

## SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

MINUTES of a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee for Adult Social Care and Community Safety held at County Hall, Lewes on 1 March 2012

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PRESENT:	Councillor Pragnell (Chairman) Councillors Barnes, Healy, Ost, Scott, Taylor and Mrs Tidy Janet Colvert, LINK representative
Lead Members:	Councillor Bentley, Lead Member for Adult Social Care Councillor Elkin, Lead Member for Children's and Adults' Services
Chief Officer:	Keith Hinkley, Director of Adult Social Care
Scrutiny Lead Officer:	Claire Lee, Scrutiny Lead Officer
Also present:	Mark Stainton, Assistant Director (Operations) Shane Heber, Head of Directly Provided Services Angie Turner, Head of Safeguarding Barry Atkins, Head of Strategic Commissioning Marcus Gomm, Head of Safer Communities

### 44. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

44.1 RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the last Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 10 November 2011.

### 45. APOLOGIES

45.1 Apologies for absence were received from Dr Laurie Bush.

### 46. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

46.1 Cllr Taylor declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in relation to item 10 as owner of a care home which provides respite services.

46.2 Cllr Scott declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in relation to item 11 as Lead Member for Environment and Highways at Hastings Borough Council, which includes aspects of community safety.

46.3 Cllr Bentley declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in relation to items 9 and 10 as a carer.

### 47. REPORTS

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

#### 48. HEALTH REFORM UPDATE

48.1 The Committee considered a verbal update by the Director of Adult Social Care which focused on the development of Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and business planning for 2012/13. Key points included:

- The configuration of CCGs in the west of the county was under review. The County Council and Brighton and Hove City Council had fed views into this process.
- East Sussex CCGs are in ongoing discussion regarding the sharing of certain functions in a federated model.
- CCGs are beginning to consider the commissioning support they will require and there is a need to progress this by June 2012 in order to determine how they will function as organisations.
- CCGs had indicated their commitment to existing joint commissioning arrangements.
- A Commissioning Support Service is being established across Surrey and Sussex.
- Plans for 2012/13 were in the process of being agreed. There would be a large scale financial challenge for commissioners and providers of health services. The deliverability of plans for jointly commissioned services was being considered.

48.2 The Director confirmed that CCG Board arrangements would continue to evolve, taking into account national guidance and their awareness of the need to involve a range of stakeholders at Board meetings in order to progress their agenda.

48.3 RESOLVED to continue to request verbal updates at future meetings.

#### 49. CARE QUALITY COMMISSION INSPECTION: MOUNT DENYS

49.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care which informed the Committee of the progress made at Mount Denys, Hastings to comply with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) standards.

49.2 The Head of Directly Provided Services made the following points to add to the written report:

- Work had commenced on alterations to a sluice required by CQC.
- A professor from Canterbury University had developed a bespoke programme for a few long term residents at the home with particularly complex needs.
- Bedroom refurbishment was being undertaken in a gradual way, to minimise disruption to residents.

49.3 The following points were made in response to questions from the Committee:

- CQC were now satisfied with the process for reporting safeguarding alerts and incidents. All incidents are now reported so that the decision on whether they are safeguarding matters can be taken independently. Incidents are also analysed weekly to identify causes, assess action taken and monitor trends.
- The internal monitoring regime had been strengthened.
- Overall staffing ratios had increased from approximately 7:1 and 5:1 to approximately 3:1, but this can be flexed as needs/behaviours indicate.
- More flexible staffing across directly provided services is being developed to enable staff to work across different services as needed.
- There is flexibility to pay independent providers for higher staff to client ratios if assessed needs determine that this is required and the care to be provided is specified.

- Joint training is being developed with the NHS and social care staff in areas such as safeguarding. In-house mandatory training courses are also available to the independent sector.
- The turnover of care staff is not a particular problem in DPS but it has been difficult to recruit highly skilled and experienced staff. Comprehensive induction and training is in progress for new staff.
- Learning is being shared across directly provided services.
- It is anticipated that directly provided services will need more specialist input in the future as the needs of service users increase. This means there is a need to consider how the capacity and skills of staff are sustained.

49.4 The additional funding which had been allocated to Mount Denys in 2011/12 to make the required improvements would be continued in the 2012/13 budget. In the longer term the intention is for the provision at Mount Denys to be replaced by new developments through the Age Well programme. Any changes to the budget in the meantime would need to be considered through the Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) process.

49.5 The department would also need to consider how specialist services are funded in future and is in ongoing negotiation with providers. It is anticipated that Adult Social Care funding will come under increasing pressure as the population ages and levels of need increase, despite efforts to promote prevention and reablement. This, coupled with NHS intentions to provide more healthcare outside hospitals, is likely to lead to people with higher level needs requiring care, which in turn is likely to increase unit costs.

49.6 RESOLVED to:

- (1) Thank staff at Mount Denys for their positive response to the CQC report.
- (2) Arrange a Committee visit to Mount Denys.
- (3) Request a briefing note on progress by email, based on a future report to the departmental management team.
- (4) Note the future pressures from the ageing population and increased levels of need on Adult Social Care budgets and continue to consider the impacts through the RPPR process.
- (5) Request that future reports to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on dementia strategy be circulated to the committee for information.

## 50. CARE QUALITY COMMISSION INSPECTION: MILTON GRANGE

50.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care which informed the Committee of the progress made at Milton Grange, Eastbourne to comply with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) standards.

50.2 The following points were made in response to the Committee's questions:

- Pre-admission assessment is now managed by a dedicated admissions officer who works with occupational therapy and physiotherapy. The officer assesses all potential admissions to Milton Grange, including those from the acute hospital.
- Falls can be a side effect of medication but occupational therapists work to reduce these and to advise relatives and carers.
- Infection control officers have been identified in all directly provided services.
- It is unlikely that CQC will undertake a follow-up visit at this time as the issues they highlighted were not significant. However, if they were to visit it would be unannounced.

50.3 RESOLVED to note that the required actions have been delivered to ensure compliance.

## 51. SAFEGUARDING ADULTS PROGRESS REPORT

51.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care which provided an update on implementation of the safeguarding adults agenda in East Sussex, particularly a review of the Safeguarding Adults Board.

51.2 The Head of Safeguarding made the following points in response to questions from the Committee:

- The 2011 review of the Safeguarding Adults Board had been the first of its type undertaken in East Sussex. There had been learning from the process which would influence how a future review would be undertaken, for example the need to triangulate different sources of data.
- The review had not recommended a change of chair and it was decided to await national developments regarding the status of Safeguarding Adults Boards to determine whether there would be any specific requirements regarding chairing.
- The review had raised the issue of making links to wider agendas such as community safety. If Safeguarding Adults Boards are put on a statutory basis this would better support engagement with partners.
- CCGs will take on the role of Primary Care Trusts in relation to safeguarding under the NHS reforms and CCGs will be required to demonstrate their ability to meet this duty.
- An easy read version of the safeguarding process leaflet was in development.

51.3 The Committee supported the review's recommendation for greater scrutiny of the work of the Board and proposed to link this to the annual report on safeguarding, available in autumn each year.

51.4 RESOLVED to:

- (1) receive the safeguarding annual report at the Committee's November meeting each year and to invite Members of the Board to attend.
- (2) receive email notification of the quarterly reports which are considered by the Lead Member.

## 52. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF IDENTIFYING CARERS

52.1 The Committee considered a report by the Chairman of the Review Board which presented the findings of the Board.

52.2 The Committee agreed that recommendation 4 should be broadened to refer to more effective engagement with GPs using all available tools, including through commissioning and the development of integrated community teams. This would allow the department more flexibility in responding to the recommendation.

52.3 RESOLVED to:

- (1) Amend recommendation 4 and related text in the report to allow the department more flexibility in developing its engagement with GPs.
- (2) Subject to the amendments, endorse the report of the Review Board and make recommendations to Cabinet for comment and County Council for approval.

### 53. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF RESPITE CARE

53.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care which set out the six month progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review.

53.2 The Head of Strategic Commissioning advised the Committee that the recommendations had been taken forward by a sub-group of the Carers Partnership Board which focuses on respite care. Additional NHS funding of £1m would be available for carers services in East Sussex in 2012/13 (£800k for adults and £200k for children) and guidance was awaited on any restrictions regarding the use of this funding. The carers' needs assessment was being refreshed to inform deployment of this and existing resources for carers services. It would be important to continue directing resources to services considered important by carers as reflected in the local carers strategy.

53.3 The following points were made in response to questions from the Committee:

- Carers issues are being embedded in the new self directed support pathway. The Carers Project Officer sits on the sub-group developing tools to support the pathway and is able to ensure the carers perspective is built in.
- Engagement with carers includes and goes beyond Care for the Carers as a representative organisation. All Partnership Boards now include a carer representative to support the integration of carers issues into their work. There is also engagement with condition specific groups on carers issues.

53.4 RESOLVED to request a further progress report in September 2012.

### 54. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS

54.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care which explored the impact of the introduction of a Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) on the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership.

54.2 The Head of Safer Communities made the following points by way of introduction:

- East Sussex is performing strongly in terms of crime reduction and there would be risks should funding for local initiatives be reduced or removed when control of key grants is transferred to the PCC.
- There is a positive story to tell in terms of community safety in East Sussex and a marketing pack is being developed for PCC candidates to ensure they are aware of the successful approaches in place.
- The PCC will not be a statutory partner on Community Safety Partnerships so will not sit on the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership.

54.3 The following points were made in response to questions from the Committee:

- Approaches to candidates would be made later in the process as there is still time for more candidates to come forward.
- The marketing pack will clearly articulate county and district level priorities and the activities local partnerships believe will meet these priorities.
- The recruitment process for lay members of the Police and Crime Panel is not yet clear but it is likely that the Panel itself will decide what skills are needed.

- The focus for the County Council is on the commissioning of services and the development of the marketing pack to make the case for commissioned services which have been successful in meeting community safety objectives.

54.4 RESOLVED to receive a briefing paper on progress in September 2012.

55. RECONCILING POLICY, PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES

55.1 The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Chief Executive which set out the scrutiny input into the Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) process during 2011/12 and invited comments on the process.

55.2 The Committee welcomed the full Council forum which had enabled a cross-department picture to be presented. However, the timing of this forum had been too late in the process to enable it to have maximum influence on the budget proposals.

55.3 RESOLVED to forward the Committee's feedback to inform the 2012/13 process.

56. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

56.1 The Committee considered its current work programme.

56.2 The Director of Adult Social Care advised the Committee that a sector-led improvement process was being developed nationally to replace CQC inspections of local authorities. This process would focus on authorities working together to improve performance. The Committee agreed that this would need to be considered at a future meeting.

56.2 RESOLVED to update the work programme.

57. FORWARD PLAN

57.1 The Committee considered the Forward Plan for the period to 30 June 2012.

57.2 RESOLVED - to note the Forward Plan.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 1.15pm