

MINUTES

ESSEX AND SOUTHEND LINK: SOUTH EAST ESSEX LOCALITY MEETING

Date and Time 10th June 2009 from 7pm – 9pm
Location Under Spire Room, Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Hockley Road, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 8BB.
Organiser Gill Dawson (Project Co-ordinator)
 Minute taker: Sharon Cohen (Project Administrator)

Attendees: Eddie Camp (Vice Chair), Majzoub B Ali, Alan Grubb, Irene Grubb, Martin Emery, Dave Poulten, Celia Clark (SAVS), Michael Bull, Charles Newman (RETHINK), Jackie Brown (RRAVS), Margaret O'Connor, Hilary Lister, Angela Garrard, Roy Birch, Dan Turpin (Southend V-Involved team).
LINK Staff: Gill Dawson (LINK Area Project Co-ordinator), Sharon Cohen (LINK Project Administrator).

	Topic	Discussion	Action
1	Welcome & Introductions	Eddie welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2	Apologies for absence	Denis Garne, Linda Cook, Nicky Hart (NHS SEE), Gareth Gault (St. Luke's Healthy Living Centre CIC), Tony Wright, Barrie Andrews, Mary Beckers, Paul Beckers, Harry Chandler, Beryl Furr, Cliff Wallace, Mary Green, Gordon Browne, Tony Le Masurier, Viv Barnes (belated apologies).	
3	Declarations of potential conflicts of interest	Eddie Camp – Governor, Southend Hospital Martin Emery – Southend Hospital Angela Garrard – NHS SEE	
4	Minutes of previous meeting	<p>a) To be agreed: The minutes of the meeting held on 12.05.09 were agreed subject to the following change: Page 4, item 6 e) 7th line down the word “likely” to be changed to “possible”.</p> <p>b) Matters Arising: Margaret O'Connor stated that the committee had attended a meeting with Debbie Fielding regarding the SEPT reduction in beds. She advised that they had been assured that the money that was to be used for the beds would be transferred for care in the community. Margaret also stated that she had met with Ray Boateng he had asked for 2 representatives from LINK to be put forward for the commissioning of care of the elderly with mental illness. Margaret had suggested the two representatives as Linda Cook and Teresa Jago. Margaret asked Gill if Harry had written the letter to Ray Boateng putting forward Linda and Teresa. Gill was uncertain as to whether or not he had. We await an update from the PCT how the money made available from the closure of the long term care beds will be used. Margaret stated that the money that will be freed up would be used for mental health services.</p>	GD/ HC

		<p>Eddie said that the Acute Clinic also required funds. Margaret said that she had spoken with the commissioners (for mental health) regarding early diagnosis. She asked why they are commissioning SEPT and the hospital to both run memory clinics. Eddie responded that the hospital contract was still due to run for a year and a half. After this time the hospital will have to show that they are complying with the new directives in order to continue to provide the service.</p>	
5	<p>Consultations / Discussion Documents</p>	<p>a) Neonatal Review – response submitted 29.05.09: Eddie stated that we had submitted a response since the last meeting. He summarised the response in some detail. If anyone requires a copy of the response please contact the South East Essex locality office.</p> <p>b) Proposed Strategic Plan for NHS SEE 2009 – 2014 Eddie attended a meeting at which Andrew Pike was present to give an update on the 5 year plan consultation. Eddie said that you often hear of the consultations but it is less common to hear about the follow up. Eddie felt that this was the first sign of positive feedback in consultation. Their website contains examples of the responses made in the consultation some of these have been included in the strategic plan. These will be considered on Thursday the 11th June by the PCT and then by the Strategic Health Authority in the eastern region. The PCT will continue to work with the current allocation of funding. The general thrust of the responses from the public were in agreement, but included comments about keeping the service public, criticism regarding out of hours service in primary care and so far as secondary care in the acute side a larger % per head of population should be seen outside of the hospital. The hospital will lose around £30 million per annum in relation to people being treated in the community. This will give a £30 million saving to the PCT which can be reinvested. The strategy was based on the Department of Health budget of a real term increase of 2%. It was now understood that from 2011 onwards the development budget would be cut to 0.5%. Whilst the strategic plan is being submitted on the original basis the strategy will need periodically reviewing in view of the budget constraints and further efforts to strive for efficiencies. Margaret raised the question as to whether other areas such as Basildon had been looked at in regards to out of hour's services. It was stated that we would like more information as to how we compare to other areas, which services are used and generally a more rigorous analysis of the situation. Martin Emery stated that the PCT should have mentioned the issue raised in their 5 year plan as they need to have the capacity to use the £30 million for services but do they have the capacity to provide these services in the community. They need to have the capacity before releasing the funds for acute care. Dave Poulton reported that he had had a positive experience with the out of hours doctor deputising service. Alan Grubb said that people from areas near to Southend use the Hospital services. He asked if the usage of the hospital services will go down when the other services are provided. A discussion ensued regarding the higher use of Southend hospital services compared to other areas. Martin Emery suggested that we should perhaps ask Nicky Hart to circulate the information regarding this again.</p> <p>c) Hospital Access Eddie stated that Alan Grubb had raised the issue about the lack of double yellow lines around the hospital entrance. Eddie stated</p>	<p>NH/GD</p>

