

Social Services JCC Meeting

Monday 11 February 2013

Sirhowy Room Ty Penallta

Attendees:

Albert Heaney, Corporate Director Social Services
 David Street, Assistant Director Adult Services
 Richard Ballantine, HR Manager
 Juan Roberts-Garcia, Asst Branch Secretary, Unison
 Neil Funnell Branch Secretary GMB

Issue	Action
<p>1. Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Gary Enright Branch Secretary, Unison ❖ Nigel Brown, Assistant Director Children's Services ❖ Steve Harris, Finance Manager ❖ T Bendle GMB <p>2. Minutes of meeting 5 November 2012</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.</p> <p>3. Matters arising</p> <p>AH placed on record his compliments to the Trade Unions for the way they had supported him during his period in post. Whilst there were some difficult issues both the Trade Union and Management had worked together to resolve them in a constructive manner and he wished all the very best for the future.</p> <p>JRG confirmed that Andrew Woodman had moved areas and Dave Bezzina would now be the Regional Organiser for CCBC.</p> <p>4. Blaenau Gwent/Caerphilly Social Services Integration</p> <p>AH confirmed that the draft business case had been prepared which identified potential issues relating to finances which did not support full integration. However there was a political process the report would have to go through and until this has been done the final outcome could not be confirmed. There is still support for further collaboration building on the success to date e.g. workforce development. The areas identified for potential collaboration would</p>	

individually present business cases to support their proposal and seek senior management and Political support.

5. Update on Tredegar Court

DS confirmed that the new rotas had been implemented on 2 February and all staff who wished to be redeployed had done so.

6. Budget update

AH confirmed that the cost of delivering Social Care within Caerphilly would come within budget for the current financial year with no need to draw upon reserves. The draft budget for 2013/2014 which still requires political approval includes the 1% pledge plus a further £1.2m growth.

7. Sickness Absence

AH confirmed that the Sickness Absence rate had crept below the 5% level for December following October and November's figures of over 6%. However, DS pointed out that some of his staff had contracted the Nova Virus with over 50 staff being affected. An additional 40 staff were suffering from the effects of flu. The take up of the Flu Vaccination programme was low with around 140 staff being vaccinated. This does not include the staff who had the flu jab privately or via their own GP. It was important to understand why staff were not taking advantage of the flu vaccination programme and it was important to increase the level of take up next year.

NF confirmed that the issue of the wider availability of the programme to all staff had been raised at the Well Being Group.

8. AOB

JRG raised the issue of the inclement weather and he had received calls from staff from the Caerphilly Day centre who had been told they would not be paid for the day even though the centre had been closed.

AH confirmed that this should not be the case as the decision had been taken by Senior Management to close the day centres during the heavy snowfalls.

AH explained that the Social Services and Wellbeing Bill had been published and would be going through a formal process for comments and scrutiny before being made Law. The resultant legislation would shape the future of Social Services in Wales with some of the main implications being

- Changes to assessment & eligibility criteria
- Minister has power to merge safeguarding boards
- Minister has the power to place adoption outside LA control

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5(c)

Date of next meeting	Wednesday 15 th May 2013 at 2.00pm in the Sirhowy Room, Ty Penallta.	
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