

Wandsworth Health News September No 42

Wandsworth CCG AGM -the usual back slapping affair

The Wandsworth CCG AGM took place on Wednesday 20 September.

It was the usual back slapping affair with participation by the public kept to a minimum.

Unlike most AGMs where papers are available beforehand this one didn't allow even that.

It was chaired by Nicola Jones the newly reelected chair of the CCG.

The AGM was attended by the great and the good in the local medical establishment including the hand picked, so called lay representatives.

Scheduled to finish at 3.30pm the speakers from the CCG Board managed to go on until 3.20pm, leaving just 10 minutes for any questions.

This from a CCG leadership that prides itself on patient participation.

This will probably be the last Wandsworth CCG AGM as CCGs are on the way out superceded first by Sustainability and Transformation groups and more recently by ACSs,Accountable Care Systems.

This latest reorganisation further fragments the NHS and parallels the structures favoured by the big US corporations like Kaiser Permanente.

Already, Simon Stevens the head of the NHS and himself an ex director of United Health the international health insurance company has set up eight pilot schemes for a test run.

So it is goodbye STPs hello ACSs

With the establishment of ACSs where all the health services in an area are controlled by one company it is the end of the NHS as we know it.

It will no longer be publicly owned and publicly provided but fragmented into different area groups each of them run, and the services delivered, by the big corporations.

The NHS once an example to the world of a national system of healthcare that was cheap, efficient, and with the best health outcomes will have been destroyed..

Of course none of this was mentioned by the CCG leaders.

It was left to members of the public to raise matters of real concern.

See Over

Wandsworth CCG AGM

St George's Hospital

The situation at our local hospital was glossed over and none of the matters of concern addressed.

The closure of the sexually transmitted diseases dept was not mentioned.

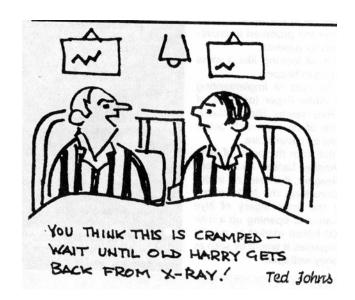
The latest cancer waiting times were out of date. The A&E turnaround figure of four hours which has not been met for months hardly got a mention.

Most significant of all the hospital's dire financial situation was well and truly tucked under the carpet.

Our local hospital is projecting a year end deficit of £45 million. It doesn't have the necessary resources to meet the needs of its patients. The board of the CCG don't seem to realise this, and do nothing to help.

Instead of adding their weight to the increasing demands for more money for the NHS they remain silent.

St George's set to end year £45 million overdrawn



Save Our NHS-Keep Our NHS Public Wandsworth group of Keep Our NHS Public

Meets the second Monday in the month at the PCS building by Clapham Junction Station, entrance via the car park, 7.30pm

All welcome

Massive cuts on the way

No one from the board mentioned that massive cuts in NHS services are on the way.

It was left to a member of the public to inform the audience that cuts of around one billion pounds are to be made in health services in South West London over the next five years. The biggest cut we have ever seen.

The buck was passed to the newly appointed Finance Director to answer but like everyone else he had no solutions.

The new accountable officer for South West London trotted out the usual cliche, 'we can make efficiency savings' but even she wasat a loss.

There is a solution.

The Trust Board and the increasing number of NHS bureaucrats in the area need to get off their backsides and start standing up for the NHS.

That means demanding more resources



The National Health Service
Public service
or private profit?

One Billion to be cut from South West London NHS Services Over The Next Five Years

CCGs Accountable
Officer for South
West London tells
AGM -there will be
no closure of any
A&E Department in
the area for the next
five years.