

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee for Adult Social Care held at County Hall, Lewes on 3 March 2011

PRESENT:	Councillor Waite (Chairman) Councillors Belsey, Ost, Scott, Taylor and Mrs Tidy Janet Colvert, LINK representative
Chief Officer:	Keith Hinkley, Director of Adult Social Care
Scrutiny Lead Officer:	Gillian Mauger, Scrutiny Lead Officer
ALSO PRESENT	Councillor Bentley, Lead Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care Samantha Williams, Assistant Director of Planning, Performance and Engagement Louisa Havers, Head of Performance and Engagement Imran Yunus, Strategic Commissioning Manager

33. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

33.1 RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the last Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 11 November 2010.

34. APOLOGIES

34.1 An apology for absence was received from Councillor Healy.

35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

35.1 Councillor Belsey declared a personal interest as he was a trustee of Age Concern. He did not consider this interest to be prejudicial.

35.2 Councillor Taylor declared a personal interest as he was a residential care home owner. He did not consider this interest to be prejudicial.

35.3 Councillor Scott declared a personal interest as his wife was employed by East Sussex Hospitals Trust. He did not consider this interest to be prejudicial.

36. REPORTS

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

37. HEALTH WHITE PAPER

37.1 The Committee received a presentation by the Director of Adult Social Care on the current progress with taking forward the outcomes of the Health White Paper.

37.2 In response to questions by the Committee the following points were made:

- GP commissioning consortia would be established across East Sussex at different times and this would require a flexible approach to partnership working.
- The County Council was currently working towards having a Health and Wellbeing Board in place by September 2011. This meant that it would need to have decided the makeup of the board by June. There was a statutory requirement to have on the board representatives from the GP consortia, an elected member, Director of Adult Social Care, Director of Children's Services and representation from Healthwatch.

37.3 RESOLVED to note the update and receive further reports in due course.

38. CARE QUALITY COMMISSION – OUTCOMES FROM THE EAST SUSSEX ADULT SOCIAL CARE ACTION PLAN FOR 2009/10

38.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care outlining the progress being made towards the achievement of the targets contained within the CQC action plan.

38.2 In response to questions by the Committee the following points were made:

- Those service users using a direct payment to employ a personal assistant took on the role of employer and had to manage issues such as paying wages and insurance. The department had a member of staff in place whose job it was to support those service users who took on this role and organisations, such as A4E, could also offer support.
- Service users received periodic reviews, the timings of which were based upon an assessment of risk. The reviews also included an assessment of service user's capacity to continue to manage their personal budget.
- Analysis of those service users choosing to take a direct payment showed that they came from a range of client groups. The type and level of support that service users required in relation to managing their own support varied across the different client groups.

38.3 RESOLVED to support the progress being made towards the achievement of all the targets contained within the CQC action plan.

39. REVIEW OF ALIGNMENT BETWEEN THE SOCIAL CARE AND FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT PROCESSES

39.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care outlining the progress made against the scrutiny review action plan.

39.2 In response to questions by the Committee the following points were made:

- A tightening up of procedures in hospital discharges had lead to financial assessments for service users being pre booked before the person left hospital. This had helped speed up the discharge process.
- From April to December 2010 a total of 787 safeguarding referrals were made to the Department. 133 of these were of a financial nature and resulted in:
 - 1 criminal prosecution
 - 15 cases where access to the vulnerable person was reduced
 - 12 cases where there was continued monitoring by the police
 - 8 cases were placed on the Protection of Vulnerable Adults list

39.3 RESOLVED to (1) support the progress made against the scrutiny review action plan; and
(2) request an update report on further progress in six months time.

40. RECONCILING POLICY AND RESOURCES – FEEDBACK TO SCRUTINY

40.1 The Committee considered a report by the Interim Director of Governance and Community Services outlining the scrutiny input into the Reconciling Policy and Resources process.

40.2 The Committee had mixed views on the all council forums. Whilst they had been useful in providing budget information from across all council departments there were still concerns that there was too much focus on silos without consideration as to how changes to one department's budget could impact on another department.

40.3 RESOLVED to note the outcomes from the Reconciling Policy and Resources process during 2010/11.

41. UPDATE REPORT ON THE PROGRESS TOWARDS DEVELOPING A NEW MODEL FOR THE INTEGRATED COMMUNITY EQUIPMENT SERVICE

41.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care outlining progress towards developing the proposed service model for the Integrated Community Equipment Service.

41.2 In response to questions by the Committee the following points were made:

- Whilst a more flexible approach to delivering equipment was needed to better suit the service user it was still important that a prompt delivery service was in place for people leaving hospital to ensure that equipment required for their discharge was in place in time.
- The new system would flag up to prescribers when particular pieces of equipment had not been delivered so that they could investigate what the issue was.

41.3 RESOLVED to: (1) support the progress that has been made so far on the proposed service model for the Integrated Community Equipment Service; and

(2) request an update report on further progress in 1 years time.

42. SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

42.1 The Committee considered a report by the Interim Director of Governance and Community Services setting out the current work programme for the Committee.

42.2 RESOLVED to note the scrutiny work programme.

43. FORWARD PLAN

43.1 The Committee considered the Forward Plan for the period 1 March 2011 to 30 June 2011.

43.2 RESOLVED to note the Forward Plan.

This was the last Committee meeting of Gillian Mauger, Scrutiny Lead Officer, and the Members thanked her for all her work on the Committee over the past few years.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 12.30pm