

DRAFT

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
MEETING HELD ON 11 JULY 2008 AT THE SHIREHALL, SHREWSBURY
2.30 PM – 4.30 PM**

Responsible Officer Michelle Evans

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Present

Members of the Joint Panel

Shropshire County Council:

Dilys Gaskill, Yvonne Holyoak (Chairman), Viv Parry, Liz Parsons, Stuart West, Margaret Winckler

Borough of Telford and Wrekin Council:

Dilys Davies (co-optee), Val Lindley (co-optee), Angela McClements, Dag Saunders (co-optee), Derek White

Also Present

David Beechey, Shropshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel (co-optee)
David Evans, Shropshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Madge Shineton, Shropshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel (co-optee)

Jo Chambers, Chief Executive, Shropshire County Primary Care Trust (SCPCT)
Simon Conolly, Chief Executive, Telford & Wrekin Primary Care Trust (TWPCT)
Tom Taylor, Chief Executive, Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital NHS Trust (SATH)

Liz Nicholson, Interim Corporate Director, Community Services, Shropshire County Council
Alison Smith, Principal Scrutiny Officer, Borough of Telford & Wrekin

1. Apologies for Absence

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Veronica Fletcher (Borough of Telford & Wrekin).

1.2 Although not members of the Joint Panel, apologies were received from:
Doris Ankers, Shropshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel (co-optee)
Martin Bennett, Shropshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel (co-optee)
James Gibson, Shropshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Peter Martin, Shropshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Shirley Sambrook, Shropshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Barbara Craig, Cabinet Member for Community Services, Shropshire County Council

John MacDonald, Programme Director, Strategy for Developing Health & Healthcare

2. Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 Although not members of the Joint Panel, the following declarations were received: Mrs M Shingleton declared a personal interest as an Independent Health Concern Councillor. Mrs S Sambrook declared a personal interest as a member of the League of Friends at Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust.

3. Minutes

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2008 were confirmed as a correct record.

4. Developing Health and Health Care A Strategy for Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin

- 4.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to receive an update following the meeting held on 29 January 2008.
- 4.2 The Joint Panel received an interim report and a presentation (copies attached to the signed minutes) on the progress that had been made in developing a strategy for health and health care and the further work required to complete the strategy by October 2008.
- 4.3 The Chief Executive, SCPCT updated members and explained the work that had been on going to help shape the strategy. She discussed the key strategic issues and objectives that had been identified and the models of care being worked towards which would underpin the future delivery of health care.
- 4.4 The Chief Executive, TWPCT looked at the objectives of the proposed Vision of Health Care Services for 2020 which focused on the prevention of disease, the promotion of healthy lifestyles and independent living, services close to home and the provision of sustainable and accessible hospitals.
- 4.5 Four scenarios and options for acute services were discussed and it was explained that no change, nor even minimum change, would not address the challenges faced. Concentrating different services on different sites was a possibility however the clinical leaders were recommending the development of a new hospital between Shrewsbury and Telford as the major emergency centre for the area with RSH and PRH providing a range of more routine/local services.
- 4.6 It was reported that engagement was ongoing with partners, stakeholders and the public and that the final report would be presented to the Joint Panel. Any changes would have to be formally consulted upon and any proposals would be shared with the Independent Reconfiguration Panel for advice throughout.
- 4.7 The Chief Executive, SATH explained that the proposed new hospital would be relatively small and would mainly treat the acutely ill and/or injured. He went on to explain that the current Paediatric Services at the RSH and PRH were not large enough for training accreditation and a decision would be needed on which site the in-patient would be based.
- 4.8 Members were then invited to comment on and ask questions about the progress made in developing the strategy.

- 4.9 It was confirmed that there were four PCT run community hospitals in Shropshire, situated at Whitchurch, Bridgnorth, Ludlow and Bishops Castle. Resources were however shared with both SATH and RJAH. There were no community hospitals in Telford & Wrekin.
- 4.10 Members were informed that the Choice & Book service offered patients a choice of appointment time and/or GP/hospital. As patients would have more information they would be in a position to make more informed choices. There was currently no data available on take up rates as the service was relatively new. It was felt that in the future patient choice would increasingly relate to quality issues.
- 4.11 In response to a query about finances it was confirmed that the Primary Care Trusts were in financial balance.
- 4.12 Concern was raised that a new hospital would increase estate costs and take resources away from public health. It was explained that investment would have to be made in order to keep the existing estate up to date irrespective of the 2020 vision and it was recognised that the whole estate would have to be affordable.
- 4.13 It was felt that technological advances in diagnostics would make the service more specialist and costly. On the other hand, simpler diagnostic kits would enable many simple procedures to be done as often as possible.
- 4.14 It was believed that healthy lifestyles could only be achieved through collaboration with the local authority and by engaging with the community. Healthy lifestyles could not be forced upon people so partnership working would be essential.
- 4.15 The Panel's comments were noted and would be addressed in the final report. Members were informed that the pathway groups would continue to look at best practice around the country in order to create the best model and to look at alternative ways of delivering health care.
- 4.16 In response to a query the Chief Executive, SATH explained that the Trust had been £34.2 million in debt however an agreement had been reached with central government whereby £12.3 million be paid off and the balance would remain on the books. He confirmed that the Trust had paid off £4.1 million in 07/08.
- 4.17 In response to a query about the planned services for the Borough of Telford & Wrekin, the Chief Executive, TWPCT explained that Telford & Wrekin did not need community hospitals but needed more local services. He explained that two new health clinics were being developed and that extended hours were being introduced across GP practices to allow for more routine booked appointments.
- 4.18 In response to a query the Chief Executive, SCPCT explained that the Trusts had to learn how to work with different communities and there were a whole suite of initiatives being employed to help reach hard to engage groups for example using text messaging to engage with teenagers.
- 4.20 The Chief Executive, TWPCT encouraged members to respond to the Consultation on the draft NHS Constitution which ends on 22 October 2008.
- 4.21 The Chief Executive, SCPCT explained that it was hoped that the final report would be submitted to the Strategic Health Authority and the two PCT Boards by the end of October at which time it would become public. She explained that by the next

meeting they would have a sense of whether further work and/or consultation was required.

4.22 The Interim Corporate Director confirmed that a further briefing and/or Joint Panel would be arranged in mid-October.

4.23 The Chairman thanked the Panel and the Trust representatives and stated that it was essential to all work together in order to get the best services for the people they represent.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____