



HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN,
YSTRAD MYNACH ON TUESDAY, 21ST JUNE 2016 AT 5.30 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor L. Ackerman - Chair
Councillor Mrs P. Cook - Vice Chair

Councillors:

Mrs E.M. Aldworth, Mrs A. Blackman, M. Evans, Ms J. Gale, C.J. Gordon, D. Harse, Miss L. Jones, A. Lewis.

Councillor N. George (Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services).

Together with:

D. Street (Corporate Director Social Services), G. Jenkins (Assistant Director Children's Services), J. Williams (Assistant Director Adult Services), R. Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection), M. Godfrey (Senior Environmental Health Officer), C. Forbes-Thompson (Interim Head of Democratic Services), A. Dredge (Committee Services Officer).

User and Carer – Mrs M. Veater.

Also Present – Ms. Denise Moultrie (Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales).

1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed Councillor David Harse to his first Scrutiny Committee Meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors A.P. Angel, L. Gardiner, G.J. Hughes, J.A. Pritchard, A. Rees, S. Skivens. R. Woodyatt (Cabinet Member for Social Services), Mr C. Luke and Miss L. Price (Users and Carers).

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

4. MINUTES – 3RD MAY 2016

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held on 3rd May 2016 (minute nos. 1 - 8) be approved and signed as a correct record.

5. CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALL-IN PROCEDURE

There had been no matters referred to the Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the call-in procedure.

6. REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER

The Scrutiny Committee received a verbal report from Councillor N. George (Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services). He advised that the 12 week informal public consultation regarding the possibility of introducing Public Space Protection Orders with additional Dog Control Measures concluded this week. Over 400 responses had been received and a report will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee later in the year in terms of the outcomes received.

Members were informed that July is 'Scams Awareness Month' and Trading Standards will be issuing guidance each week on the four themes of phone, on line, mail and doorstep scams. The authority will be taking part in the "Stand Against Scams" campaign encouraging people to become "Scambassadors" and join a network who will gather information locally to help tackle the problem on a national scale. Current statistics of scams were provided and it is hoped that Scambassadors will look to address these issues.

In concluding, the Cabinet Member confirmed that he will sign up as a Scambassador and will be promoting awareness of this increasing problem throughout the month.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member for his informative report.

7. HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Mrs Catherine Forbes-Thompson (Interim Head of Democratic Services) introduced the report that informed the Committee of its forward work programme including all reports that were identified at the work programme workshop on 22nd March 2016 planned for the period June 2016 to April 2017.

Members were asked to consider the work programme and to make any amendments or additional agenda items to be included for future meetings.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the work programme appended to the report be approved.

8. NOTICE OF MOTION - REMEDIAL ACTION TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY ON HAFODYRYNYS ROAD

Mr Rob Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection) and Ms Maria Godfrey (Senior Environmental Health Officer) introduced the Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor A. Lewis:

'I call on CCBC to take all remedial action, urgently to improve air quality on Hafodyrynys Road'.

Members considered the reasons for the Motion and noted that an air quality monitoring exercise had been undertaken and that there are proposals to develop an Action Plan upon which detailed consultation will be undertaken. Following due debate, it was moved and seconded that its content be supported with the additional recommendation that the Notice of Motion also be referred to full Council for debate. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the Notice of Motion be referred to Cabinet and subsequently referred to full Council for debate.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Consideration was given to the following reports.

9. REGULATION AND INSPECTION OF SOCIAL CARE (WALES) ACT 2016 - PRESENTATION

Ms Denise Moultrie, Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) delivered the presentation that provided Members with an overview of the Act. It was explained that emphasis is placed on how Local Authorities will commission Care Homes and how this will also place a greater duty on (CSSIW). In terms of enforcement powers, greater accountability will be placed on individuals as opposed to Managers. In relation to service regulation emphasis is placed on improvement by undertaking fit and proper tests, annual reporting and producing penalties for offences and improvement notices.

Details of the regulations, statutory guidance and code of practice for inspections were set out in terms of how it all fits together. It was confirmed that the act will come into force in April 2018 and the implementation timetable of the different phases were set out. Reference was made to the importance of involving stakeholders, that will include an overarching stakeholder reference group, a targeted reference group for each work stream, provider forums and communication made available through newsletters and the CSSIW website. It is anticipated that improvements will be achieved with the implementation of the Act, with the collaboration of working with other regulators, Inspectorates and other partners.

A Member queried how findings will be conveyed in relation to inspections and Ms Moultrie confirmed that findings will be published on the CSSIW Website.

The Chair thanked Ms Moultrie for her informative presentation and responding to questions raised.

10. PUBLIC PROTECTION ENFORCEMENT, UNDERAGE SALES ACTIVITY AND CONSUMER ADVICE – 2015/16

Mr Rob Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection) introduced the report that updated Members in terms of Public Protection Enforcement, Underage Sales Activity and Consumer Advice 2015/16. The Scrutiny Committee were advised that the Public Protection Division consists of

a wide range of protective and regulatory functions, which seek to protect, promote and improve the health, safety and economic wellbeing of communities, as well as regulate trade, commerce and the environment. In compliance with the Public Protection Enforcement Policy an overview was provided in relation to the formal enforcement activity undertaken including outcomes of investigations undertaken under the auspices of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act.

