

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE (HASC) OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday 9th April 2024. Committee Rooms 3&4,

Council House, Victoria Square

Minutes

Present

Councillors Mick Brown (Chair), Kath Hartley, Gareth Moore, Julian Pritchard, and Paul Tilsley

Also Present:

Alan Butler, Associate Director, Delivery, Improvement & Urgent Emergency Care (UEC)

Faith Button, Chief Delivery Officer, Birmingham & Solihull, Integrated Care Board (ICB).

Fiona Bottrill, Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager.

Councillor Barbara Dring, (Oscott Ward)

Lorraine Donnelly, Resident (Perry Barr)

Adewale Fashade, Interim Scrutiny Officer

1. NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

The Chair advised that the meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the council's Public-I microsite and that Members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.

2. APOLOGIES

No apologies received.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Gareth Moore declared a non-pecuniary interest as trustee of Birmingham Citizens Advice.

4. MINUTES – 23RD JANUARY 2024

The minutes of the last Health & Adult Social Care (HASC) Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting were approved by members to be an accurate record of the meeting.

5. COMMISSIONER'S REVIEW AND COMMENTS ON AGENDA

The Commissioner had agreed that reports could be published without comments.

6. INTEGRATED CARE BOARD UPDATE ON THE TEMPORARY LOCATION OF WARREN FARM URGENT TREATMENT CENTRE (UTC) TO ERDINGTON

The Chief Delivery Officer Birmingham and Solihull ICB and Associate Director of Delivery were in attendance to present the latest update on the temporary relocation of Warren Farm UTC to Erdington. Key points highlighted were:

- Since the January (2024) meeting, relocation plans have been in place and staff have been engaged with. Relocation plans and site changes have been submitted to Care Quality Commission.
- The remaining task was the installations to be done by external contractors and related work to ensure safety and security. This was now underway. The move may run into May due to digital installation delays. As a result, there was a risk of missing the April schedule opening month. Weekly inspections were ongoing to ensure safety.
- The next steps would be to roll out accessible communications so that patients and all relevant stakeholders would be fully updated about the 'go-live' date and work leading to this.
- It was emphasised that the relocation move was on a temporary and emergency basis. This was expected to last for up to 12 months in order to safeguard the ICB's number one priority – patients and staff safety.
- The Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC) urgent review was now underway to determine the effectiveness of UTC service provision.

The following were the main points made by the ICB representatives in response to Committee Members' questions:

- In response to whether capital approval had been given for reconstruction of Warren Farm with a view to moving back there, the Associate Director, Delivery, Improvement & Urgent Emergency Care said not at this stage as the focus during the relocation was on carrying out overall review of all UTCs in Birmingham and Solihull. This would start over the next month. As a result, work has not begun on the capital approval of the contract.

- It was emphasised that relocation programme including options appraisals for UTC including Warren Farm would run in parallel.
- Work undertaken so far at Warren Farm was to keep the site safe while carrying out relocation plans to its temporary location.
- Estates team responsible for plans to keeping the building safe and information on plans from them on safety would be circulated to members. This would include information on the Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) situation on other UTCs.
- It was emphasised that there was the need to carry out options appraisal and this must be completed before the Trust was clearer about the future of Warren Farm UTC.
- In response to a question regarding clarity on the timeline to inform people of the 'go-live' date, appropriate communications would be published in the next 7-10 days to inform patients and stakeholders.
- In response a question regarding the costs of making Warren Farm safe and the impact of relocation costs. the Committee was informed that how UTCs can be best utilised to benefit population needs would come out more in the overall review. In terms of patients' data (e.g. how far they were travelling) and how they would be accessing UTC provision, ensuring the way UTCs would be accessed in a timely manner would be monitored to ensure improvements where required. The Trust would also look to gather data on the patient experience and consider feedback to better understand patient access needs.
- There would be signage outside Warren Farm to re-direct people to the temporary location. Information would also be available on 111.
- The engagement on the whole UTC agenda will commence soon after early May (after the local elections). Plans for engagement would be shared with HASC committee members.

At this stage, Cllr. Brown invited Cllr. Dring to ask the Integrated Care Board (ICB) representatives a question on behalf of constituents seeking clarification on what was happening with Warren Farm and whether it would be the Integrated Care Board's decision in keeping Warren Farm or would the NHS also be involved in the decision. A resident, Lorraine Donnelly, also attended with Cllr. Dring.

The ICB representatives made the following points in response:

- It was reiterated that the purpose of UTCs was to relieve the pressures on hospitals and cope with patient demand. The proposed UTC review would be important to be able to scope the sustainability of UTC service provision that meet population needs and demands, and to ensure that the service was fit for purpose in taking demand and pressure from hospital Accident & Emergency departments.
- In a further response on patient accessibility concerns expressed by a resident present at the meeting, well-being and safety of patients would always come above costs, and safe access would always be a priority for all UTCs including at this new relocation premises. If there were any concerns on accessibility identified during this temporary move, this would be addressed accordingly.

RESOLVED:

- Noted the progress made so far on the relocation plans, with possible move date in May pending completion of installations.
- That information on possible Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in other Urgent Treatment Centres (UTCs) be circulated to committee members.
- That information on the Estates team assessment on safety issues of the building at Warren Farm, including the percentage of the roof affected by RAAC be circulated to the Committee.
- Information on the review of UTCs to be circulated to the Committee.

7. HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ACTION TRACKER

The Interim Scrutiny Officer updated members on the HASC Action Tracker from the last meeting:

Active Birmingham strategy – the implementation plan was to be launched this month. Key actions on this would be brought to a future meeting.

Committee members' visit to University Hospitals, Birmingham sites was scheduled for 1st May 2024 and the itinerary had been shared with members.

RESOLVED

- The Committee noted updates on actions from the previous Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting.

8. HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 23/24

The Overview and Scrutiny Manager confirmed the main agenda items for the next meeting in May:

- The Integrated Care Board (ICB) Quality Report.
- Mentally Healthy Birmingham Project.
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the new Health Regulations process; a draft to come to the committee.

The committee agreed that the Task and Finish Group meeting recommendations on the savings delivery plans agreed as part of the budget scrutiny, go to the Coordinating Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committee.

In response to a question on the Day Opportunities report that had recently gone to Cabinet, the Chair had been consulted and expressed disappointment that his request for committee members to be consulted on the issue was not accepted. Members reiterated that it was important for the committee to feed into the report before cabinet decision on Day Opportunities.

RESOLVED

- The Committee noted the Work Programme as set out in Appendix 1
- The Committee agreed, subject to further input from the Chair and Deputy Chair, the issues that the Committee will consider in May, the proposed aims and objectives and the preferred method of scrutiny.
- The Committee agreed, subject to further input from the Chair outside of the meeting, its proposed work programme will be submitted to Co-ordinating OSC
- The Committee agreed that any recommendations from the Savings Delivery Task and Finish Group would be reported to Co-ordinating OSC

9. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)

None.

10. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS.

None.

The meeting ended at 10.50 hours.