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To: Cllr Hilary McGuill (Chair)

Councillors: Mike Allport, Paul Cunningham, Jean Davies, Rob Davies, Andy Dunbobbin, Carol Ellis, Gladys Healey, Cindy Hinds, Mike Lowe, Dave Mackie, Ian Smith, Martin White, David Williams and David Wisinger

4 February 2020

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee which will be held at 12.00 pm on Monday, 10th February, 2020 in the Delyn Committee Room, County Hall, Mold CH7 6NA to consider the following items

*** All Members of the Council are invited to this meeting - please note the meeting start time**

A G E N D A

1 APOLOGIES

Purpose: To receive any apologies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

Purpose: To receive any Declarations and advise Members accordingly.

3 BETSI CADWALADR UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD (Pages 3 - 6)

Purpose: Representatives of Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board have been invited to the meeting to:

- (1) Give assurances over contractual arrangements with the Countess of Chester Hospital and service continuity;
- (2) Respond to the outcome of the Notice of Motion considered by County Council on 28 January 2020 (attached); and
- (3) Consider questions submitted by Members (attached).

Yours sincerely

Robert Robins
Democratic Services Manager

NOTICE OF MOTION – COUNCILLORS ATTRIDGE, ELLIS AND BROWN

BETSI CADWALADER UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD (BCUHB) CRISIS

We call on Welsh Government to make BCUHB accountable in their care of patients and staff. After many years in so called Special Measures the crisis with the District Hospitals remains a worry.

A twelve hour wait at Wrexham Maelor is not unusual it's the normal wait time. People lying on trolleys waiting to go into Majors is normal. Waiting for beds to move patients out of A and E to the Wards is impossible as there are no beds. No beds no sheets no pillows no Doctors and Nursing Staff cut.

Staff are under growing pressure and have been heard to say they are fearful of the situation getting worse as the Hospitals cannot cope with the numbers such as two Doctors to see eighty patients in A and E with a staff reduced from 15 to 12. We feel people may be put at risk due to lack of provision. Ambulance Personnel unable to sign over patients to the A and E staff as there is no room.

Flintshire has a growing population the LDP shows the growth we can expect, however Health provision is not keeping up it cannot cope Flintshire needs more GP's, more Nurses and Consultants and surely in this day and age a sick person should be able to have a bed with a pillow and blanket and been seen in a reasonable time by a Doctor.

In responding to this Notice of Motion, we can all recognise that these can be emotive issues. We know that all public services are under a great deal of pressure, and need support. But, there are some fundamental questions which now need to be asked.

Flintshire County Council should call on Welsh Government to urgently review the following issues:

1. Is there sufficient capacity in Wrexham Maelor, Glan Clwyd and the Countess of Chester hospital?
2. Does Flintshire need a district General Hospital of its own?
3. Why is the performance of A and E so poor in the Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board in comparison to the rest of Wales?

4. What measures can be put in place to urgently improve the performance of A and E by way of GP walk in centres, extended hours at minor injury units, improved access to GPs and improved community services?
5. What is the level of investment that Welsh Government will be providing for patients in North Wales to stabilise and then improve performance?

I move that we formally send these concerns to Vaughan Gething, the Minister for Health and Social Services.

Questions submitted by Members for 10 February 2020

Cllr Mared Eastwood

1. What is the doctor/patient target ratio for Flintshire and where are they currently?
How does this compare with both Wales and UK?
2. If we are below target: what are they doing about it and why are they telling planners that their infrastructure can support new developments?

Cllr Gladys Healey

3. It has been said that Wrexham Maelor Hospital hires bariatric beds from private companies. However, when the patients no longer require them they are sometimes left unreturned to the companies with hire fees being paid on them for a considerable length of time. Are you satisfied that equipment, which is on hire across the service is being returned as required and that BCUHB is not incurring excessive charges because of failure to return items?
4. The public are getting the impression that our hospitals are top heavy with management and that layers of management are themselves an obstacle for change. Do you believe that the time has now come for these layers of management to be cut so that resources can be redirected to the front line?

Cllr Chris Bithell

5. Why doesn't BCUHB make much more use of Minor Injuries and X-Ray facilities which are available in local Community Hospitals which we fought to preserve for continued local use and to take the pressure off the General Hospitals like the Maelor? This has not occurred and staff in local Community Hospitals don't work a full week, aren't allowed to carry out simple, medical procedures (e.g. stitching minor wounds) and X-Ray staff have to go to the Maelor to run X-Rays there. Why don't they do this in Mold etc where parking is easier and facilities closer to patients?

Cllr Carol Ellis

6. What steps are being taken to resolve overcrowding in Glan Clwyd and Wrexham hospitals? On Thursday last week when visiting the Hospital at Wrexham supplies and rubbish were being stored on corridors.
7. How often are the wards deep cleaned?

8. What are the current levels of infectious diseases such as C diff at the two hospitals serving Flintshire?
9. Waiting times in A and E - I am hearing reports that things are not improving but that patients are arriving in an Ambulance and then placed in corridors. What is the average wait of patients needing an urgent bed? I have evidence of 24 hour waits and patient being moved five times.
10. What is the policy on supplying food and drink whilst waiting in A and E for those who are elderly and alone - again evidence of 24 hour wait.