It was explained that the Surveillance Camera Commissioner's Code of Practice states that the local authority should consider, on an annual basis, its surveillance camera system to ensure that it remains necessary, proportionate and effective and reference was made in particular to the Public Open Space CCTV system. Clarification was sought in relation to the decommissioning of some cameras across the borough as discussed at a previous Scrutiny Meeting and Members were informed that this proposal was not supported as part of the Medium Term Financial Plan at this time.

The nature and number of complaints received concerning under-age sales of alcohol, tobacco, e cigarettes, butane lighter refills and lottery tickets over the previous financial year were discussed. An overview of test purchasing activity was provided including the results of enforcement action and the penalties that may be applied. The Authority is required by law to annually review its approach to tackling under-age sales of tobacco and spray paints.

Members were advised of the number and nature of complaints dealt with by the Consumer Advice function of Trading Standards in 2015/16.

In noting that Ms Sandra Thompson (Dog Warden) is due to retire this year, the Scrutiny Committee wanted to place on record their appreciation for all her dedication in her area of work.

The Chair thanked Mr Hartshorn for his informative report and for responding to queries raised during the course of the debate.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the review of Public Protection Enforcement Activity, including Underage Sales and CCTV Provision be noted.

11. HOSPITAL DISCHARGE TASK AND FINISH GROUP

Councillor Colin Gordon introduced the report as he presided as Chair of the Task and Finish Group. He stated it was a privilege to be a part of the Group and thanked all individuals who made up the membership that attended the meetings. Members thanked Mrs Catherine Forbes-Thompson (Interim Head of Democratic Services) for producing such a detailed report.

Mrs Forbes-Thompson advised the Scrutiny Committee that the Hospital Discharge Task and Finish Group was set up to review hospital discharge within the county borough and held a workshop at its first meeting in order to determine the key areas to be reviewed. The areas identified were as follows:

- Communication.
- Discharge planning from admittance to hospital.
- Integrity – the need for a solid package of care to reduce readmission.
- Methodology – look at best practice examples to provide context.
- Single point of contact within hospital – information exchange within hospital.

The Review Group held a series of five meetings between September 2015 and May 2016 and examined the following areas of practice:

- Discharge process including what contributes to a well-planned discharge.
- Performance measures - national indicators, inappropriate discharges, volume of work (in context of social services).
- Seasonal planning, to look at preparations for the winter period, across both organisations to prevent admission in the first instance, then reduce length of stay in hospital and number of people classified as a delayed transfer of care on census day.

Details of the findings and conclusions reached by the Review Group were set out.

The Scrutiny Committee suggested that the report be disseminated and used as best practice for others to use. Mr Street stated he would discuss this with the Communications Unit and that the report would be shared with Albert Heaney, (Director of Social Services, Welsh Government).

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report, the Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny endorsed the following: -

- (i) that Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Caerphilly County Borough Council and Wales Ambulance Services Trust recognise the fundamental importance of good communication between patients, relative's carers and staff;
- (ii) the information leaflets attached to the report as appendix 3 also be made available in other formats;
- (iii) that Health and Social Services continue to work together to improve joint planning arrangements in respect of hospital discharge;
- (iv) that a follow up report be brought to Scrutiny committee within 6 months, this will include an update on the numbers of inappropriate discharges (as set out in para 4.10 and 4.11 of the report).

12. THE PROCUREMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WELSH COMMUNITY CARE - INFORMATION SYSTEM

Mr Dave Street (Corporate Director of Social Services) presented the report that provided the Scrutiny Committee with an understanding of the all Wales Community Care Information System (WCCIS). The service is provided by Care Works Ltd and has been procured by Bridgend County Borough Council under a Master Services Agreement (MSA) on behalf of all Welsh Local Authorities and NHS Organisations.

The replacement of the Social Care system is a key priority for Social Services in its ability to work in a more integrated way with NHS Wales to improve the delivery of integrated care which is one of the key aims of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

It was explained that the Council has used SWIFT as its social care information system since 2001. Details were provided in terms of working collaboratively with other local authorities in developing the use of the system and in negotiating additional requirements with the supplier. The existing supplier contract for SWIFT is due for review in October 2017.

Members were advised that since 2013, local authorities across Wales and NHS Wales have been working collaboratively to procure a Welsh Community Care Information System (WCCIS) that has been designed to meet the requirement of both social care and community health services. Whilst integrated services have been developed across Wales, information sharing between services has been a long standing problem that has often hindered health and social care services working closely. WCCIS is widely regarded as being the solution that would best enable information to be shared effectively between local authorities and health services. The costs for this Council to purchase WCCIS has been calculated at £93,176K per annum for the length of the contract (12 years). This compares to current costs for SWIFT of £84,000 per year. The additional monies will be found from the Social Services revenue budget. Positive feedback has been received from Social Work staff at Bridgend County Borough Council who are now using the live system along with Ceredigion Council.

WCCIS has been endorsed by Mark Drakeford, the previous Minister for Health and Social Care and Welsh Government have contributed an amount of £6.7 million to fund the set up costs of WCCIS for the whole of Wales. This will cover central hardware costs and the provision of user licences. This contribution will reduce the costs for all participating local authorities. Details of the project implementation were set out.

Clarification was sought in relation to Care Works Ltd and the procurement process involved. Members were informed that the service provider is based in Ireland and has offices located in the UK. A full scale procurement exercise was undertaken with approximately 5 other providers.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the Council's intention to move to the WCCIS as a suitable replacement for the Authority's existing Social Care IT system and as a key driver to Integration of Health and Social Care Information be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

Approved as a correct record, subject to any amendments agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 2016.

CHAIR