

CABINET – 19 MARCH 2013

ITEM 4 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Questions received from the following Members:

1. Councillor. Roz Smith to Councillor Melinda Tilley

"Will the County Council be making a response to the current consultation on proposed changes to the national curriculum?"

Answer:

"Yes, I can confirm that the Directorate for Children, Education and Families will be making a response to the consultation on behalf of the County Council."

2. Councillor Jenny Hannaby to Councillor Arash Fatemian

"The performance report presented to the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board showed an increase in delayed transfers of care. Does the Cabinet Member for Adult Services share my disappointment at these increases despite extra resources being put in place. Dr Stephen Richards chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board made the comment in his view numbers will rise even further. Is this comment shared by you and are you content with this situation?"

Answer:

"We are working hard and jointly with the NHS to improve the situation with regard to delayed transfers of care. While I share your frustration that the number of delays has risen recently I am optimistic that the numbers will be brought down in the medium term. We are currently implementing a new system called 'Discharge to Assess'. The system aims to ensure that more people return home from hospital in a timely way and have their on-going care needs assessed after they are discharged. We don't believe that hospital is the best place to make life changing decisions and too many people have been going straight from hospital in to a permanent care home place. The new system means new ways of working for the staff and it will inevitably take a little time to implement. We have also experience increased numbers of referrals of older people across the health and social care system. This is a national trend that is putting pressure on our systems in Oxfordshire."