



HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN,
YSTRAD MYNACH ON TUESDAY, 23RD JUNE 2015 AT 5.30 P.M.

PRESENT:

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

Councillors:

Mrs E.M. Aldworth, Mrs A. Blackman, D.G. Carter, Ms J. Gale, C.J. Gordon, G.J. Hughes,
A. Lewis, J.A. Pritchard.

Cabinet Members: Councillors N. George and R. Woodyatt

Together with:

D. Street (Corporate Director Social Services), J. Williams (Assistant Director Adult Services),
G. Jenkins (Assistant Director Children's Services), C. Edwards (Environmental Health
Manager), J. Morgan (Trading Standards and Licensing Manager), C. Forbes-Thompson
(Scrutiny Research Officer), L. Dallimore (Partnership Coordinator), L. Lane (Solicitor), H.C.
Morgan (Senior Committee Services Officer)

Users and Carers - Miss L. Price and Mrs M. Veater
Aneurin Bevan University Health Board - Bobby Bolt

Also Present - Allan Davies, Interim Director of Planning and Performance and Tim Holt, Head
of Information, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors A.P. Angel, Mrs G. Bevan,
L. Binding, Miss E. Forehead, L. Gardiner and A. Rees.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J.A. Pritchard advised that as she is currently in receipt of services from the
Reablement Team and should the need arise during the course of the meeting she would
declare an interest. Councillor Mrs A. Blackman advised that as she was registered partially
sighted and should the need arise during the course of the meeting she would declare an
interest. There was no requirement for either to declare an interest during the course of the
meeting.

3. MINUTES - 5TH MAY 2015

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held on 5th May 2015 (minute nos. 1 - 13) be approved and signed as a correct record.

4. 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.

5. REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBERS

The Scrutiny Committee received verbal reports from Councillor R. Woodyatt (Cabinet Member for Social Services) and Councillor N. George (Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services).

Councillor Woodyatt advised Members that there would be a presentation from colleagues from the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board on hospital beds in the area. This links very closely with the report Members received at the last Scrutiny Committee around delayed transfers of care. The Committee will also consider the Annual Report of the Director of Social Services on the effectiveness of social care services for 2014/15. Once submitted, the report will be considered by CSSIW and the Regional Inspector will attend a future meeting of scrutiny to provide feedback. Recently, one of the quarterly engagement meetings has taken place with CSSIW. They seem very positive about the direction and progress of the Directorate with no specific areas of concern.

Councillor Woodyatt thanked those who had attended the Members' Seminar on the Social Services and Wellbeing Act on 15th June 2015, which gave a flavour of the challenges facing social care over the next 12 months. As the position around the final regulations becomes clearer further reports and seminars will be provided for Members.

He advised that he would be attending the Families First Celebration on Friday. This is to commend the outstanding work that Families First practitioners and families have made throughout the year and recognise those who have gone "above and beyond" every day duties.

In closing, Councillor Woodyatt advised that he had received a letter of thanks to Social Services, especially the Fostering Team, for the work that they have done with the grandparents to place their two grandchildren into a stable and caring foster home, with regular access for the grandparents.

Councillor N. George (Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services) advised of the child car seat safety testing at ASDA Caerphilly on 10th July and Morrison's Bargoed on 31st July 2015 between 9.30am and 4.00pm. The aim of the events is to raise awareness about the lack of protection provided by an unsuitable or badly fitted car seat and how, with just a little extra knowledge, parents/carers can ensure the future safety of their children, while they travel.

With regards to the Public Health (Wales) Bill it was noted that the Authority had responded in detail to the previous public consultation in 2014. Now it is progressing through the Assembly with the Health and Social Care Committee, there is a call for evidence on its general principles, details of which were outlined. Officers within Public Protection are currently considering the questions posed in the consultation document and will submit a response on

behalf of the Authority. The proposals are posted on the Welsh Government website and responses must be submitted by 4th September 2015.

In closing, Councillor George was pleased to announce that Caerphilly Catering have had their Investors in People Review and have been successful in retaining the Bronze accreditation until October 2016.

The Committee thanked both Cabinet members for their informative reports.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Consideration was given to the following reports.

6. PRESENTATION: NUMBER OF HOSPITAL BEDS IN ANEURIN BEVAN UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD AREA COMPARED WITH OTHER HEALTH AUTHORITIES ACROSS WALES, TOGETHER WITH DETAILS OF USAGE AND REPATRIATION POLICY

The Scrutiny Committee received a presentation from Allan Davies, Interim Director of Planning and Performance, and Tim Holt, Head of Information, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board.

With the aid of slides, Tim Holt gave an overview of his presentation as it relates to bed numbers for the Health Board over the past 5 years, bed numbers per capita compared to other health boards in Wales, bed use within Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and the delivery of repatriation plans.

