ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLOR FEEDBACK REPORT FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Report to Overview Select Committee – 27 January 2015

Name of Meeting:	West Sussex County Council's Health & Adult
_	Social Care Select Committee (HASC)
Date of Meeting:	21 January 2015
Report by:	Councillor Dr Walsh
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Paul Wotherspoon

Feedback:

MSK Services - the discussions between CCG and BUPA/CSH were still taking place and therefore no debate took place. A briefing note jointly from both contained the statement "The CCG has always said that a contract will not be signed if local health services will be de-stabilised as a result of the new service". It is expected that discussions will conclude shortly, outcome will go to CCG Clinical Executive on 27 January, come to the HASC Business Planning Group soon after, and to the next HASC on 12 March (or sooner if necessary), before the still intended 1 April 2015 implementation date. There does appear to be a general wish to get it right now!

Care Act - There was a presentation on the huge implications of the Care Act, with considerable shifts of cash from the NHS to Social Services, with a greater emphasis on care in the community. This takes effect on 1 April 2015, with full roll out, including financial changes on 1 April 2016. Most of the provisions are statutory, but areas that WSCC have discretion over include i) Carrying out more assessments for people with care and support needs (especially self-funders); ii) More assessments for carers; iii) Procuring independent advocacy; and iv) Charging for care and support.

Moneys that become available to WSCC from April 2015 are a) The Better Care Fund £2.017m and b) Central Government = £5.668m.

There is a wide public consultation going on at present in West Sussex for users and carers.

A&E Pressures and GP Out of Hours Services - The two are linked of course. There had been improvements in GP night and weekend services over the last year, but IC24, who provide the service, still had manpower issues, and some unacceptable delays in service delivery and these were being addressed with a further report to come.

Pressures on A&E departments have been extreme over Christmas and the New Year. All A&E departments now have co-located GP service to help "screen-out" inappropriate A&E attendances. However bed-blocking (worst at Redhill) meant there were sometimes insufficient beds for new admissions from A&E. This was partially due to too few care beds in the private sector, or of insufficient quality.

Potential Implications for Arun District Council or Actions Required:

1. The main points that the Committee needs to be aware of are highlighted above.

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Should this be raised at Cabinet by the relevant Cabinet Member or at the Overview Select Committee?

Yes – Overview Select Committee