



October 25th, 2019

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Council meeting to be held on **Monday, 28th October 2019** at **6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre.**

Agenda

1.0 Apologies & Chairman's Remarks

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Response from South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust to South Eastern Health Consultation Working Group Questions

Attendees:

Naomi Dunbar, Assistant Director, Strategic & Capital Development

Don Bradley, Interim Director of Adult Services

📎 *Signed South Eastern Trust Letter 101019 (002).pdf*

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📎 *20191025 letter to NMDC Health Service Consultation Arrangements.pdf*

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4.0 Response from Southern Health and Social Care Trust to Southern Health Consultation Working Group Questions

Attendees:

Aldrina Magwood, Director of Performance & Reform

Brian Beattie, Interim Director of Older People & Primary Care

Gerard Rocks, Assistant Director of Health & Wellbeing

📎 *Signed Southern Trust Letter 101019.pdf*

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📎 *Liam Hannaway Chief Executive NMD - Council Meeting 28 October 2019 - ... n.pdf*

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Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews

Cllr Patrick Brown

Cllr Robert Burgess

Cllr Pete Byrne

Mrs Dorinnia Carville

Cllr charlie casey

Cllr William Clarke

Cllr Dermot Curran

Cllr Laura Devlin

Mr Eoin Devlin

Cllr Sean Doran

Cllr Cadogan Enright

Cllr Hugh Gallagher

Cllr Mark Gibbons

Cllr Oonagh Hanlon

Cllr Glyn Hanna

Mr Liam Hannaway

Cllr Valerie Harte

Cllr Terry Hearty

Cllr Roisin Howell

Cllr Liz Kimmins

Cllr Mickey Larkin

Cllr Alan Lewis

Mr Michael Lipsett

Cllr Oonagh Magennis

Mr Conor Mallon

Cllr Gavin Malone

Cllr Cathy Mason

Colette McAteer

Cllr Declan McAteer

Aoife McCreesh

Cllr Leeanne McEvoy

Cllr Harold McKee

Patricia McKeever

Cllr Karen McKevitt

Cllr Andrew McMurray

Mr Roland Moore

Cllr Roisin Mulgrew

Cllr Barra Ó Muirí

Linda O'Hare

Cllr Gerry O'Hare

Cllr Kathryn Owen

Cllr Henry Reilly
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Cllr Michael Ruane
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Cllr Michael Savage
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Cllr Gareth Sharvin
.....
Donna Starkey
.....
Cllr Gary Stokes
.....
Sarah Taggart
.....
Cllr David Taylor
.....
Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
.....
Cllr John Trainor
.....
Cllr William Walker
.....
Mrs Marie Ward
.....

Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive



Comhairle Ceantair
**an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin**
**Newry, Mourne
and Down**
District Council

Seamus McGoran
Interim Chief Executive
South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust
Trust Headquarters
Ulster Hospital
Upper Newtownards Rd
Dundonald
BT16 1RH

10th October 2019

Dear Seamus

Health Service Consultation Arrangements - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

I refer to previous correspondence regarding the above and enclose a list of relevant topics which will be raised at the Special Council meeting on 28th October 2019 at 6pm in the Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.

For those who are not able to attend this meeting to be fully informed on the matters raised, I would be grateful if you could advise me of the answers to the questions in writing.

1. The lack of available places for the elderly within the community following the closure of St Johns House.
2. Several issues were raised in relation to transport and parking at Downe Hospital. There have been changes to the bus stop without proper information to users. It is also believed that the current parking is insufficient and subsequently drop off areas are not being left free. In addition to these matters current signage is not sufficient to all Community Transport to pick up patients and this is exacerbated by the lack of reception staff to direct people appropriately.
3. There is no public telephone within the Hospital
4. In relation to EU Exit how many nurses and other medical staff have been employed from within the European Union in the last 5 years? What impact will EU exit have on these posts and individuals and what provision has been put in place to mitigate any resulting issues?

I look forward to your response on these matters.

Yours sincerely

Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive

Chairman
Deep Sagar

Interim Chief Executive
Seamus McGoran

25 October 2019

Ms Marie Ward
Chief Executive
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Downshire Civic Centre
Downpatrick
BT30 6GQ

Dear Marie

Health Service Consultation Arrangements - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

I refer to previous correspondence received requesting information on the above matters for members and those who are unable to attend the Special Council meeting scheduled for 28 October 2019. Please see below comments in relation to information requested.

