



HOSPITAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES – PUBLIC - unconfirmed

Tuesday 29 March 2011

10.00am

Corporate Meeting Room 1

Base Hospital

David Street

New Plymouth

Present:

Ella Borrows (Chair), Karen Eagles (Deputy Chair) Brian Jeffares, Pauline Lockett, Alison Rumball (Committee Members), Mary Bourke and Peter Catt (ex-officio) Jan Dunlop and Nic Boheimer (co-opted members)

In Attendance:

Tony Foulkes (Chief Executive), Rosemary Clements (Acting General Manager Hospital and Specialist Services), Simon Barrett (Group Financial Manager), Katherine Fraser-Chapple (Management Accountant), Ramon Tito (Kaumatua), Jenny McLennan (PA to Board)
Colleen Tuuta – Board member

641.0 Declaration to Open Meeting

The meeting was declared open at 10am with a Karakia.

642.0 Apologies

Resolution

That the apologies from Pauline Lockett (Committee Member), George Thomas.

*Rumball/Catt
Carried*

643.0 Conflicts of Interest

The Register was circulated for updating by members, with no new interests being declared.

644.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolution

That the Hospital Advisory Committee resolve to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2011 as a true and correct record

*Rumball/Dunlop
Carried*

645.0 Matters Arising

645.1 Hawera Hospital Oral Health Update

Mr Foulkes advised that members would recall the overall Oral Health strategy previously approved by the Board and Ministry of Health which included the location of a fixed Oral Health facility at Hawera Hospital combined with mobile services to operate in South Taranaki. Since then some questions and concerns have been raised regarding the fixed facility.

A series of discussions including with key stakeholders were underway to consider the issues that had been raised. Meetings were to be held to confirm the model of care that is to be provided and to ensure that any future facilities and services are fit for purpose.

It was noted that while the oral health project was separate to the broader South Taranaki project, the outcome of the discussions would be feedback to the Steering Group.

Mrs Borrowes on behalf of the committee noted the update and that the main focus should be that the facility is fit for purpose.

646.0 Management Reports

646.1 Acting General Manager Hospital Services Report

The Acting General Manager Hospital & Specialist Services took her report as read highlighting the following:-

- Financial forecast remains unchanged (deficit of \$8.80m) for the hospital provider, which is the same as the budget deficit).
- Total surgical casemix delivery results behind 2%.
- Implementation of the cardiology plan contingency has had positive results and it is expected to achieve a sustainable service delivery.
- ED presentation at Base for February decreased by 2% compared to the same period last year with Hawera ED increasing by 13%.
- An improvement in the smoking health target results following the appointment of the Smokefree Liaison Nurse was expected.
- Positive patient management at Hawera Hospital with only two transfers from the inpatient unit for the month and 34 transfers from the Hawera ED. This was a reflection of improved patient flow with diagnostic tests being accessed quicker based upon clinical need.

Discussion

- Mrs Eagles questioned the location of the six methamphetamine beds and was advised that there were four residential beds and two detox beds located in the region.
- Mrs Rumball asked whether the approach adopted by the mental health service in providing public forums could be utilised in other areas of the health sector to assist in increasing public awareness of services provided. Mrs Clements advised that Dr Heble was working proactively and openly to demystify the perception of mental health services and take it into the community.

Mrs Rumball noted the work undertaken was very effective and suggested other areas of public health could be presented in a similar vein.

Dr Boheimer supported the approach suggested by Mrs Rumball.

- In response to a question by Mrs Dunlop it was noted that formulation of a communication strategy was underway to promote the direct dial mental health number.
- Mr Jeffares sought clarification on the domicile of those presenting at Hawera ED. Mrs Clements advised that a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) was underway by Public Health as part of the South Taranaki Project and that this type of information would be included in that. Ms Clements provided some general details on patient domiciles and flows.
It was noted that the increase in Hawera ED presentation reflected the type of patients that attend ED (triage 4/5) and also reflects the access to General Practitioners in Hawera.
- It was noted that the ACC revenue increase in February was due to the normal timing of invoices processed from January and December activity.
- Mrs Eagles raised the question about leasing of vehicles and it was noted that the ambulance vehicles leases had been assigned to St John.
Mrs Eagles further asked about the leasing of eco-vehicles and whether any proposal regarding this option had been sought, noting that while any proposal would have higher capital the benefits on the environment should be greater.
Mr Foulkes advised the point was well made and that this would be borne in mind when consider future lease options.
Miss Bourke noted that well informed research would be required as there were some indications that the environmental savings were not always as significant as anticipated.
- It was noted that more funding had been received from the DHB funder than planned at the time of budget setting and it was advised that this was the result of additional services not included in the original PVS.
- Miss Bourke questioned the decrease overall in ACC revenue and it was noted that this was attributed to the changes in the provision of Ambulance Services, as well as the previously discussed drop in contract revenue.
Mr Foulkes advised that while a tremendous amount of work is undertaken to provide a best estimate in plans the reality is that there can be a variance between the budget and actual costs or revenue as circumstances change.
- It was noted that the transfer of the Ambulance Services was not the same as a business sale in the commercial sense and that the contract with Taranaki DHB to provide ambulance services ceased with St John becoming the new provider. All direct costs were transferred to St John but this did not necessarily mean all overheads would be immediately saved.

646.2 Acting General Manager Hospital Services Report / Financial Report for Hospital and Specialist Services for the month ending 28 February 2011.

Mrs Fraser-Chapple took her report as read:

