

**Minutes of:** **PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Date of Meeting:** 16<sup>th</sup> July 2012

**PRESENT:** Councillor McInnes (Chair)  
Councillors Fletcher, Knowles, Procter, Shipley,  
Morris and Roberts

Irene Divine (Co-opted Member)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Moira Morton, Divisional Director for Surgery and Consultant  
Maxilo Facial Surgeon, ELHT  
Martin Hodgson, Director of Service Development, ELHT  
Frances Murphy, Company Secretary, ELHT  
Councillor Lamb, Portfolio Holder, Operation Services and  
Development Control  
Councillor Cheetham  
Councillor Sandiford  
Councillor Hughes  
Councillor Bleakley  
Keith Pilkington, Co-opted Member  
Pat Couch, Scrutiny Support Officer

2 Members of the Public

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Fiona Meechan, Director of Customers and Communities.

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**Resolved:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**3. URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items for discussion.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor McInnes declared a personal interest as she worked in Pathology at Pennine Acute Trust.

## **5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The Chair agreed to deviate from the Procedure for Public Speaking and allow members of the public to ask questions as the reports were discussed.

## **6. CHAIR'S UPDATE**

The Chair informed Members that the Scrutiny Support Officer had circulated information requested at the last meeting in relation to the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act.

The Chair also asked Members to ensure that following the presentation by the Hospital Trust regarding their proposals for Foundation Trust status, all questions by members should be in relation to the subject matter.

## **7. EAST LANCASHIRE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST – CONSULTATION ON BECOMING A FOUNDATION TRUST**

Martin Hodgson, Director of Service Development at East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust provided members with the following information in relation to the consultation on becoming a Foundation Trust.

The Trust was at the public consultation stage, talking to the public and staff about their plans for becoming a Foundation Trust. This would make them an Independent Public Benefit Organisation free from central government control and be more accountable to the public and patients. By April 2014 all hospitals must become a Foundation Trust.

Martin explained that Monitor, are independent regulators of Foundation Trusts who determine whether NHS trusts are ready to become NHS foundation trusts; ensure that NHS foundation trusts comply with the conditions they signed up to – that they are well-led and financially robust; and support NHS foundation trust development.

The Trust has an Integrated Business Plan and Martin explained the key themes within the Plan to take forward as a Foundation Trust.

There would be a Council of Governors which would represent the interests of its Members and would be directly involved in the running of the organisation. The Council of Governors would consist 29 members from Public Governors (2 for Rossendale), Staff Governors and Stakeholder Governors.

Timescales for the process were as follows:

- 22 August the final submission of the Business Plan
- October – Strategic Health Authority submit the application to the Department of Health

- December – March the application would be submitted to Monitor for a four month test

Members asked a number of questions, which the representatives from the Hospital Trust responded (copy available on request).

Members were also given the opportunity of responding to the consultation individually, by completing a form in the consultation document.

**Resolved:**

The Chair thanked the representatives from the Hospital Trust for their informative presentation.

**8. UPDATE ON AVERAGE FUEL COSTS/USAGE WITHIN THE OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT**

The Chair read out an apology note from the Director of Customers and Communities, indicating that a briefing note had been circulated at the meeting and Councillor Lamb, as Portfolio Holder, provided an overview of the briefing paper.

Councillor Lamb indicated that all refuse, recycling and street cleaning rounds were regular scheduled routes and therefore there was no opportunity for reducing the amount of fuel used whilst rounds were 'static'.

In relation to the cost of fuel, this was variable and the Council had little control over this. The Transport Co-ordinator contacts suppliers on a weekly basis in order to secure the best price for fuel however, fuel costs were set by suppliers.

Future proposals were that all performance indicators in relation to fuel usage and fuel costs be removed.

Concern was raised by a member of the public at the content of the briefing note, and indicated that fuel usage could be monitored by registering the mileage when a vehicle is filled up and record how many miles were done by each vehicle.

The member of the public suggested that the Council speak with him to discuss alternative possibilities for saving on fuel costs.

Another suggestion was to look at prices in line with Rossendale Transport, but a previous Chair of the bus company who was at the meeting confirmed that this had already been explored, but the petrol tank was not big enough to cater for the Council wagons.

The Portfolio Holder indicated that having reviewed all of the Operations Performance Indicators with the new Operations Manager, it was also proposed that the Local Indicators LI 82 ai - % of Household Waste Recycled' and LI 82 bi - % of Household Waste Composted' were consolidated. The following indicators were therefore proposed:

- NI 191 – Residual household waste per household (target – reduction)
- NI 192 – Household waste sent for re-use, recycling or composting (target – increase)

This proposal reduces the amount of reporting needed, which was resource intensive, but provides a focus on those performance indicators which were most useful for assessing.

**Resolved:**

That the information be noted.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and finished at 8.30pm

Signed .....  
(Chair)

Date .....