He referred to the main sources of the data from which the presentation is based (StatsWales and the ABUHB Business Intelligence Service) and advised that whilst there is some variation in data interpretation between health boards it is generally accepted as comparison data. The annual averages used can be affected by in-year 'flexing of beds' but the information is based on daily available beds. The information is publically available and the 2014/15 data will be published by StatsWales in October 2015.

Reference was then made to the total 'all specialities' beds in ABUHB, and, as a comparison, a graph was shown which identified the average daily available bed from 2009 - 2014. Mr Holt referred to the data for 2009/10 and 210/11 and to the rationalisation of the service in the following three years which reflects the way a change in policy had been managed. Statistics on ABUHB v Wales beds (bed-days by type - elective, emergency, mental health, obstetric and paediatrics) and ABUHB by specialities were also presented. With regards to the latter, detail of the twelve largest specialities were noted.

Mr Holt then referred to other health board beds, hospital beds and activity in Caerphilly and the average length of stay (compared to top hospital in Wales - all specialities). With regards to the latter, he made reference to benchmarking data proved by CHKS and the different health systems that reflect health as a demographic.

With regards to the planned repatriation aims, Mr Holt advised that these form the basis of the sustainability plan for Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr, will promote the use of the new hospital, support the delivery of enhanced local care to the county borough community and provide a modern facility. It also supports the shift in patient care for Cardiff and Vale and Cwm Taf Health Boards to local venue and support rehabilitation locally. With regards to the latter, details of the repatriation achievements as they relate to GP referrals, inpatients, day cases and outpatients (as at November 2014), which show overall a positive achievement towards the aims of the Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr sustainability plan, were noted.

A query was raised in relation to the number of beds that are actually available. It was explained that the requirement to upgrade/redecorate/deep clean will lead to a reduction in beds available during certain periods (albeit that such scheduled works are not carried out during the winter period). A request was made for details on the average number of beds that may be available at any one time but it was explained that the data shows used beds and it was thought that in view of the policies in place in the various departments there is no average data available.

Reference was also made to the repatriation proposals, to the finance available to fund the service, to the fact that those from certain parts of the borough are sent to hospitals outside the borough, to the Frailty Programme, the importance of interaction with social service and to the fact that as a central facility, Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr is not able to cater for all specialised services. Mr Holt explained that the data is showing a positive step toward repatriation, although he accepted that there are some specific services that are not provided at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr and there is a requirement to travel outside the county borough. There is also a need to consider primary and secondary services, the elective/planned care and unscheduled care. He explained that the provision of health care is an important element of the process and as such, the Frailty Programme is integral to its success. With regard to finance, this is an ongoing discussion with Welsh Government.

Mr Hold advised that the Health Board has the responsibility for the health of its population and will be looking at different ways of providing services (both primary and community). Whilst the planned repatriation will promote the use of the new hospital and support the delivery of enhanced local care, there will still be a requirement for specific specialised services to be consolidated in facilities outside the county borough.

It was requested that data be provided on the required length of stay for specific procedures in comparison to those in England. It was agreed that that data on key procedures would be provided but that in view of the different health systems it may not be possible to draw comparisons. A query was also raised in the way information is recorded when a person presents themselves to Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr and are subsequently transferred to another hospital, and a request was made for such data. Mr Holt advised that he would make enquiries as to the availability of such data. It was also requested that when patients are moved from one ward to another the relatives are advised.

Reference was then made to changes to the Deanery training and as to whether this will have an impact on the services that will be able to be provided in the future. Mr Holt advised that the type of cases at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr did not offer a plethora of training opportunities in certain specialised services but those who had benefited from the training to date have been very positive about the experience. Changes to the training programme are being considered.

Members thanked Messrs Davies and Tim Holt for their informative presentation and for responding to questions and issues raised during the course of the debate.

7. ANNUAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SOCIAL CARE SERVICES 2014-15

The report detailed the key messages that had been identified in the preparation of the sixth Annual Director's Report on the Effectiveness of Social Care Services and sought views on its content prior to its presentation to Council on 21st July 2015.

In June 2009, the Welsh Assembly Government issued statutory guidance on the Role and Accountabilities of the Director of Social Services. The Guidance sets out a requirement for Directors of Social Services to report annually to Council on the performance of social services functions and plans for further improvement. The process of compiling the report has been undertaken in accordance with the Annual Council Reporting Framework.

Members were advised that this will be the sixth Annual Director's Report and its aim is to provide a summary outlining the effectiveness of how CCBC delivers Social Services to its citizens. It provides details on the Directorate's performance for 2014-2015 and the priority areas for development in 2015-16. In 2014-15 the Directorate set itself a number of specific divisional priorities. The progress achieved in relation to these priorities is shown throughout the document. The Directorate has also identified a number of priority areas for development in 2015-16. These are also shown throughout the document and have informed the Directorate's Annual Service Plan for 2015-16.

