



## Minutes of the Health Scrutiny Board

3 December 2009

**-: Present :-**

Councillor Phillips (Chairman)

Councillors Carter (C), Excell, Faulkner (J), Kerslake, Manning, Morey, and Thomas (J)

(Also in attendance: Councillor Bent)

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### 310. Committee Membership.

It was reported that, in accordance with the wishes of the Conservative Group, the membership of the Board had been amended for the meeting by including Councillors Kerslake and Excell instead of Councillors Thomas (D) and John.

### 311. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Health Scrutiny Board held on 29 October 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 312. Torquay North Healthy Living Centre

The Board considered Report 256/2009 which provided information on the Torquay North Healthy Living Centre. The Board was advised of the project's progress and efforts to identify suitable site options. Board members were informed that a full contract notice had been placed in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) and would close on 8 December 2009.

Members questioned the budget for the Torquay North Healthy Living Centre and were advised that an Outline Business Case had been prepared and a budget had not yet been set.

Members questioned the criteria that would feature in scoring potential sites and were advised that public transportation would feature.

In response to questions, the Board was advised that public views would be sought once suitable sites were identified.

**Resolved:** that a further update on the Torquay North Healthy Living Centre be provided to the February 2010 meeting of the Health Scrutiny Board

**(Note:** Prior to consideration of the item in Minute 312, Councillor Kerslake declared a personal interest in the matter as a patient of Brunel General Practice Surgery.)

**313. Developing Services for Older People with Mental Health Needs**

The Board considered Report 257/2009 which provided information on Devon Partnership NHS Trust's proposals for mental health services for older people. The Medical Director, Devon Partnership NHS Trust, advised the Board of the demographic challenges in Torbay and Devon. The Board was informed that Torbay led the county in terms of historical investment, quality, accessibility and model of care for older people with mental health needs.

In response to questions, the Board was advised that Devon Partnership NHS Trust was intending to invest £1.4m in the Fernworthy Unit at Torbay Hospital. The Board was informed that once the Fernworthy Unit was operational Brunel Lodge at Newton Abbot would no longer be used by Torbay patients.

With reference to proposals to provide older people in Torbay with the full range of services currently available to younger adults, such as crisis services, Board members questioned the current provision. In response members were advised that currently older people could not receive extra specialist care.

Members asked how the Healthy Living Centres proposed for Torbay fitted with the plans of Devon Partnership NHS Trust. In response, the Board was advised that Devon Partnership NHS Trust would be locating within the proposed Clennon Valley Healthy Living Centre and was not planning to relocate to a healthy living centre within Torquay.

Members questioned the impact of personalisation on mental health services for older people and the capacity of users to make informed decisions. In response the Board was advised by the Acting Director of Commissioning, Torbay NHS Care Trust, of the need to support users and the value of an advocacy service.

Members questioned when the Care Quality Commission's review of Devon Partnership NHS Trust's hospital services for older people and when the Strategic Health Authority's regional review of dementia services would be published. In reply, the Board was advised both reports would be published in spring 2010.

The Mental Health Commissioning Manager, Torbay NHS Care Trust, advised the Board of the Torbay Dementia Strategy and members agreed the value of a presentation on the subject.

Members questioned the risks of undertaking a comprehensive plan of reform during a period of expected cuts in NHS budgets. In response, the Acting Director of Commissioning, Torbay NHS Care Trust, informed the Board that Torbay could be expected to be asked for savings of approximately £36million over the next five years. The Board was advised by the Acting Director of Commissioning, Torbay NHS Care Trust, that the quality of services provided and commissioned could not be affected and that reductions in back office staff and the removal of outmoded practices would feature in options.

Members questioned whether the demographic assumptions for Devon were used to inform planning for Torbay. In reply, the Board was advised that the number of people aged 65 years and over in Torbay would increase by forty per cent by 2021. The

Mental Health Commissioning Manager, Torbay NHS Care Trust, informed the Board that this demographic increase would be higher within certain areas of Torbay.

In response to questions about the training and funding of young people to become carers in Torbay, including apprenticeship schemes, the Board was advised that the Mental Health Commissioning Manager, Torbay NHS Care Trust, would investigate further.

Board members agreed the value in receiving details of the user involvement and implementation plans for Devon Partnership NHS Trust's proposals for mental health services for older people.

The Acting Director of Commissioning, Torbay NHS Care Trust, informed the Board of recent successes in the Health Service Journal awards for Torbay NHS Care Trust and for South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The Board signified its congratulations to all concerned.

**Resolved:** that details of the user involvement and implementation plans for Devon Partnership NHS Trust's proposals for mental health services for older people be provided to a future meeting of the Health Scrutiny Board.

Chairman