		<p>that he had spoken with the facilities department and they had said that they were looking at putting a pelican crossing in which would give pedestrians priority. Eddie also said that there are problems with parking at the new section of the hospital and that the local authorities wanted to deal with the problem together. A suggestion has been made that the local authority perhaps could paint double yellow lines in this section. So far this has not been done and it may be some time before a solution is found.</p> <p>d) PEAT (Patient Environment Action Team) This item was not on the agenda but Eddie provided some information regarding this to the members. He reported that Southend hospital's present peek rating had been revised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Privacy & dignity – Acceptable • Environment – Acceptable • Food – Excellent <p>Eddie said that the reason they only scored acceptable on dignity & privacy was due to the fact that they need to meet the target of single sex wards by 2010. The goal posts have been changed by the Department of Health. Margaret asked Eddie if he was reporting on the same thing that Martin Emery had conducted a presentation of at the last meeting. Martin stated that he had reported on the Patient Survey, PEAT was different it was a report produced by external staff and auditors. Roy Birch stated that he had had a positive experience recently with both food and privacy in Southend hospital. Angela Garrard asked if perhaps LINK could put forward members to be involved in the PEAT assessment. Gill said this would be considered "Enter & View" and only 20 people In Essex were being appointed to that panel. Eddie said that the Governors of the foundation trust are representatives on PEAT so they could put forward the suggestion.</p>	EC
6	Work Plans / Progress Report on Projects	<p>a) Needs assessment (ward profile): Margaret O'Connor reported on this project. She stated that there has been a flurry of activity since the beginning of the project. They have been working hard to get hold of the data. They are looking at getting "a worms eye view" not a "birds eye view", and that there is a lot of deprivation. They are currently looking at 5 wards 2 in Castle Point, one in Rochford and two in Southend. Margaret said that they are looking at how "Joe Blogs" would find out what the needs are, members looked at how to get the information from the census etc. She said that some members found it quite traumatic but she said that they had to go through this process to show how hard it was for the "man in the street" to obtain it. Margaret said that some volunteers had stuck with it, and others had fallen by the wayside. The commissioners and public health officer have also come on board. The local authority and public health are now providing the project with lots of data. The information provided has raised lots of questions. Now the information is being given to them in bite size lumps they can now look at how the data can be presented in an easy to read format. Margaret said that they need more volunteers now to act as scrutineers to show them how to present the data and the information they have on the 5 wards will now be analysed. Once this has been looked at they will look at more qualitative data to ensure that the services are right for the people. Margaret again reiterated the need for more volunteers. Jackie Brown said that the Local Strategic Partnership across Essex should be doing this work anyway,</p>	

especially in respect of the budget constraints. It should be piece of work from “cradle to grave” across Essex including the unitary authorities. She stated that the Local Strategic Partnership should be looking at this. Essex County Council were looking at this last year. Margaret responded that they are looking at the information more at ward level and stage 2 will involve looking at more qualitative data. The data will need to be packaged in an easy to read format. Jackie said that the Office of National Statistics already provide this information. Margaret said that a lot of the information is out of date and “suspect” she also said that funding for the project had been difficult. She had applied for funding from Southend Borough Council and Castle Point Borough Council but had been turned down by both. She is now applying for funding from CEMVO and the paperwork is in the process of being completed. She said she wasn’t aware of the availability of funding from CEMVO initially. Celia Clark said that the local observatory was a good source of information. Margaret responded that she is already a member of the Essex Observatory. Margaret reiterated the fact that she is in need of more volunteers and that the next meeting for the project is on the 7th July at 10am – 12.30pm at 6 Nelson Street. Eddie asked if the project included looking at the “hard to reach”. Margaret responded that “hard to reach” is looked at differently by organisations and areas. Martin Emery said that the Department of Health have a dialogue of equals and refer to them as “seldom heard” rather than “hard to reach”. Southend Hospital has recruited an Equality and Diversity Officer as this is something they are keen to improve on. A discussion then ensued regarding the seldom heard, Majzoub B Ali mentioned the recent report produced by John Barber titled “Missing Communities” he said it was very well produced and worth reading. Margaret then went on to thank Wossen Tadesse, who has left now. She also stated that she would provide a written report as soon as possible.