During the course of the debate, reference was made to foster placements and the Assistant Director of Children's Services advised that whilst there is support for foster parents, the main aim is to allow children to stay at home and family support is offered where applicable. Not all children in the care system are suitable to foster. There have been a number of successful recruitment campaigns for foster parents and these will continue.

Members were advised that following presentation to Council on 21st July 2015, the Annual Director's Report will be made available to members of the public, partner agencies and stakeholders by the statutory deadline of 1st September 2015.

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 contents of the Annual Director's Report on the Effectiveness of Social Care Services 2014-15 be noted and the report be submitted to Council on 21st July 2015 for adoption.

8. ANNUAL REPORT ON THE CONSUMER ADVICE SERVICE PROVIDED BY TRADING STANDARDS

Consideration was given to the report which provided information on the number and nature of complaints dealt with by the Consumer Advice function of the Trading Standards Service for the financial year 2014/15.

The Trading Standards and Licensing Manager advised that the Consumer Advice function within the Trading Standards Service dealt with 1,793 requests for in-depth consumer advice during 2014/15. Consumer complaints are categorised on the Authority's database by trade sector and by product or service. The report provided information on the top 10 products/services and the monetary value involved that were complained about during 2014/15. The analysis is comparable with national data, with home maintenance and second-hand cars being the highest sources of complaints both nationally and locally. The variance in the number and value of the most complained about goods and services over the last four years was also detailed in the report.

A query was raised as to how anonymous complaints are dealt with. The Trading Standards and Licensing Manager advised that the initial call is made through the Contact Centre and, as it will subsequently be referred to Trading Standards, it is essential that the level of information provided is sufficient to enable the complaint to be followed through.

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 contents of the report be noted.

9. TRADING STANDARDS ENFORCEMENT OF AGE RESTRICTED PRODUCTS LEGISLATION 2014-15

Consideration was given to the report which detailed the nature and number of complaints received concerning under-age sales of alcohol, tobacco and aerosol spray paints over the previous financial year.

The Trading Standards and Licensing Manager advised that there is a requirement to annually review the approach to tackling under-age sales of tobacco and spray paints. During the financial year 2014/15, 25 complaints were received relating to underage sales of products. An overview of test purchasing activity was provided, including the results of enforcement action and the penalties that may be applied. 63 test-purchasing attempts were made of which there were sales in 11 cases. During 2014/15 2 prosecutions were concluded and currently 3 cases are still being investigated with a view to criminal proceedings being instituted. 5 Penalty Notices for Disorder were also issued and as a result of sales by one premises, a review of the Premises Licence is being considered.

Reference was made to the preventative activity that is undertaken, including campaigns for age-restricted products and in particular alcohol, aimed at sellers, buyers and the public in general. A summary of future proposed legislation in the area of tobacco control and the requirements of Sections 91-95 of the Children's and Families Act 2014 was also outlined.

A query was raised as to the action that can be taken against a premises that has been prosecuted for underage sale. The Trading Standards and Licensing Manager advised that this would be taken into consideration by the Licensing and Gambling Sub-Committee when the licence was reviewed. Reference was also made to a suggestion to reduce the voting age to 16 and as to whether this will have an impact on existing enforcement activities. It was confirmed that legislative changes would be required to be passed by Parliament if this was to be the case.

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 contents of the report be noted.

10. PUBLIC PROTECTION ENFORCEMENT - 2014/15

The report provided information on formal enforcement activities within the Public Protection Division during 2014/15, in compliance with the Public Protection Enforcement Policy. The Trading Standards and Licensing Manager 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 well being of the community, as well as regulate trade, commerce and the environment. The report provides an overview of the formal enforcement activity undertaken and includes some examples to illustrate the activity. The prosecution details are published on the Council website and in Newline.

It was explained that the information in the report provides a broad picture of the range and number of formal enforcement actions initiated during 2014/15 (some prosecutions may still be awaiting hearing). In addition to the formal interventions, hundreds of other informal warnings and cautions (both written and verbal) are issued every year. A summary of some of the cases prosecuted were provided in the report to illustrate the types of offences dealt with.

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 content of the report be noted.

11. REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AVAILABLE AGENDA

Councillor Mrs E.M. Aldworth requested a report in relation to palliative care.

12. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The following items were received and noted without discussion.

1. Improvement Objective 1 - 2014-15 Final Report.
2. Wales Audit Office Report on Environmental Health Services.
3. Intermediate Care Fund (ICF).
4. Summary of Members' Attendance - Quarter 4 - 1st January 2015 to 14th May 2015.

The meeting closed at 7pm

Approved as a correct record, subject to any amendments agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 8th September 2015.

CHAIR