



WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The following written questions for the Health & Wellbeing Board meeting to be held on the 20th September, 2016 have been received:

(i) Mr. John Kapp

Do the councillors on the HWB accept responsibility for the CCG being judged inadequate, and what plans have the HW B to help restore the CCG to being fit for purpose?

(ii) Mr Ken Kirk

I am appalled at the prospect the inevitable cuts that STP will bring to the NHS. It will result in drastic reductions in NHS services, involving ward closures, removal of entire services, yet more decreases in hospital bed numbers. No longer can this be disguised as mere service reconfiguration – we know and surely you know that the NHS will no longer be a comprehensive health service. You are our representatives charged with the responsibility to oversee the health services for the people of B&H. Do you agree that you shouldn't in all conscience connive with this decimation of our NHS by effectively demonstrating your rejection of STP?

(iii) Mr Matthew Greener

I have a question for the chair in respect of the CCGs tender of the mental health service.

As I understand the situation the CCG issued tender documents on or about 16th August merging both Adult & Young Persons services & that the bidders will have 8 weeks to compile & submit their bid. I am not confident that the CCG has given sufficient time or information for robust bids to be submitted or for them to stress test or mitigate risks within this process. I would expect

20th September 2016



the CCG to provide history data over a number of years for each condition to be treated or service to be provided so that bidders can at least ascertain any trends & growth - providing only projected growth of population would be useful only if it could be correlated against the historic data & included projected growth within each age group.

Without this information the bidders will in effect be bidding blind and it is these bids against which the CCG will award the contract. Since by the nature of the tender there will be at least one new provider, can the chair confirm that the CCG has given the relevant useful data to the bidders and that they are confident there is time within the 8 weeks for meaningful and comparable bids to be submitted so that the CCG can satisfy itself that the bids meet the acceptable criteria and enable them to reassure the service users that they have enough information to mitigate the risks and ensure that the successful bid has enough contingency to undertake the service provision in reasonably foreseeable adverse condition (weather, loss of communications, premises etc.).

(iv) Valerie Mainstone

I understand that Virgincare are bidding for the Public Health Nursing (0-19) contract. I also understand that this information – who is bidding for the contract – isn't in the public domain. Why are the HWB/Public Health department members not doing as the government Public Accounts Committee urges and displaying “more transparency and not ‘commercial sensitivity’” when it comes to the contracting out of services that affect the health and wellbeing of every child in Brighton and Hove?

It further concerns me that Brighton and Hove Council is even considering awarding a contract to a company such as Virgincare. They are documented tax avoiders, with their parent company being registered in the British Virgin Islands, they have documented failings in their provision of NHS services and documented instances of unacceptable labour relations including downgrading of (previously NHS) staff. Can I have an assurance that Brighton and Hove council will not award such a vital contact – or indeed any contract – to such a company?

Petition

In addition there will be a written petition from Carl Walker that will be presented by

20th September 2016



It is an e- petition

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/petition-to-stop-the-sell-off-and-decimation-of-children-s-health-services-in-brighton-1>

PETITION TO STOP THE SELL-OFF AND DECIMATION OF CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES IN BRIGHTON

Please sign and share this petition to demand Brighton and Hove Council's Health and Wellbeing Board stop the sell-off and mass budget cuts to our children's health services

Why is this important?

Community health services for children and young people include health visiting, school nursing and the Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) – a programme for teenage parents. These services are essential for our children's wellbeing but they are now under the most severe threat. Private companies like Virgin care are being awarded huge contracts across many different health services but, because they want to make a profit, they reduce their costs by cutting staff and lowering standards and quality of care.

If you

- don't want a company like Virgincare making money from the health of Brighton's children
- don't want to see our children suffer as a result of a £1m cut to their services
- Want to see the service properly funded and run by the NHS

then please sign and share this petition as widely as possible.

And please make your feelings about the potential privatisation known to your MP, local councillors and the local press.

20th September 2016



