



# Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE</b>
Date and Time	<b>MONDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2021 COMMENCING AT 5.00 PM</b>
Venue	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, ISLE OF WIGHT</b>
Present	Cllrs J Nicholson (Chairman), R Downer, M Lilley, K Lucioni, C Mosdell, J Robertson  Chris Orchin (Healthwatch)
Also Present	Cllrs S Hastings, K Love, L Peacey-Wilcox, Bob Seely MP  Simon Bryant, Laura Gaudion, Paul Thistlewood, Megan Tuckwell  Alison Cross (NHSE&I), Paul Gray, Alison Smith (IW CCG), Darren Cattell, Kirk Millis-Ward, Steve Parker (IW NHS Trust), Joanna Smith (Healthwatch), Pam Fenna (Patient Observer)
Apologies	Cllrs A Garratt

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10. **Minutes**

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held 19 July 2021 be confirmed as a true record.

11. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Karen Lucioni declared an interest as a self-employed Personal Assistant.

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

Mrs Kay Evans submitted a written question in relation to patient transport, and a written response was provided. (PQ39/21)

13. **Progress on outcomes and recommendations from previous meetings**

The chairman presented the report which provided an overview of the progress against outcomes from previous meetings. No comments or questions were raised at this stage.

RESOLVED:

THAT the progress report be noted.

#### 14. **Dentistry on the Isle of Wight**

The Senior Commissioning Manager (Dental) for NHS E&I – South East Region was in attendance to provide an update on progress with the issues highlighted at the last meeting in the report on dentistry presented by Healthwatch Isle of Wight.

The impact on dentistry provision due to the pandemic was noted however many of the issues experienced on the Island pre-dated the pandemic and had been raised by this Committee and others. The committee noted the national challenges and that the pandemic had exacerbated pre-existing issues. However, the committee stressed that NHS England needed to acknowledge the unique health inequalities and challenges faced by the Isle of Wight, particularly in terms of accessibility and being unable to rely on neighbouring regions to access an NHS dentist.

It was confirmed that meetings were scheduled to commence on 14 September 2021 for NHS E&I to work with Public Health England to commission an oral health needs assessment for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight to determine where the units of dental activity (UDAs) should be tendered. It was anticipated that the consultation process would take 6 months before going out to tender.

The Committee were pleased to note the commencement of the oral health needs assessment but stressed that in addition to data analysis NHS England should ensure that there was good dialogue with all relevant local organisations and professional groups to fully understand the needs of the Island's population, including consultation with the local community, GPs and town and parish councils.

It was advised that the lack of dental provision was the biggest health inequality on the Island and has an impact upon both primary and acute care providers. Concerns were raised in relation to service delivery, access to dentists, children's dental care, dental screening backlogs, and recruitment and retention. Bob Seeley MP was in attendance and advised that meetings with NHS providers were underway in Government to identify options to recruit more dentists.

It was agreed that the Senior Commissioning Manager (Dental) for NHS England and Improvement – South East Region would report on progress to the next meeting and to keep the Committee updated informally.

**RESOLVED:**

THAT the NHS England be requested to report to the next meeting of the Committee in November 2021 on the progress with the Isle of Wight oral health needs assessment.

#### 15. **Update on Covid-19**

The Director of Public Health provided a brief update on Covid-19 recovery plans and vaccinations. The Committee were advised that rates of infection were increasing among all ages and the data demonstrated that vaccinations were effectively breaking the chain between infection and hospitalisation.

The Medical Director of the IW NHS Trust provided an update on hospital admissions and recovery to normal service delivery, and the Managing Director of

the IW CCG provided an update on the continuing impact on primary care and the vaccination booster roll-out.

Discussion took place regarding the outbreak management preparations ahead of the upcoming Isle of Wight Festival. It was confirmed that Public Health were working closely with NHS colleagues and event organisers to prevent the spread of infection including additional communications, testing sites and vaccination pop-ups.

RESOLVED:

THAT the update be noted.

**16. Health in Coastal Communities - Chief Medical Officer's Annual Report 2021**

Consideration was given to the findings and recommendations in the Chief Medical Officer's Annual Report 2021 on Health in Coastal Communities, and partners were invited to give an overview of the findings in the context of the Island, and what actions could be taken at a local level to understand and address the issues identified. The Director of Public Health confirmed that a public health south east group would meet to take the recommendations forward This would form part of the joint strategic needs assessment which would be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Committee formally endorsed and supported the recommendations contained within the report.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Committee formally supports the recommendations contained within the report.