1. St John's House Statutory Residential Home in Downpatrick closed on 21 October 2010. On 13 August 2012, a new Supported Living Scheme, Cedar Court, opened in Downpatrick providing care and support to 24 tenants; 12 older people aged 65+ and 12 people with dementia. Trust staff provide care and support and the Housing Association, Choice Housing, provide the beautiful environment. Each tenant has their own apartment.

There have been a range of voids in Cedar Court with an average of 4 vacancies at any given time. Despite media campaigns, meeting with professionals, councillors etc., voids still remain.

There is a trend of decreasing numbers of admission to residential care, as older people have told us they want to be treated at home, or as close to home as possible. Subsequently, the Trust has placed effort and resources into increasing capacity in the Trust Domiciliary Care Service to ensure older people are able to remain in their own homes as they wish. A recent recruitment exercise in August 2019 resulted in 78 successful candidates being offered positions.

2. Bus stop at the Downe Hospital – Translink ceased the bus service to the front of the Downe Hospital following the change of use to a larger vehicle. This change meant that the vehicle was unable to turn at the front and as such Translink decided to service the hospital from the rear of the building. The Trust was not consulted on this change and will ask Translink to review the signage and information for their customers on the site. In addition, the Trust will be looking at options to facilitate the re-introduction of the bus service to the front of the hospital and designs and costings will be prepared during 2019/20.

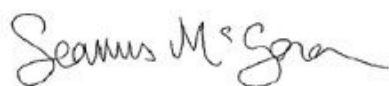
The Downe Hospital site is undoubtedly becoming busier as more services are being provided from the site. However, car parking capacity is currently sufficient for demand. The Trust acknowledges though that correct zoning of staff and public parking at the Downe is not always being adhered to. The introduction of traffic management controls (barriers and permitted areas) will alleviate this problem and will increase public capacity in the public car park, directing staff to use permitted areas. In addition, the Trust has met with the contracted and licenced enforcement company and emphasised the need for increased scrutiny on the Downe hospital site, with particular attention paid to the set down areas to prevent misuse.

The Trust is happy to review signage and would welcome more detailed feedback on this from council members in relation to this in order to progress.

3. In relation to public pay phones at the Downe Hospital, these were removed from the main hospital entrance and from the Emergency Department as the usage and income did not meet the minimum amount required by BT to sustain these. The Trust understands that this is due to the majority of patients, families and visitors having access to mobile phones. One public pay phone on a trolley remains in the mental health department. In the event that a patient or family member needed to make an urgent call and did not have access to a mobile phone, Trust staff would facilitate this from Trust landlines.
4. In relation to EU Exit, the number of nurses and medical staff employed from the European Union include those from Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK as all have been recorded as EU citizens. The Trust has been fully engaged with the Department of Health and has Contingency Plans prepared for a no-deal exit. Within the Trust, the numbers employed from outside the UK are small, therefore it is not anticipated that there will be a significant impact. The Trust has fully engaged with staff through communications which have been distributed covering general EU Exit guidance and information.

I hope that the information provided above will be useful.

Yours sincerely



Seamus McGoran
Interim Chief Executive

cc Ms Roisin Coulter, Director Planning, Performance & Informatics, SET
Mr Don Bradley, Interim Director Adult Services, SET
Ms Naomi Dunbar, Assistant Director Strategic & Capital Development, SET

Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin
**Newry, Mourne
and Down**
District Council

Mr Shane Devlin
Chief Executive
Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Craigavon Area Hospital
68 Lurgan Road
Portadown
BT63 5QQ

10th October 2019

Dear Shane

Health Service Consultation Arrangements Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

I refer to previous correspondence regarding the above and enclose a list of topics which will be raised at the Special Council meeting on 28th October 2019 at 6pm in the Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.

To ensure that members who are unable to attend this meeting are fully informed on the matters raised, I would be grateful if you could advise me on the answers to the following questions in writing.

1. When can a response be expected to the recent Consultation exercises regarding Breast Screening and Stroke Services.
2. The current provision of Children and Young Persons services in the area. There is a particular concern about the availability of Respite Services.
3. Issues of understaffing within Daisy Hill Hospital. This has particularly been highlighted in relation to a shortage of Doctors within the High Dependency Unit.
4. There are concerns regarding the limited training opportunities for staff at DHH which could lead to a crisis. Please provide an update on the conversations that the SHSCT are having with the Department of Health regarding the allocation of training provided by Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency for the Southern region.

I look forward to your response on these matters.

Yours sincerely

Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive



Quality Care - for you, with you

Chair
Roberta Brownlee

Chief Executive
Shane Devlin

Our ref: SD/jmck/ew

24 October 2019

Mr Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council
Monaghan Row
NEWRY
BT35 8DJ

Dear Liam

Thank you for your letter dated 10 October 2019 regarding the topics to be raised at the Special Council Meeting on 28 October 2019.

