

At a meeting of the HEALTH AND WELL-BEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on WEDNESDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY, 2010 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor P. Walker in the Chair

Councillor Fletcher, A. Hall, Leadbitter, Paul Maddison, Shattock and M. Smith.

Also in Attendance:-

| | | |
|-----------------|---|------------------------------------------------|
| Liz Allen | - | NHS South of Tyne and Wear |
| Nonnie Crawford | - | Director of Public Health |
| Carol Harries | - | City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust |
| Claire Harrison | - | Sunderland City Council |
| Nigel Cummings | - | Sunderland City Council |
| Graham King | - | Sunderland City Council |
| Linda Irving | - | Sunderland Carers |
| Jessica May | - | Sunderland City Council |
| Nicola Morrow | - | Sunderland City Council |
| Neil Revely | - | Sunderland City Council |
| Stephen Taylor | - | Sunderland Partnership |
| Jim Usher | - | Sunderland City Council |

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Morrissey, Old and Snowdon.

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 13th January, 2010

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 13th January, 2010 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)

Local Area Agreement Delivery Plans

Councillor M. Smith declared a personal interest in the item as a family member was employed by Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust.

Six Lives – The Provision of Public Services to People with Learning Disabilities: A report by the Parliamentary Health Service Ombudsman in conjunction with the Ombudsman for Local Government

Councillor Shattock declared a personal interest in the item as a family member experienced learning disabilities.

Variation in the Order of Business

At this juncture the Chairman proposed, and it was agreed, to vary the order of business to consider Item 5 at Item 4.

Local Area Agreement Delivery Plans

The Healthy City Delivery Partnership submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Committee with the Local Area Agreement Delivery Plan for those services delivered by partners who are members of the Healthy City Delivery Partnership.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman welcomed Dr. Nonnie Crawford and Neil Revely to the Committee and invited them to give their presentation.

Dr. Crawford took the Committee through each performance measure in turn and key actions to achieve the desired outcome.

Referring to performance measurement NI130, the Chairman queried whether there was a limit to the amount of personal budget an individual could receive.

Mr. Revely advised that the money allocated for a personal budget should cover assessed need. A financial assessment would be undertaken by the Authority and would take into account an individual's level of benefits and income, and any contribution would be limited accordingly. Furthermore people can top up the budget from other resources such as additional benefits and *Supporting People* funding.

The Chairman was concerned that people who could afford to top up their care would be placed at an advantage and was advised by Mr. Revely that that would always be the case, however personalised budgets allowed people who need social care support to have more choice and control on how money was spent.

Mr. Revely advised that the Government had just announced further plans to pilot personal budgets for people with long-term conditions.

Councillor Shattock questioned who carried out the assessment process; social workers or care managers, and whether social care in Sunderland would continue to be provided across all four Fair Access to Care (FACS) bands.

Mr. Revely advised that there was no intention to change the FACS band and providing a level of support over all four bands of need was essential for preventative work. A project was currently running to look at ways of making it easier for people to access assessments, which could mean self assessment for those people with a low level of need. There would be a greater investment in advice services and greater use of occupational therapy services.

With reference to the performance measure relating to smoking rate prevalence, Councillor A. Hall stated that there appeared to be clearly signposted support services to help people to stop smoking but the same could not be said with regard to help with alcohol misuse.

Dr. Crawford advised that a range of partnership organisations needed to consider corporate responsibility for their staff.

Councillor Copeland commented on the number of people that now congregated in pub doorways to smoke and queried whether environmental health could intervene.

Dr. Crawford advised that environmental health staff had done well to promote the smoke free environment. The Safer Partnership could be asked to contact establishments to emphasise the issue with them.

Having thanked Dr. Crawford and Mr. Revely for the report, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the contents of the Delivery Plan be received and noted.

Out of Hours Provision within Sunderland – Response to Councillor Query

The Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to consider concern raised by Councillor Copeland in relation to the ability of a broad range of statutory services to meet individuals' needs in an emergency situation.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Jim Usher, General Manager presented the report highlighting a number of issues that had been identified and needed to be addressed. Consequently the following recommendations would be taken forward:

- Review the skills and experience of the social workers who work within HHAS out of hours service, in order to ensure that the needs of people with mental health needs are adequately met;
- Raise awareness of the Crisis Resolution Service amongst the Contact Centre staff, in order that referrals are appropriate;
- Improve referral arrangements across the out of hours provision (including Crisis Resolution Service) agreeing the responsibilities for the given areas of work, communicating this to the Contact Centre;
- Clarify the onward referral arrangements between out of hour provision (including Crisis Resolution Service) and the information flows to ensure people are dealt with appropriately;
- Improve access to background information by scoping potential to share relevant information with the Contact Centre;
- Gather information relating to activity across the out of hours provision, in order to ensure the right service is being delivered.

In order to take forward these recommendations, it was proposed that a task and finish group is established. The group will include representatives from:

- Local Authority – Health, Housing and Adult Services
- Local Authority – Customer Services
- NTW
- Health and Wellbeing Review Committee

Councillor Shattock stated that the report was very good and if the recommendations could be achieved that would vastly improve the process and go some way to ensure people with mental health issues did not slip through the net.

Councillor Fletcher stated that it was extremely important that there was a process for informing the On Call Manager when the On Call Social Worker is 'out of action'.

Mr. Revely acknowledged that issues had been raised which needed to be rectified and these improvements would be put in place immediately.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Copeland for bringing the issue to the Committee's attention and thanked Mr. Usher and Mr. Revely for the report.

3. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) Members be invited to sit on a task and finish group to take forward the recommendations (including Councillor Copeland), and
- (ii) the Committee agree to receive further reports as the next step recommendations are taken forward.

‘Six Lives – The Provision of Public Services to People with Learning Disabilities’ : A report by the Parliamentary Health Service Ombudsman in conjunction with the Ombudsman for Local Government

The Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services submitted a report to advise the Committee of Sunderland’s response to the recommendations outlined in the Ombudsman report which have been formally presented to Cabinet as required.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman invited Jim Usher, General Manager, Health, Housing and Adult Services to present the report. He advised that with the Committee’s agreement they would receive an annual report from the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board on learning disability issues.

Councillor Shattock stated that the report was extremely important, especially the need to recognise the importance of family members and carers for their knowledge of the person concerned.

Carol Harries advised City Hospitals NHS Trust had improved its support to patients with learning disabilities. The Learning Disabilities Board ensured that children’s transition into adult services was appropriate. The Learning Disabilities Nurse was a huge resource and awareness raising was increasingly taking place.

Referring to the newly established ‘Futures’ Teams to support young people and their families through the transition to adulthood, the Chairman questioned how well it had been received.

Mr. Usher advised that the Team had been very well received by both health and education colleagues.

4. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted.

Policy Development and Review 2009/10 : Expert Jury Day

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide Members with the details of the Expert Jury Day to support evidence gathering for the 2009/10 Policy Review.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer presented the report and outlined the draft itinerary for the Expert Jury Event. He also detailed the approach to the Expert Jury.

5. RESOLVED that the details of the Expert Jury Event be received and noted.

World Health Organisation Healthy Cities Network

The Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Committee with an update of the current position in regards to the application into the WHO Healthy Cities Network Phase V and a review into the previous Phase work.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman welcomed Nicola Morrow, Healthy Cities Officer to the Committee and invited her to give her presentation.

Ms. Morrow provided background to the application and the current situation regarding Phase V.

With reference to paragraph 5.2 of the report which recognised that there was a gap in profiling the work through literature and the media, the Chairman questioned what work was happening to improve this.

Ms. Morrow advised that work was taking place with Corporate Communications to promote the ‘branding’ and raise awareness. The Communications Team within the Primary Care Trust had also been approached. Ms Jessica May, Partnership Manager stated that communications would involve city wide marketing.

Councillor Shattock queried what good practice in other cities had been identified.

Ms. Morrow gave the example of Belfast which had been identified because of its healthy urban planning. Stockholm had contributed to the emerging field of Health Impact Assessments by analysing how different relative risks affected the burden of disease for various socio-economic groups.

Having thanked Ms. Morrow for her report, it was:-

6. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Committee endorse the work undertaken to engage in Phase V of the WHO European Healthy City Programme through the actions given, and
- (ii) further update reports be brought back to the Committee.

Work Programme 2009/10

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to consider the current Work Programme for 2009/10 Council Year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Claire Harrison, Assistant Scrutiny Officer, presented the report.

7. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted.

Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the Period 1st February – 31st May, 2010

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1st February – 31st May which relate to the Health and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Claire Harrison, Assistant Scrutiny Officer, presented the report and advised that it should be noted that in the current edition of the Forward Plan there was one issue which was relevant to the Committee's remit.

8. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) P. WALKER,
Chairman.