

Committee: **Scrutiny Committee for Social Services and Health**

Date: 12 December 2002

Title: Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee for Social Services and Health held at 2.00pm at Pelham House, St Andrews Lane, Lewes, East Sussex

Subject: Minutes

Attending: Chartier Mrs Leigh Lock McPherson Webb and Whetstone

Financial Adviser - Raymond Hart, Assistant Director of Social Services

Lead Officer - Bernardine Bacon, Scrutiny Lead Officer

Legal Adviser - Andrew Ogden, Deputy Director of Legal and Community Services

Also Present: - Councillor Glazier, Lead Cabinet Member for Social Services and Health

Councillor Slack, Chairman of the Project Board for the Best Value Review of Family Support Services

28. MINUTES

28.1 RESOLVED – to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 25 October 2002 as a correct record.

29. REPORTS

29.1 Copies of the reports referred to below are included in the minute book.

30. RECONCILING POLICY AND RESOURCES

30.1 The Committee considered a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director of Corporate Resources. The Committee considered whether it wanted to make any comments to Cabinet on the planning assumptions which would underpin the budget that Cabinet would propose to County Council in February 2003.

30.2 RESOLVED – to not make any comments to Cabinet.

31. COUNCIL PLAN : QUARTER 2 MONITORING REPORT

31.1 The Committee considered a report by Chief Executive.

31.2 RESOLVED – to note the report.

32. BEST VALUE REVIEW OF FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES : INTERIM MONITORING REPORT

32.1 The Committee Considered a report by Director of Social Services and Councillor Slack, Chairman of the Project Board.

32.2 The Committee discussed the progress made following the Review and also whether the pilot method adopted by this Review for monitoring had been successful. The Committee noted that Best Value Reviews are always considered by the Audit and Best Value Scrutiny Committee in the first instance, and then monitored by the parent committee at six monthly intervals. The Committee recognised that it was important for the parent committee to have some ownership of the reports to assist with the monitoring process. The Committee agreed that Councillor Webb would shadow Councillor Slack in respect of this report and the monitoring process over the next six months.

32.3 RESOLVED – to (1) note the Director of Social Services report; and
(2) note the progress made in the implementation of this Best Value Review; and
(3) note the pilot method of monitoring which had been adopted in this report.

33. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF BUDGETARY CONTROL OF THE COMMUNITY CARE FUND

33.1 The Committee considered a report by Director of Social Services.

33.2 RESOLVED – to note the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review agreed in June 2002.

34. PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK 2001-2002

34. The Committee considered a report by Director of Social Services.

34.1 RESOLVED – to note the report.

35. SOCIAL SERVICES STRATEGIC PLAN – QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT (FIRST SIX MONTHS)

35.1 The Committee considered a report by Director of Social Services.

35.2 RESOLVED – to (1) note the performance of Social Services against planned targets; and
(2) note the amendments made to ensure 2002/03 targets are met.

36. FIELDWORK AND ASSESSMENT

36.1 The Committee received a presentation from Keith Hinkley, Assistant Director for Social Services.

36.2 The Committee welcomed the presentation and noted the comments made.

37. PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR SCRUTINY

37.1 The Committee considered a report by the Scrutiny Lead Officer.

37.2 The Committee considered suggestions for a scrutiny work programme. The Committee agreed that the scrutiny programme for Social Services and Health should include the following scrutiny areas:-

(i) Older People Services – effect on service users and carers setting up intermediate care initiatives including :

- Community Collaborative Rehabilitation Team (CCRT)
- Living at Home Programme (LAHP)
- Out of Hours ‘ hospital social work
- Rapid Response service (to support people and prevent hospital admission)

(ii) Learning Disability – effect on service users and carers of setting up Community Learning Disability Teams (CLDTs)

37.2 RESOLVED – that a Project Board for the Older People’s Services Scrutiny Review would be established and Councillor McPherson, Councillor Leigh and Councillor Lock would be appointed to the Board.

38. FORWARD PLAN : DECEMBER 2002 TO MARCH 2003

38.1 The Committee considered the Forward Plan for the period December 2002 to March 2003.

38.2 RESOLVED – to note the Forward Plan.

39. GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS 2003/2004 – CARERS GRANT, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FINANCE, PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE GRANT

39.1 The Committee considered a report by Director of Social Services.

39.2 RESOLVED – (1) to note that some of the existing grants may be funded in future from the Supporting Peoples Grants thereby releasing additional money from the Community Partnership Finance to the discretionary fund; and

(2) to ask the Lead Member for Social Services and Health

- (i) to give priority to the East Sussex Foster Carers Association in allocating any additional money which is available;
- (ii) if there is any remaining money this should be allocated equally to the four geographical areas.

40. INTERIM MEETING DATE

40.1 13TH March 2002 at 10:00 am.