

**Report To: Council**

**Date of Meeting: 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2013**

**Lead Member / Officer: Lead Member for Social Care and Children's Services**

**Report Author: Director of Modernisation and Wellbeing**

**Title: Feedback from meeting with BCU Executive on "Healthcare in North Wales is Changing" decisions**

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**1. What is the report about?**

Feedback from the meeting with BCU Executive on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 and recommendations arising.

**2. What is the reason for making this report?**

Following council on 5<sup>th</sup> February, it was agreed that a delegation of 10 members should meet with BCU executive representatives to address outstanding concerns arising from BCU Board decisions on January 18th about "Healthcare in North Wales is Changing" proposals. This report feeds back from that meeting and proposes recommendations arising from the meeting.

**3. What are the Recommendations?**

That Council

3.1 Notes the progress made with respect to:-

3.1.1 reassurances on the future of Ysbyty Glan Clwyd

3.1.2 agreement to work with public authorities to develop a transport plan to mitigate the impact of the proposed NHS changes on the public

3.1.3 agreement to carry out modelling of the financial consequences of the proposed NHS changes on the local authority, especially Enhanced Care Services and services for carers

3.1.4 agreement to using the County Health and Social Care Forum as the mechanism to ensure continued dialogue and reporting back, including on those issues identified for further work in 3.1.2 and 3.1.3 above

3.2 Expresses its concerns with respect to the NHS capital funding system which leaves local communities without the guarantee that promised new services will materialise

3.3 agrees to write to the Health Minister reinforcing the need for earliest decisions on the allocation of WG capital for the schemes in Denbighshire

3.4 In the light of continuing public concern and uncertainty, and the scale of outstanding issues, calls on the CHC to refer the proposals to the Minister

3.5 Calls on the Minister to consider DCC's concerns before endorsing the proposals

#### **4. Report details**

As agreed at Council on 5<sup>th</sup> February, a meeting was arranged with BCU Executives on 8<sup>th</sup> February. This meeting was attended by Mary Burrows, Chief Executive and 3 colleagues. All ten members nominated at council also attended along with Denbighshire's Chief Executive and Chief Executive.

A note of the meeting, which has been shared with the 10 members, is attached at Appendix I.

#### **5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

Close and integrated working with health services, especially in localities, forms a key part of the Council's work to respond to the needs of vulnerable people. The BIG Plan also sets out objectives for effective joint working to support families.

#### **6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

There are no cost implications arising directly from this report. Statements included in the previous report to Council, and the Chief Finance Officer statement, remain relevant. The agreed work to model the financial impact of, for example, the Enhanced Care Service, and joint work on a transport plan, should help mitigate any negative consequences of the NHS changes on local authorities.

#### **7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.**

As stated in the previous report to Council, BCU have undertaken Equality Impact Assessment on their proposals. Commitment to develop a joint transport plan and to undertake financial modelling should also help mitigate any negative equality impacts.

#### **8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

The 10 elected members who attended the meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup> have commented on the note of the meeting and there is consensus it is accurate, though with one outstanding detail being checked with BCU (where general and emergency

surgery services will be located). The recommendations contained in this report were also circulated to the 10 members for comment.

## **9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

The Chief Finance Officer Statement included in the report to Full Council on the 5th February is still applicable. Although there are no direct additional costs to DCC arising from this report members need to be aware that there is likely to be cost implications going forward in terms of potential "cost shunting" and/or the possibility that the Welsh Government allocates extra budget funding to the BCUHB at the expense of local government in future years.

## **10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

The risks contained in the overall NHS service change proposals were included in the previous report to Council on 5<sup>th</sup> February.

## **11. Power to make the Decision**

S111 Local Government Act 1972