NHS ROTHERHAM

Minutes of the NHS Rotherham Board meeting held on
Monday 20 September 2010 in the Elm Room, Oak House

nb this was a special meeting of the Board to discuss “Shaping Our Future”
A routine meeting of the Board was held later the same day

Present: Mr A Tolhurst (Chairman)
Mr A Buck
Mr C Edwards
Mr J Gomersall
Mr M Hamstead
Mrs R Kapoor
Dr J Radford
Mr R Stonebridge

In Attendance: Mrs K S Atkinson, Director of Strategic Planning
Dr R Carlisle, Director of Intelligence and Performance
Mrs J Dalton, Staff Chair of Joint Staff Consultation & Negotiating Committee
Mrs P Fryer, Director of OD, Workforce and Governance
Mrs L George, Project Manager - Strategic Planning
Mrs K Henderson, Managing Director of Rotherham Community Health Services
Mrs S Lockwood, Lay Advisor, Rotherham Community Health Committee
Mr A B Tennant, Board Secretary
Mrs F Topliss, Head of Communications for Mrs Watts
Mrs Y Weakley, Associate Director, Children & Young People’s Services, Rotherham Community Health Services

182/10 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Dr Collinson, Mrs Wade and Mrs Watts.

183/10 Declaration of Members’ Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests

a) 184-189/10 Shaping our Future

Mr Hamstead declared an interest in the entirety of the meeting’s business.

184/10 Shaping Our Future - proposals of spring 2010

Mr Buck reminded the Board about the proposals for the future organisational arrangements for community services that had been approved in March 2010 for consultation, the subsequent amendment to these proposals in light of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council’s decision to withdraw the option for the transfer of children’s services to the Council, and the approval of initial social enterprise expressions of interest relating to the Gate, Canklow and Rosehill GP practices.
185/10 Shaping Our Future – Consultation with staff

The Board noted that extensive consultation with staff about the proposals took place between 24 May 2010 and 23 August 2010.

The consultation had elicited many written submissions, as well as considerable verbal feedback at the numerous consultation meetings with staff - all of which were led by the Chief Executive with the Managing Director of Rotherham Community Health Services present. The chief executives of Rotherham Foundation Trust and Rotherham, Doncaster & South Humber Mental Health Foundation Trust, and the chair and chief executive designate of Rotherham Hospice were also present at certain meetings.

The Board noted the detailed report “Feedback From The Staff Consultation” presented with today’s Board papers. The Board noted that staff side representatives considered the report to be a comprehensive, accurate and fair record.

Agenda papers also included a report on discussions in June with practice-based commissioners.

The Board considered the responses to each proposal in turn. Points of note included:

i) Rosehill Medical Centre staff wished to explore a social enterprise solution for their future organisational form. This right to request was supported by the Board (in June 2010) and the practice had joined the Gate/Canklow practices in the exploration already underway. The proposal to disperse patients to neighbouring practices had been paused - pending progress on a social enterprise solution.

ii) Staff in the child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) queried the proposal to transfer to Rotherham, Doncaster & South Humber Mental Health Foundation Trust (RDaSH) and had asked for a transfer instead to Rotherham Foundation Trust (RFT).

iii) The concerns of some therapists that the proposals may remove them from their professional group, and for the small number of staff who work in several services, would require special arrangements to be made.

iv) Staff working in the primary care mental health service expressed concern that a transfer to RDASH could lead to a psychiatrist-led and non-local service.

v) Staff working in palliative and end of life care services expressed concern about transferring to the Rotherham Hospice Trust (RHT) - because of possible implications for terms and conditions of service, pensions and trade union representation.

vi) Support services staff had expressed concern about the possible implications for their future employment of transferring community services to a number of new providers.
186/10 Shaping Our Future – Feedback from stakeholders, from proposed providers and from NHS Yorkshire & the Humber

The Board noted the feedback about the proposals had been received from key stakeholders, including:

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council in respect of children and young people’s services; the Rotherham Equipment and Wheelchair Service (REWS); community occupational therapy services; intermediate care services, and learning disability services;

GPs and practice-based commissioners about the proposals in general;

South Yorkshire Housing Association, in respect of its three residential homes for people with learning disabilities.

The Board noted that formal confirmation had been received from the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust; Rotherham, Doncaster & South Humber Mental Health Foundation Trust, and the Rotherham Hospice Trust that - subject to contract negotiations - they wished to proceed with the proposed transfers of services and staff.

The Board noted that NHS Yorkshire & the Humber had approved the proposals in relation to the Rotherham Foundation Trust and Rotherham, Doncaster & South Humber Mental Health Foundation Trust. The Board noted that some issues had been raised in relation to the Rotherham Hospice as this is a non-NHS provider and that further discussions about this were being held with NHS Yorkshire & the Humber.

187/10 Shaping Our Future – Revised Proposals

The Board considered the outcome of consultation with staff and the feedback from stakeholders. In particular:-

The Board noted that a business case for the proposed social enterprise is being prepared and will be presented to the Board for consideration in due course.

The Board noted the concerns raised by CAMHS staff, about which Mr Buck tabled a paper from the RDASH Chief Executive. Following discussion, the Board agreed that the CAMHS should be transferred to RDASH and asked that contractual arrangements, via the service specifications, support current models of working.

The Board noted that the proposed transfer of the Rotherham Occupational Health Advisory Service (ROHAS) to RFT had been withdrawn and a report would be brought to the Board’s November meeting recommending future arrangements for this service.

The Board noted the revised proposal to retained the health trainers service within the public health directorate.

The Board noted that the concerns raised by some therapists could be addressed.

The Board noted that RDASH proposed to locate the primary care mental health service in its Psychology Division, and that assurances had been received about sustaining the current service model. Following discussion, the Board agreed that this service should be transferred to RDASH and asked that contractual arrangements, via the service
specifications, support current models of working.

The Board noted the very considerable progress that had been made in relation to the proposed transfer of staff to Rotherham Hospice, and that assurances had been received about the concerns raised by staff. Following discussion, the Board agreed that the proposed transfer of staff should proceed.

The Board noted that further work was underway to agree detailed plans for the future employment of support services staff.

The Board therefore agreed to authorise the Chief Executive to implement, by the 31st March 2011 at the latest, the new arrangements described below subject to:

a. Completion of the external assessment processes for Transforming Community Services required by the Department of Health;
b. Contracts being agreed respectively with The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, Rotherham, Doncaster & South Humber Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust and Rotherham Hospice Trust;
c. Any other outstanding issues being resolved.

General Practices

Rotherham Community Health Services (RCHS) manages three small GP practices. All other GPs in Rotherham are independent contractors.

We will consider the business case from managers and staff at the Canklow Road Surgery, Gate Surgery and Rosehill Medical Centre to establish a social enterprise. If this is not successful we will consider other options for the future of these practices.

Children’s Services

RCHS provides a range of children’s services including health visiting and school nursing, specialist nursing services, and mental health services.

We will transfer these services to the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, with the exception of child and adolescent mental health services which we will transfer to the Rotherham, Doncaster & South Humber Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust.

Staying Healthy Services

RCHS currently runs the Rotherham NHS Stop Smoking Service.

We will transfer this service to the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust.

Planned Care and Clinic Services

RCHS provides a range of planned care and clinic services, including physiotherapy, podiatry services, speech and language therapy, primary ear care and community dental services.

We will transfer these services to the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust.
Long-term Conditions, Intermediate Care and Urgent Care Services

RCHS provides a wide range of services that support people with long-term conditions (for example heart disease and lung disease). These include district nurses, allied health professionals and specialist nurses working a variety of settings including GP practices, patients’ homes, clinics, intermediate care and Breathing Space.

We will transfer these services to the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust.

Mental Health Services

RCHS provides primary care counselling and psychological therapy services. These services are provided in partnership with GPs who have direct access to the services for their patients.

We will transfer these services to the Rotherham, Doncaster & South Humber Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust.

Services for People with Learning Disabilities

RCHS provides specialist assessment and treatment and community health services provided for people with learning disabilities.

We will transfer these services to the Rotherham, Doncaster & South Humber Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust.

RCHS provides the staff for three residential homes which are owned and provided by South Yorkshire Housing Association and commissioned by Rotherham Council.

We will transfer the staff who work in these homes to the Rotherham, Doncaster & South Humber Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust.

Palliative and End of Life Care Services

RCHS employs a range of specialist palliative and end of life care staff, who work in the specialist palliative and end of life care services provided by the Rotherham Hospice Trust.

We will transfer these staff to the Rotherham Hospice Trust.

188/10 Shaping Our Future – Assurance Tests

An assessment of how far the proposals for each area of service complied with the Department of Health’s eight assurance tests was endorsed by the Board.

189/10 Shaping Our Future – Next Steps

Mr Buck undertook to keep the Board fully informed about the action to be taken following today’s meeting.

Mr Tolhurst closed the meeting by paying tribute to Mr Buck and his Director team in regard to the compilation of the proposals and the handling of the consultation exercise. He also thanked Mrs Wade and staff representatives for their input.

Ends