

## Executive Committee

**Date:** 19/04/2011

**Time:** 18:00

**Location:** Ladywell Leisure Centre

**PRESENT:** Desmond Hodgson (Guest), Sally Niblett, Jane Keane, Selena (Scrutinee Manager), Geraldine Richards, Paul Connelly, Carl Handly (OSC), Elsa Pascal, Graham Trice, Stella Jeffery (OSC), Sue Parks, Martin Howie, Philippe Granger, Brian Fisher, John Muldoon (OS), Val Fulcher (Chair)

**In attendance:** Darren Morgan (Minutes)

		Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome, Introductions and Apologies for Absence</b>	
	Apologies: Rosie Fooks	
<b>2</b>	<b>Healthier Communities Select Committee &amp; LINK:</b>	
	<p>LINK's current plan for transferring to HealthWatch and planned transition arrangements: Preparations for transition can be difficult if government intentions are fluid and different advice comes at different times, with the Health Bill on hold there is a likelihood HealthWatch England won't exist until 1st July and not 1st April 2012. The HealthWatch (HW) remit includes advice and guidance, not a skill we have at the moment, but according to the latest guidance this may be dropped. The main essence of work is in facilitating public involvement and this should continue to be our focus. Public accountability under HW will be stronger, however, there are questions over the relationship with the Care Quality Commission (CQC).</p> <p>Brian said a "Future Forum" has been set up in which a number of voluntary agencies are represented who will listen to the NHS and come up with recommendations for change. Accountability to local populations is one of the elements to have most shift..</p> <p>Val concluded with the need to keep abreast of changes, keep knowledge and impart to people where necessary. Participants need to be kept fully aware of what is happening and we must make sure information is constantly sent out to stakeholders. Martin added we are aware of the first rate work Pam Seymour did with the LINK which allowed a head start, our reputation is very positive around London and beyond - we shouldn't lose sight of all the good work done, build and do what is right for Lewisham. Working with the Overview and Scrutinee Committee (OSC) is important.</p> <p>Draft work programmes of both bodies in 2011-12, and any opportunities to work jointly and share information (for example if the Committee were to carry out an in-depth review in 2011-2012, the LINK may be well placed to provide evidence): Selena announced that the programme of work for 2011/12 is now being set and the Committee is reviewing who best to speak to and take evidence from, to this end the OSC would like to work in partnership with Lewisham LINK. An in-depth review of adult social care changes is planned as the rationale was to "improve services", but this needs to be backed up by evidence. What impact will the change of charging structure have and will people have been deterred from taking up services? We need to gather clear evidence from service users and attract national interest - it would be interesting to see if someone is already doing this work. John urged that "change can only be influenced on the basis of evidence", and evidence can be provided in broad number of ways. To this end, the LINK database and eBulletin could be utilized.</p>	

	<p>Brian asked how topics for review are decided on - John said with assistance from officers and considering work capacity and financial resources, the OSC are unlikely to conduct more than one "major review" per year. The focus is on determining variations in services that people rely on. If we would like to propose topics, this can be submitted to Selena or Val/Philippe.</p> <p>Another round of savings proposals is being considered at the Council. In addition to this, the OSC would like to keep track of developments in the NHS. A Stakeholder Reference Group for South East London has been introduced and views are sought on joint up scrutinee (JOSC). Brian emphasized the need to scrutinize the effects of the NHS reforms within Lewisham, a good example of this is monitoring "procedures of known value" that are not being done over the next 6 months.</p> <p>To conclude Val thanked the OSC members for coming and said that joint working was an "absolutely worthwhile" exercise.</p>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes of last meeting and Matters Arising</b>	
	<p>At the last meeting it was agreed that EC Members who wanted to stand down should contact Miriam. Val confirmed that Alan Bailey and Kate Rogalska have done so, leaving 2 places up for election. The Host Team will initiate the nominations ballot and contact all Participants.</p> <p>Graham requested that we ask the hospital for their policy on use of mobile phones.</p>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Members and Hosts Update.</b>	
	<p>Elsa noted that the voluntary sector was not represented at a "Healthier Lewisham" meeting and she urged the Trust to take this on board.</p> <p>Graham cited the excessive use of abbreviations in NHS documentation with no adequate explanations, and pointed out a principle is at stake. If health authorities want to involve members of the public, they must "speak in English". It is advised to use the abbreviation in brackets on first use.</p> <p>Sue said Mencap are looking for office space in Lewisham.</p> <p>Martin - next Health &amp; Social Care Forum, Wednesday 25th May St Lawrence Centre.</p> <p>Brian said the LINK is supporting the "SOS Lewisham" campaign to fight against the reforms and an event will take place on 14th May outside Lewisham Shopping centre. Brian is on the national HW development committee. The LINK has helped to finalise Lewisham's strategy on patient and public engagement, which if adopted will be a big shift in terms of engagement with local population. Suggested for the next meeting's agenda - a year ago Public Health at NHS Lewisham wrote an important paper on the quality of General Practice in Lewisham, which is now possible to look at. It might influence where people choose to go and we need to make a decision as to how we might use the data and various ways of making it available to residents.</p> <p>Darren thanked all around the table for their support over the last 3 months and looked forward to a productive year ahead.</p>	
<b>5</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
	None.	
	The meeting ended at 19:30. Next meeting: 14/06/2011	