Please see below our response to the questions raised.

Q: When can a response to be expected to the recent Consultation exercises regarding Breast Screening and Stroke services.

A: Breast screening and stroke services consultation are being led by the Department of Health. Department officials advise: "Public consultations on proposals to change how we provide stroke and breast assessment services closed in August. There was enormous interest in both consultations and the department is currently examining all the responses to these. The Department will reflect carefully on all the representations made before deciding on the best way forward."

Q: The current provision of Children and Young Persons services in the area. There is particular concern about the availability of Respite Services.

A: By respite services, we are basing our response on the issue of residential based short breaks for children with disabilities. Councillors will be aware of on-going pressures on our service based at Carrickore, which is currently impacting on a small number of parents of children with disabilities in the Newry area.

The Carrickore facility has been closed to short breaks since earlier this year. While this is not the situation we want, it has been necessary to take this action as the Trust has to care for a small number of children with highly complex disabilities who require residential based care on a full time basis.

It is simply not possible to provide the high level of support required in a community setting, as these children have specialist nursing and physical accommodation requirements. A lack of suitable care facilities elsewhere in the region means that children with significant specialist care needs will be looked after in Carrickore pending a resolution of their medium to long term care requirements which the Trust is actively pursuing.

While this situation continues we regret it is not possible to provide short breaks in Carrickore. We continue to work with families by keeping them fully informed and by discussing and where agreed providing community based supports and remain committed to providing the best outcome for all concerned.

Q: Issues of understaffing within Daisy Hill Hospital. This has been particularly highlighted in relation to a shortage of doctors in the High Dependency Unit.

A: Since January 2019, the Trust has advertised 11 times for consultant posts in Daisy Hill Hospital across various specialties. Three posts are still open to applicants.

So far, we have successfully appointed the following consultant posts:

- 1 Anaesthetics
- 2 Emergency Medicine
- 1 Geriatrics
- 1 Cardiology
- Awaiting confirmation on Gastroenterology post.

In March 2019 the Trust established a working group chaired by the Trust Medical Director Dr Maria O'Kane specifically to support general medical staffing in Daisy Hill Hospital.

The group has progressed several actions to further strengthen Daisy Hill Hospital services, including the recruitment of two general medical consultants; two clinical coordinators; four physician associates; four prescribing pharmacists and a general medicine site manager to reinforce our Daisy Hill Hospital services.

In addition we have engaged the services of the Nuffield Trust, an NHS UK charitable trust with the mission of improving health care in the UK through evidence and analysis, to conduct a systems strengthening engagement with our senior managers and clinical staff with a view to ensuring our current and future staffing models reflect best evidence based practice.

High Dependency Unit

With regards to the High Dependency Unit (HDU) staffing, a critical care working group has been tasked to identify an appropriate service model that better meets the standards for Critical Care Units. Currently the group has developed an operational policy which details how the HDU will function daily for the entire multidisciplinary team involved in the care of patients requiring high dependency care, treatment and monitoring.

The Trust is seeking to strengthen this model and has successfully recruited an additional consultant anaesthetist, allied health professionals, one pharmacist and 5 additional nursing staff for the HDU. The Trust is currently advertising for a remaining consultant anaesthetist position.

The Trust is continuing to progress recruitment programmes for both substantive Consultant and 'Middle Grade' doctors to across several services in Daisy Hill Hospital, including the HDU. In particular the recruitment of substantive Middle Grade doctors remains challenging despite the Trust offering competitive job plans for potential applicants, as part of the Trust staffing strategy we are continuing to progress Medical Training Initiative (MTI) training and development posts to support Middle Grade staffing.

Q: There are concerns regarding the limited training opportunities for staff at DHH which could lead to a crisis. Please provide an update on the conversations that the SHSCT are having with the Department of Health regarding the allocation of training providence by the Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency for the Southern region.

A: The Trust has communicated with the Chief Medical Officer and the Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency (NIMDTA) outlining the current distribution of funded training posts and opportunities across Northern Ireland asking for consideration to be given to additional medical training positions to be allocated to the Southern Trust. The Department of Health have now commissioned a working group to review medical staff training provision from the perspective of both the trainees and employing HSC Trusts.

The Trust remains mindful that in order to ensure the best training opportunities are provided for trainees who work in our hospitals there is a requirement for the appropriate level and availability of trainers, mentors and educational supervisors to provide effective supervision as well as time be available for training, supervision, mentorship and preceptorship from fully trained health care staff.

Yours sincerely



SHANE DEVLIN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE