding the return-rate of the responses to the survey, examples of best practice, and the support offered to those GP surgeries with areas of negative feedback.

Discussion took place regarding the correlation between ill health and socio-economic inequalities. It was noted that the survey did not illustrate whether demand was being met and the committee sought statistics and comparative data against areas with a similar population demographics. It was suggested that this matter be referred to the Health and Wellbeing Board to look at prevention strategies to reduce future demand on primary care.

RESOLVED:

THAT the report and update be noted.

46. **Workplan**

Consideration was given to the committee's work programme. It was noted that dentistry would be considered by the committee at its next meeting in June 2024. The committee welcomed the introduction of the dental bus however it was noted that all appointments had already been booked. Concerns were raised regarding the delivery of units of dental activity and the chairman encouraged the ICB to liaise directly with dental practices to seek solutions.

RESOLVED:

THAT the committee's workplan be noted.

47. Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report

Consideration was given to the annual report of the Safeguarding Adults Board for 2022-23. Discussion took place regarding the benchmarking comparators, and it was noted that performance was favourable in all areas, with the exception of the high number of 'inappropriate' referrals made to the service.

RESOLVED:

THAT the report be noted.

48. Update on Community, Mental Health, and Learning Disability Services

The committee received an update on the progress with the development of the new Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Project Fusion) ahead of the scheduled go-live date in April 2024. The committee received an update on the Newport Health and Wellbeing Centre and it was suggested that the committee be invited to visit the site.

The committee received the outcomes of the six-month pilot scheme which took place on the Afton Ward at St Mary's Hospital in 2023, designed to reduce the need for mental health admission for people with dementia, to provide a safe and good quality inpatient environment on the Island, and to minimise length of stay. Questions were raised regarding the feedback received from patients, their families and carers. It was suggested that the committee be invited to visit the ward.

RESOLVED:

THAT the report and updates noted.

49. Members' Question Time

No questions were received.

CHAIRMAN


Public Question time

To view any public questions that were put to this committee, they will be listed as an additional PDF document below the public question time section within the online minutes, an example is displayed below:

32. [Public Question Time](#) PDF 87 KB

Questions must be delivered in writing
later than 5pm on Friday, 15 January 20

Additional documents:

- [PQ 11-21](#)  PDF 85 KB
- [PQ 12-21](#)  PDF 90 KB

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Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Health and Social Care – 4 March 2024**Written question from Mr Richard Knowles of Carisbrooke to the Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Health and Social Care**

In the years since the IW council started to commission a local service for the supply and return of medical sharps bins, many of the delivery systems used to administer medicines (particularly those used for type 1 diabetes) have become larger. As a consequence, the 1 litre sharps bins currently within the contract are no longer appropriate for around 1000 Island patients with type 1 diabetes who use this life changing technology.

Given that this number is likely to increase, how acceptable is it, that after over two years of communications between the relevant stakeholder organisations, for 5 litre sharps bins to be added to the service specification, there has apparently been no meaningful progress and that, as a consequence, Island patients are struggling to obtain the significantly larger numbers of the 1 litre bins that are now required to safely store and dispose of these larger medical sharps?

Response

Sharps boxes of a range of sizes have been collected for the last three years from Pharmacies on the island from the sharps take back scheme (see below for total box collection number 2020-2023. There are a limited number of pharmacies with the appropriate storage facilities to store 5 litre boxes they are how accepted at a number of facilities.

The council becomes responsible for sharps for self-treating patients when patients are not in receipt of care from a health care professional at home, it is very difficult to forecast the changing numbers of those requiring this sort of collection as medical advancements change rapidly.

The waste team have been ensuring the below numbers of sharps boxes from 1 to 5 litres are collected in pharmacies. However, given the changes to the size and shape of auto injectors, we are now looking to develop a pre-booked sharps collection services for larger sharps boxes. Given the cost to the authority, we are exploring the funding options, which may include a nominal fee,

Sharps Collections from Pharmacies 2022

1LHazMunicCyto 200131	2
1LMunicSharps	10335
2L Haz MunicMeds	12
2LMunicSharps	146
4LMunicSharps	60
5LMunicSharps	83

Sharps Collections from Pharmacies 2021

1LHazMunicCyto 200131	45
1LMunicSharps	11357
2L Haz Munic Meds	1
2LMunicSharps	219
4LMunicSharps	40
5LMunicSharps	45

Sharps Collections from Pharmacies 2020

1LMunicSharps	8375
2LMunicSharps	724
4LMunicSharps	18
5LMunicSharps	19