MOC

b) Hospital Discharge (countywide project):

Eddie reported that they have had one meeting recently and another meeting which will happen shortly, in which they will agree a way forward as to what will happen in the individual hospitals regarding discharge procedures. Then they will come together as an Essex wide group. Eddie explained that the project covers the discharge process from the day of patient discharge. Majzoub B Ali asked if Thurrock was included in the process, to which Gill responded that Thurrock was a separate LINK.

c) Gypsies & Travellers (countywide outreach project):

Gill advised members that a report had been circulated with the meeting paperwork and due to time constraints said she would not go through the report fully. She asked members if they had any questions relating to the project. Majzoub B Ali stated that the Dale Farm site had not been mentioned in the report, to which Gill responded that only legal sites are being looked into at present which does not mean to say that information will not be disseminated to illegal sites. The decision was made by the Countywide group to only focus on legal Gypsy and Traveller sites. Margaret said that the illegal sites have lots of health and social care issues and Hilary Lister said that we would be encouraging illegal sites if we looked into them. A discussion then ensued which concluded with members wanting the question of illegal sites to be taken back to the Countywide

GD

		<p>d) Voluntary Organisation Conference about abuse of Elderly and Vulnerable People: Paul & Mary Beckers attended a conference relating to the above. They have provided a written report which was tabled.</p> <p>e) Pier Medical Centre: This item was not on the agenda. Eddie reported about the suppliers' proposal to withdraw from the project at the Pier Medical Centre. The PCT awarded the services to a firm of contractors, but the contractors of the services have advised the PCT that they want to opt out. The PCT will call a re-tender. The current contract runs until February 2010 then they will try to obtain new contractors. Alan Grubb asked what was to stop the same thing happening again. Eddie responded that the PCT are confident that the current contractors will "see it out" and that they will not accept substandard services in the meanwhile. Majzoub B Ali asked if it would be a further private company put in place in 2010, he said that people could be losing confidence in private companies due to the recession etc. A discussion then ensued regarding the PCT contracting services, to which no final conclusion was reached. This should be brought to the next agenda.</p>	GD/SC
8	Social Care	This item was not covered due to lack of time.	
9	Social Care Southend-on-Sea	This item was not covered due to lack of time.	
10	Publicity	Sharon Cohen reminded members that we are taking part in the Southend Community in Harmony Partnership event on the 21 st of June and the Stay Safe Event on the 27 th of August. Details are available from the Southend LINK office if anyone is interested.	All
11	Infection Control	Margaret O'Connor raised this issue on behalf of Linda Cook as she is currently on holiday. Margaret said that she thought that in view of the recent Swine Flu and in light of the MRSA issues that Linda felt it would be an idea to be briefed about infectious diseases. Several members stated that we have all had a leaflet about Swine Flu so felt it wasn't necessary to have much more than that. Margaret suggested that perhaps we could have someone to do a presentation about these issues. No decision was made about this matter due to lack of time.	MOC/ LC
12	Presentations for next meeting in July – JSNA	Margaret O'Connor stated that the JSNA would like to do a presentation at the next full locality meeting. Members agreed to this.	MOC/ GD
13	Any Other Business	<p>a) It was suggested that due to the fact that there was a rush to get all items on the agenda covered that we should have a timed agenda in future.</p> <p>b) Currently Dave Poulten raised the issue of the lack of NHS dentist services available. Due to lack of time for discussion it was agreed that this matter should be clarified with Nicky Hart.</p>	DP/GD/ NH
14	Date & Place of Next Meetings	The next meeting will take place on: Wednesday 8th July 2009	

7pm – 9pm at SAVS 29-31 Alexandra Street, Southend on Sea, Essex, SS1 1BW.

Future meeting dates:

Wednesday 12th August 2009

7pm – 9pm Under Spire Room, Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Hockley Road, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 8BB.

Wednesday 9th September 2009

2pm – 4pm at SAVS 29-31 Alexandra Street, Southend on Sea, Essex, SS1 1BW.

Wednesday 14th October 2009

2.00 - 4.00pm Hadleigh Methodist Church, Chapel Lane, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 2PQ

Wednesday 11th November 2009

2pm – 4pm at SAVS 29-31 Alexandra Street, Southend on Sea, Essex, SS1 1BW.

Wednesday 9th December 2009

2pm -4pm The Hollywood, 140 Shipwrights Drive, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 1RF.