

MINUTES

Meeting:	HWCB Board Meeting in Public
Date:	Tuesday 13 th March 2018
Time:	18.00 to 19.30
Venue:	The Incuba Centre, 1 Brewers Hill Road, Dunstable LU6 1AA

ATTENDEES:

First Name	Surname	Initials	Role
Diana	Blackmun	DB	CEO
Dave	Simpson	DS	Vice Chair (Chair)
Linda	Grant	LG	Director
Kevin	Daly	KD	Director
Catherine	Davies	CD	Director

APOLOGIES: Wendy Toomey (Director); Gill Hiscox (Director)

Also in attendance: Susan George (HWCB Insight & Research Officer & minute taker), Linda Harrison (HWCB Volunteer); Den Fensome (HWCB Volunteer); Phil Turner (Chair, HWL); Ruth Adams (BCCG)

		ACTION
1.	Welcome and apologies noted from Wendy Toomey and Gill Hiscox.	
2.	<p>Guest speaker – David Carter (DC), Chief Executive Officer, Luton & Dunstable Hospital – Update on proposed merger of Bedford Hospital and Luton & Dunstable Hospital</p> <p>DC introduced David Carter (DC) who gave a presentation and update on the proposed merger of the two hospitals in Bedfordshire.</p> <p>DC explained why the merger was proposed and how this would benefit patients of both hospitals. The merger will enable consultants and specialists to offer a more comprehensive seven day a week cover over the two sites. The proposed name for the hospitals, post-merger, will be Bedfordshire Hospitals University Foundation Trust.</p>	

It is anticipated that IT systems will link current NHS IT Systems to avoid duplication of treatments. A public member raised an example of this by stating that the same discussion and treatment was undertaken at two separate hospitals because neither hospital staff had access to the patient's medical history. DC explained that under the proposed plans for the merger, £6 million would need to be invested in an integrated medical records system where an NHS patient can be admitted to any NHS hospital and the staff would be able to access their records.

DC confirmed that both sites (L&D and Bedford) will each retain core services such as A&E, Maternity and Paediatrics but complex cases may be referred to the L&D. Early Pregnancy cases would be run as a seven day service, unlike the current situation; with a seven day service patients requiring care in early pregnancy would no longer need to be sent to A&E on the days that the service was closed.

DC explained how the merger would be funded. Currently loans are taken on a short term basis. For the proposed merger a loan would be taken over a much longer term. This would have the benefit of creating hospitals that are fit for purpose whilst still maintaining good care for patients. Currently, both hospitals need updating and in order to cope with future demand the hospitals need to be brought up to date with technology, staffing levels and services.

DC stated that should anyone feel they would like to know more or to contribute to the proposed merger plans then they could email the following: merger@ldh.nhs.uk to register their interest.

Questions were raised at the meeting by members of the audience which included the following:

Q: Will patients have to be moved to a different hospital away from their families?

A: Patients still have the same right to be treated in the hospital of their choosing, as is currently the case. The only difference will be that all NHS hospitals will be able to access the patient records for continuous care.

Q: Will the phlebotomy services be moved?

A: The phlebotomy service will be moved to Arndale House in Luton this Summer, more suitable premises for patients.

Q: Why don't hospitals talk to each other?

A: Currently all hospitals are using separate IT systems. When they are all using the same systems there will be continuity of care. This is one area where the merger will work for the patient. However, this may take some time to develop and implement.

DC also explained that there had recently been some challenges regarding hospital transport at both sites and a change of provider for this service (it is not run by the hospital). Under the new provider the service had improved however DC felt there was still a long way to go. DB confirmed that HWCB had previously instigated a survey about the Patient Ambulance Service and agreed to follow-up concerns raised with the new provider and look into the possibility of undertaking a new survey in the near

	<p>future. DB to action.</p> <p>DC's presentation is available on request. Please contact info@healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk</p>	DB
3.	Minutes of previous meeting agreed. DB confirmed actions completed.	
4.	<p>CEO Update</p> <p>DB updated on HWCB activities; this included an update on the consortium bid for the HW Luton contract with LBC. DB confirmed that our bid was shortlisted for interview which took place on 22.02.18. Decision awaited and DB will advise on progress. Other activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New Board Directors – DB introduced Kevin Daly, recently appointed Director of HWCB and confirmed that another gentleman had been interviewed and offered a Director position. DB will advise if acceptance received. ▪ Young People's Mental Health Report - HWCB worked with young people from Sandy Youth Club, Youth Action and Groundwork on a report about young people's experience of mental health. A number of interviews took place and the report is the result of questions asked. This report will be widely distributed to key stakeholders and the wider public for information. ▪ HWCB 5th Birthday: Celebrations planned for HWCB's 5th birthday; 'Just Ask' event at Biggleswade on 23rd March. HWE is sending a photographer to take publicity photos. All are invited to attend. Additional Just Ask dates for 2018 are published on HWCB website and posters are available. ▪ Bits and Bytes: A new weekly e-bulletin is now being sent to all on HWCB distribution list. ▪ BLKM STP: Comms team at BLMK STP are inviting patients and service users to talk on film about their experience of services. The films will be shown at the start of STP priority group meetings to inform members and enable them to focus on patient experiences to better inform decision making. DB has put forward three HWCB volunteers who are willing to be filmed. ▪ GDPR Update: DB confirmed the latest guidance from HW Eng stipulates that '<i>No one who processes personal data within a HW office can be a DPO for that HW</i>'. We will need to look at alternative solutions and are waiting on further guidance from HW Eng. ▪ Mental Health Service – DB recently met with Paul Rix and Tasha Newman to highlight issues raised about MH services across Central Beds. Agreed that HWCB will develop a programme of independent visits to MH service user groups to better understand the experience of members. The first visit, date to be advised, will be at Minds2gether in Dunstable. ▪ Enter and View – Ashton Lodge, Dunstable: Following a recent CQC inspection which highlighted serious failings at the home, HWCB visited the home and the results of our report were shared with the local authority, the CQC and the 	

	<p>BCCG. Improvements had been made and the CQC have confirmed they will be revisiting in March 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MSK Survey: The survey is still open and DB asked all to complete the survey if they had been referred or treated by the MSK service. ▪ GDPR: HWCB would soon be sending out an email to all on our distribution lists explaining that in order to comply with the new GDPR which comes into force on 25th May 2018 the email will contain a button and will ask for you to click this button if you wish to remain on our distribution list. If you do not click the button you will be automatically removed as per the new regulations. <p>The full CEO report is available on request, contact info@healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk</p>	
5.	<p>Financial Update:</p> <p>DS advised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HWCB draft budget 2018/2019 will circulated to Board members shortly. ▪ HWCB recently invoiced CBC for grant funding 2018/19. ▪ HWCB has increased reserves during 2017/18 and current funds are sufficient to cover delayed payment from CBC if needed. 	
6.	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A member of the Minds2gether group in Dunstable raised an issue regarding safeguarding. As a vulnerable single adult, she had recently received unwanted attention originating at an MH Group meeting. A formal complaint had been raised with MH Providers but it was felt that insufficient support had been offered. DB confirmed she is aware of the case and, in regular meetings with ELFT, this will be discussed again. Action for DB. ▪ Meeting closed at 8.10pm 	DB
7.	<p>Date of next Board Meeting in public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tuesday 11th September 2018, The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, starting At 6pm. 	