

Social Services JCC Meeting

Monday 11th November 2013

Sirhowy Room Ty Penallta

Attendees:

David Street, Interim Corporate Director Social Services
 Jo Williams, Interim Asst Director Adult Services
 Gareth Jenkins Asst Director Childrens Services
 Richard Ballantine, HR Manager
 Gary Enright, Branch Secretary, Unison
 Susan Phillips Unison
 Neil Funnell Branch Secretary, GMB
 Terry Bendle GMB

Issue	Action
<p>1. Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Stephen Harris, Finance Manager <p>2. Minutes of meeting 19 August 2013</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.</p> <p>3. Matters arising</p> <p>The following updates were given from the last meeting</p> <p>Sickness Absence DS confirmed there had been a small reduction in the absence rate since the last meeting</p> <p>Rhymney Integrated Resource Centre The opening of the Rhymney Integrated Resource Centre has been delayed by a further 2 weeks but the plan was to open prior to Christmas. However, it is likely that Social Services staff will not occupy the building until the new year.</p> <p>Mental Health Integration The current proposals which will be presented to Scrutiny involve initially integrating posts as Senior level and then preparing for the future delivery of services. As these plans develop DS confirmed he would keep the TU updated.</p> <p>Pan Gwent Adoption Service It is still planned that this service will be operational from April</p>	

<p>2014 although there are still on going discussions particularly in relation to the costs of the service.</p> <p>Planning for Inclement weather Following the presentation of the plans at the last meeting there had been no issues raised so they would be implemented.</p> <p>GE requested that the items regarding Mental Health integration and the Pan Gwent Adoption service become standard agenda items in future meetings.</p> <p>4. Budget update</p> <p>DS confirmed that the directorate would be looking to achieve efficiency savings of about £1.5m per year over the next 3 years. However this figure could change if the council budget setting process sets different priorities. On top of these efficiency savings there will be a requirement to meet additional demand for services which could add a further £500k to the requirement for 2014/15. DS confirmed that members will meet on 21 November 2013 where they will be presented with a list of proposals which could be considered for the Authority to meet its savings requirements. This will be followed by special scrutiny committee meetings where the details will be presented. DS confirmed that he will be holding seminars for staff to attend so that they can get an understanding of the proposals. DS welcomed any interaction and contributions from the Trade Unions.</p> <p>5 Day Centres</p> <p>DS confirmed that he would be visiting staff at Brooklands and Ystrad Mynach over the course of the next week. GE requested that items 8 and 9 become standard items on the agenda. The issue of the status of casual staff was raised particularly those who have been working regular hours over a number of years.</p> <p>6 Any other business</p> <p>The issue of the status of casual staff was raised particularly those who have been working regular hours over a number of years.</p>	
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	<p>Monday 20th January 2014 at 10.30am in the Sirhowy Room, Ty Penallta.</p>