**17. GP Patient Survey 2021**

The Managing Director of the IW CCG delivered a verbal update and presented a written report which provided background information on the 2021 GP Patient Survey alongside the key findings from the report and the next steps being taken by primary care. The IW CCG campaign to inform the public about the changing face of primary care being launched in September 2021 was welcomed. Questions were raised in relation to the response rate for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and it was requested that data be provided specific to the Island. It was indicated that the Committee wished to meet with patient participation groups (PPG's) now that they were returning to being fully operational.

RESOLVED:

- i) THAT the Managing Director of the IW CGG to confirm whether island-specific data could be provided to the Cabinet Member in relation to the GP Patient Survey.
- ii) THAT an informal meeting between the Committee and PPGs be arranged to discuss working arrangements to help support the delivery of effective care and enhance communications and engagement between the local community and GP Practices.

- iii) THAT the Communications and Engagement Strategy, together with the action plan, being produced by the IW CCG be circulated to the Committee when finalised.

**18. Integration and Innovation: Working Together to Improve Health and Social Care For All**

The Committee received an update on the establishment of the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP). Questions were raised in relation to the role that the Council will have in the ICS and it was advised that the Chief Executive was preparing a report to Cabinet outlining the role which the Council wishes to play. Concerns were raised regarding future funding for adult social care following the government's announcement that funding would be allocated to the NHS to reduce waiting lists.

RESOLVED:

- i) THAT the Committee indicated that it was vital that the Director of Adult Social Care have a position on the ICS NHS body as well as on the Hampshire and Isle of Wight ICS Partnership.
- ii) THAT the Island's MP be requested to assist the Council in pressing the Government for additional funding for adult social care as a matter of urgency.

**19. Patient Transport**

The Committee sought to ascertain what actions were being taken to improve arrangements for patients having to travel to mainland facilities for treatment in the light of the Department of Transport's Inclusive Transport Strategy.

The Managing Director of the IW CCG delivered a verbal update and presented a written report which provided background information on the Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (NEPTS) review that was being carried out by NHS England and Improvement. It was confirmed that the IW CCG, along with other organisations across the country, would feed into the national consultation.

Discussion took place regarding a priority booking system for cross-Solent travel. It was noted that Healthwatch were preparing a draft report on patient transport with the Wessex Cancer Trust and it was agreed that a copy of this would be shared with the IW CCG to feed into the consultation.

Committee members stressed that all public transport operators should be fully engaged in any processes which minimise the financial and practical implications of patients using public transport for the purposes of attending medical appointments. The Committee agreed to seek clarification from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency on the requirements placed upon cross Solent ferry operators for all car occupants to leave their vehicles whilst the crossing takes place.

RESOLVED:

- i) THAT the Integrated Care Partnership re-establishes the working group looking at patient transport as a matter of urgency and this should ensure that all public transport operators are fully engaged in processes which minimise

the financial and practical implications of patients using public transport for the purposes of attending medical appointments both on the Island and on the mainland.

- ii) THAT representations be made to the Accessibility Minister Chris Heaton-Harris that the Island's situation should be fully recognised by the inclusion of data for ferry travel in the National Travel Survey undertaken by the Department for Transport, to ensure that residents (particularly those with disabilities) have better access to public transport and a bigger say in how they travel as part of the Government's National Disability Strategy.
- iii) THAT such data should also specifically show travel for medical purposes to assist both the Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England in assessing the planning and delivery of health provision.

## 20. **Updates on Significant Service Issues**

Health partners were invited to report on any significant service issues which require the attention of the Committee and to be added to the future workplan if necessary. The Director of Adult Social Care advised that workforce pressure continued to be a significant pressure across the healthcare system. It was noted that from 11 November 2021 there would be a requirement for staff working in adult care homes to be double vaccinated and currently 5% remained unvaccinated. The Deputy Chief Executive of the IW NHS Trust added that workforce pressures also remained a challenge for the Trust.

RESOLVED:

THAT the updates be noted.

## 21. **Workplan**

Consideration was given to the future workplan, and the committee and health partners were invited to identify any key issues that should be included. It was agreed that the workplan should include an item on health and social care workforce and recruitment pressures.

RESOLVED:

THAT health and social care workforce and recruitment pressures be added to the workplan.

## 22. **Members' Question Time**

No questions were raised at this stage.

CHAIRMAN