

Health and Wellbeing Committee Meeting 11 March 2015

The committee reviewed the minutes of the Staffordshire Healthy Select Committee, which included the Modernisation of Day Opportunities of People With Learning Difficulties Kidsgrove Consultation. This included the proposal to close the day centre. A member from Kidsgrove stated the Day Centre was trying to allocate other services and agencies to use the building which would generate remuneration. This was supported by the committee as a positive move from local residents.

There was a further discussion on the proposal from Staffordshire Healthwatch to hold an engagement event in Newcastle, which would enable the public to find out about the health and social care services in the area followed by a question and answer session with senior health providers. It was agreed it would be best organised in or close to the town centre. The Civic Centre was suggested as a possible venue, as Jubilee2 was not available.

The committee was given a presentation by Marcus Warne, Chief Operating Officer for the North Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (NSCCG), on Promoting Independence, Choice and Dignity: A New Model of Care in North Staffordshire. This is a joint venture by the NSCCG and the Stoke-on-Trent CCG who are considering commissioning community based services for patients who were currently admitted to hospital. The proposal was for more community based support for individuals in their own home or closer to home. The vision was to develop a 'step down' model of care which saw the patient's journey from the point of admission to discharge, supporting less transfers of care between multiple organisations and resulting in a reduction of delays. They would also develop a 'step up' model, which would see a diagnostic and assessment centre within the community and a continued increase in easy accessible home based services within the community, which would improve quality of care for all patients.

When reviewing the work plan, the issue of the NSCCG Board Meeting the previous week agreeing to cease funding hearing aids for people with mild hearing loss was raised. It was agreed a letter would be sent from the committee to the NSCCG, with a copy to the Chair of Staffordshire Healthy Committee, expressing its objection to this decision.

Cllr. Colin Eastwood

Chair Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee