

**At a meeting of the HEALTH AND WELL-BEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on TUESDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2011 at 5.00 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Walker in the Chair

Councillors Fletcher, Francis, Hall, F. Miller, Shattock, Snowdon, Waller and N. Wright.

**Also in Attendance:-**

Councillor Allan	-	Portfolio Holder for Health and Well-Being
Ms. Karen Brown	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. Victoria Brown	-	Age UK
Ms. Jean Carter	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. Maureen Crawford	-	Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust
Ms. Kelly Davison-Pullan	-	Sunderland City Council
Dr. John Dean	-	Links Organisation
Mr. Philip Foster	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. Carol Harries	-	City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust
Ms. Claire Harrison	-	Sunderland City Council
Ms. Ailsa Martin	-	Sunderland Carers Centre
Ms. Ailsa Nokes	-	NHS South of Tyne and Wear
Mr. Ralph Price	-	Links Organisation
Mr. Neil Revely	-	Sunderland City Council
Mrs. Christine Tilley	-	Sunderland City Council

**Welcome and Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited them to introduce themselves.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Maddison and Padgett and Mr. Russell Patton.

## **Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2011**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2011 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### **Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)**

Councillor Shattock declared a personal interest in item 7 on the agenda as a parent of a child with a learning disability.

### **Response from Cabinet – 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2011 – Policy Reviews – Malnutrition and Dehydration in Hospitals and Health of the Ex-Service Community**

The Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services and the Portfolio Holder for Health and Well-Being submitted a joint report (copy circulated), providing feedback from the Cabinet meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2011, which considered the Health and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee's Policy Review Final Reports into Malnutrition and Dehydration in Hospitals and the regional Policy Review of the Health of the Ex-Service Community.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman advised that the Portfolio Holder had been invited to attend for this item of business and invited Councillor Allan to report to the Committee.

Councillor Allan advised that the Cabinet had welcomed the Policy Reviews into Malnutrition and Dehydration in Hospitals and the Health of the Ex-Service Community and thanked the Scrutiny Committee for the work it had undertaken.

Councillor Allan advised that the Cabinet had endorsed the Scrutiny Committee's recommendations and progress towards completion of the actions arising from the investigations would be monitored through an Action Plan.

The Chairman advised that a revised copy of Appendix A, the Action Plan in respect of the Policy Review into Malnutrition and Dehydration in Hospitals had been circulated around the table.

In response to Councillor Shattock, Ms. Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer advised that the Committee would receive six monthly monitoring reports in respect of the policy reviews.

Members of the Committee particularly welcomed the introduction of the red tray system to identify those patients who are in need of greater assistance.

The Chairman commented that he was pleased to see that City Hospitals Sunderland had taken on board all of the Scrutiny Committee's recommendations from the policy reviews and stated that he was very pleased at how well the work was progressing. On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman thanked City Hospitals Sunderland for their co-operation.

The Chairman thanked the Cabinet for progressing the recommendations in respect of the policy review into the Health of the Ex-Service Community.

Mr. Neil Revely, Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services advised the Committee that former Councillor Graham Hall was continuing to progress the outcomes of the Policy Review into the Health of the Ex-Service Community.

Full discussion having taken place on the report, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the proposed actions detailed with the Action Plans be noted.

### **Policy Review – Monitoring of Recommendations**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing the Scrutiny Committee with progress in relation to the Home Care Provision, Dementia Care and Health Inequalities Policy Review Recommendations.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer reported that 100% of the actions in respect of the Policy Reviews of Home Care Provision and Dementia Care had been achieved and she requested the Committee's approval to sign off these policy reviews as being delivered and for the Committee to receive a report back on a six monthly basis in future.

The Chairman highlighted that the Policy Review into Tackling Health Inequalities remained to progress and commented that there was a need to ensure the toolkit was pushed along.

Following some discussion it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the progress in relation to the Home Care Provision, Dementia Care and Health Inequalities Policy Review recommendations be noted and that the Committee continue to monitor the situation with standardised six monthly reports to be presented to the Committee with a view to looking to sign off the Policy Reviews into Home Care Provision and Dementia Care the next time the report is submitted.

### **Performance Report Quarter 4 (April 2010 – March 2011)**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing the Committee with a performance update against the former national indicators relating to the period April 2010 to March 2011.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Kelly Davison-Pullan, Lead Officer for Corporate Performance, briefed the Committee on the report and highlighted in relation to Self-Directed Support that there had been a significant improvement in the percentage of people receiving Personal Budgets. In relation to Supporting People to Live Independently, Ms. Davison-Pullan pointed out that there had been an administrative change in classification rather than deterioration in performance against the indicator in that cases of people receiving small items of previously maintained equipment are no longer classed as having “ongoing care plans” and therefore no longer included in the figures for the number of people supported to live independently.

In relation to Health Inequalities, Ms. Davison-Pullan also drew attention to the rate of self-reported smoking quitters which had declined when compared to 2009/10. With regards to Sport and Leisure, the percentage of adults participating in sport and physical activity had increased in Sunderland since the last survey from 19.5% to 22.5% and Sunderland performance levels were higher than the average scores across Tyne and Wear.

In relation to supporting people to live independently, Members of the Committee commented that it was important to ensure that the services and support people needed to enable them to live independently were in place and that there was not an over reliance and pressure on relatives to provide this support to enable a family member to live at home.

In response, Mr. Philip Foster advised that the intention of personal budgets was to provide people with the means to shape the care and services they needed for themselves with the aim of enabling more people to live at home rather than receiving care in the traditional way and living in institutions.

Mr. Foster advised that in relation to Personal Budgets there was no limit on the number of hours of care a person received. The person was assessed in order to determine their care needs and a Personal Plan and Budget determined which could be taken as direct finance, as a Direct Payment to help the person purchase their own care or its equivalent in services which the Council would provide to help meet their needs. It was the person who decided how the services they needed were delivered and thus they had greater choice and control in shaping the services they wanted.

Ms. Ailsa Martin, Sunderland Carers Centre commented that self assessment needed to be supported. The process was not consistent and universal and there had been issues with information not being available or accurate. Ms. Martin felt that there was a mismatch between some of the theory around choice and the practice and that although advances were significant there were still issues to be addressed.

Councillor N. Wright enquired whether there had been a change of policy with regards to meals at home; an issue which the Scrutiny Committee had become involved in a few years ago and which had resulted in a change in policy direction.

Councillor Shattock added that meals at home was a very important issue for the Committee and that Members needed to know what was happening in this respect.

The Chairman requested that information in respect of the Council's policy on meals at home be reported back to the Committee as soon as possible.

Councillor Shattock also enquired what changes in services and personnel were being made at Fulwell Day Centre. She commented that residents were telling Members that changes were being made however Councillors were not being kept informed by the Service Directorate of the changes through the Sunderland Way of Working in relation to what services were being delivered by the Directorate and where they were being delivered from.

Mr. Foster advised that Fulwell Day Centre was included in the area which he managed and he was not aware of any changes in service delivery. However, he felt there was a need for the Directorate to work more closely with the Committee to explain the Personalisation agenda and inform Members of the changes and menu of different options available to people to enable them to get the care they needed and improve choice and control for service users.

Full discussion having taken place it was:-

4. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the report be noted and a briefing be provided for Members of the Committee on the services offered and the changes being made as a result of the Personalisation agenda; and
- (ii) arrangements be made for the Committee to visit a number of facilities including Fulwell Day Centre and Grindon Mews to see the services being offered.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Foster for his contribution to the discussion on the report.

### **Provision of Social Care for Adults with a Learning Disability**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing an update to the Committee on the future provision of social care for adults with a learning disability following the announcement that the provider of the service procured by the Council, had gone into administration.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Philip Foster, Head of Care and Support advised the Committee that he was pleased to report that a proposal had come forward to form a Local Authority Trading Company managed by the Council which would provide the Social Care Services for adults with a learning disability. Mr. Foster advised that carers of the people living in the homes had been briefed on developments and would be involved a great deal more in how the homes operated in the future. The Council had consulted with Sunderland Carers Centre which was pleased that the Council was proposing to take control of the homes and manage the services.

Ms. Ailsa Martin, Sunderland Carers Centre commented that since the meeting at which the Carers Management Board had been set up, the Health, Housing and Adult Services Directorate had worked hard to inform carers, move attitudes over the short term and assure those involved that there would be no change to the standards of care and support provided to people. This had resulted in people feeling positive about the future and that something very bad had been turned into something very positive. Ms. Martin advised the Committee that initial discussions had been held with the Council about future arrangements including exploring social enterprise options.

Mr. Foster stated that the Local Authority Company had been established in order to continue to provide the services currently provided by Choices until a medium to longer term solution could be determined and allow a period of stability for the users of the service, the staff and the families and carers. Mr. Foster reported that the Committee would be regularly updated with developments on the future provision of the service.

5. RESOLVED that the report and the information provided at the meeting, as detailed above, be received and noted.

### **Policy Review – Rehabilitation and Early Supported Discharge from Hospital – Scene Setting Report**

A joint report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services and Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust (copy circulated), was submitted providing detailed service information to begin the Scrutiny Committee's investigation of services in support of the rehabilitation and early supported discharge from hospital policy review.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Jean Carter, Deputy Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services and Ms. Ailsa Nokes, Strategic Lead for Long Term Conditions, NHS South of Tyne and Wear, gave a detailed presentation to the Committee setting out

- the policy context;
- the principles of discharge arrangements;
- the definition of a delayed discharge;
- factors causing delays;
- Sunderland data detailing delayed discharges for the period August 2010 to July 2011;
- improvement work already underway;
- strategy development; and
- next steps for the review.

Ms. Nokes advised the Scrutiny Committee that the next steps included setting up the Sunderland Intermediate Care and Reablement Strategy Group and two Working Groups in relation to Delayed Discharge and Reablement and Accommodation. She added that she was of the opinion that the Scrutiny Committee's policy review was very positive and would help inform plans for 2012/13 and help to identify issues which had not previously been considered.

Members welcomed the presentation commenting generally, that it had been very informative and specifically, that

- the idea that discharge was a process rather than a date was to be supported;
- people should try to plan for admission into hospital; and
- it was important that any support services required following discharge were set up and therefore that collaboration between agencies was effective.

The Chairman having commented that he was hopeful the Committee would contribute positively to the policy review; it was:-

6. RESOLVED that the information contained in the report be received and noted and used to launch the policy review.

### **Policy Review – Appointment of Co-opted Members**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) seeking the Scrutiny Committee's endorsement to the nomination of representatives on the Health and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee for a time limited project in relation to Rehabilitation and Early Supported Discharge from Hospital.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman advised that four nominations from three organisations had been received as detailed at paragraph 4.2 of the report. He welcomed three of the nominated individuals who were available to attend the Scrutiny Committee meeting that evening.

7. RESOLVED that the four nominations be endorsed by the Committee and referred to Council for appointment to the Scrutiny Committee as outlined in the report accordingly.

### **Annual Work Programme 2011-12**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) appending an updated copy of the Committee's work programme for Members' information.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Claire Harrison, Scrutiny and Area Support Officer presented the report.

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

**Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the Period 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2011**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide Members with an opportunity to consider the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2011.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Claire Harrison, Scrutiny and Area Support Officer presented the report to the Committee.

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

The Chairman announced that Ms. Harrison was leaving the Council to go back to University and on behalf of all Members he thanked Ms. Harrison for the work she had done and wished her well for the future.

Members of the Committee added their best wishes to those of the Chairman. The Chairman then closed the meeting.

(Signed) P. WALKER,  
Chairman.