

ADULTS COMMITTEE: MINUTES

Date: Thursday 8th December 2016

Time: 2.00 p.m. to 16:00p.m.

Present: Councillors A Bailey (Vice-Chairwoman), C Boden, S Crawford, A Dent (Chairman), P Downes, L Dupre, D Giles, L Harford, R Mandley, M Tew and F Yeulett.

Apologies: Councillors B Ashwood, P Brown and G Wilson (Councillor P Downes substituting).

216. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

217. MINUTES – 3RD NOVEMBER 2016 AND ACTION LOG.

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

At the discretion of the Chairman and with the agreement of the Committee it was resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting in order for an update to be provided by Officers regarding minute 215 of the minutes of 3rd November 2016, on the grounds that the minute contained exempt information under Paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and that it would not be in the public interest for the information to be disclosed – information in respect of which legal privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

Officers provided an update to Members regarding the ongoing discussions taking place with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) in relation to the dispute over Continuing Health Care (CHC), Section 117 (S117) and Section 41 (S41) and Community Treatment Order (CTO) funding.

Following the conclusion of discussion relating to the confidential minute the exclusion of the press and public was lifted.

The Action Log was noted and Members welcomed that all actions had been completed.

218. PETITIONS

No petitions were received.

219. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT – OCTOBER 2016

The Committee received the October 2016 iteration of the Finance and Performance report. Officers informed Members that the overall position of the Children, Families

and Adults service had improved by £300k and the forecast overspend was now £2.012m with minor changes within the forecasts within the Adults Committee remit.

During discussion Members:

- Expressed concern regarding mitigating actions taken to manage the overspend in the Learning Disability Partnership (LDP), in particular underspending on staff costs where vacancies could not be filled and requested that it be made more explicit where posts were not being filled deliberately. Officers explained that some vacancies were not filled deliberately but some vacancies could not be filled despite having been advertised numerous times. Physiotherapy positions had been particularly difficult to recruit with one post having been advertised four times and had not yet been recruited.
- Noted that placement breakdowns was a term used to describe where an individual's care needs could no longer be met in a particular environment including in a family home.
- Noted that In House Provider Services had a strategy to reduce dependency on agency staff.
- Highlighted the number of carer assessments completed that were much lower than anticipated. Officers explained that the figures reflected the demand placed of staff, highlighting recruitment as a particular issue.
- Questioned whether the overspend within the LDP was under control. Officers explained that through the Business Planning process a transformation programme would be undertaken to achieve outcomes differently and more effectively. The LDP would be focussed on within the next financial year but would require investment of resources, for example in assistive technology in order that the desired outcomes were achieved.
- Noted the encouraging Delayed Transfer of Care (DTOC) figures but drew attention to more recent figures that indicated that the situation had worsened considerably with delays attributed to Adult Social Care for September being the worst for 2 years. Officers advised that pressures had increased considerably over the past 2 months with a 16% increase in the number of people aged 85 and over admitted to Addenbrooke's Hospital. There was pressure in the provision of home care services and work was being undertaken to increase capacity. Work was also progressing with hospitals and providers to ensure social care performance was effective as possible.
- Clarified the relationship between the level of care provided and the level of client contributions received following the financial assessment. As the level of care provided decreased the level of client contribution collected was also likely to decrease.
- Questioned whether the downgrading of the Transforming Lives project within the performance indicators on page 81 of the report represented a temporary downgrading. The indicator, Members were informed had since returned to green

and a further report would be provided to the Committee regarding the delivery of the Transforming Lives model. **(ACTION)**

It was resolved to review and comment on the report.

220. ADULTS COMMITTEE REVIEW OF DRAFT REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUSINESS PLANNING PROPOSALS FOR 2017/18 TO 2021/22

The Committee received a report and presentation that provided an overview of the draft Business Plan revenue and capital proposals for Children, Families and Adults that were within the remit of the Adults Committee.

Officers drew attention to the level of savings that had been made and the challenges facing the service. In order to meet the challenges it was necessary to transform services to reduce cost rather than simply cutting services further. Officers highlighted the risks associated with adopting the approach, the importance of putting forward a clear business case for the Adult Social Care Council Tax precept. Ensuring that the Council received the correct proportion of the Better Care Fund (BCF) was drawn to Members' attention.

Attention was drawn to five themes that encapsulated the approach of the Children's, Families and Adults service for 2017/18. These included demand management, market development, service optimisation, collaborative commissioning and return on investment.

Officers confirmed that £9.428m of investment was required to begin to deliver the transformation work and this would need to be alongside the utilisation of the Adult Social Care Council Tax precept.

Care market development work, Members were informed was ongoing and a new relationship with care providers was being sought to ensure that communication between the Council and providers was improved.

During the course of the presentation Members:

- Emphasised the importance of engaging the NHS with regard to how patients were treated in hospital as often how they were treated accelerated some patients' dependency and reduced their independence. Officers confirmed that the issues were being addressed with the NHS.
- Requested more information regarding assistive technology so that Members were better aware of the available technology. Officers agreed to add the topic to the Members' Seminar programme in order that the briefing be open to all Members. **(ACTION)**
- Noted that traditionally women lived longer than men but the longevity gap between men and women was reducing and emphasised the importance regarding involving older isolated men in the community.

- Questioned the level of Direct Payment applications and how the uptake of applications could be increased. Officers informed Members that levels of Direct Payments were much higher within LDP services but were less popular for older people. One of the proposals within the transformation programme was to simplify the Direct Payment process as it was seen as complex. Officers agreed to provide feedback to the Committee and data on the levels of Direct Payment applications. **(ACTION)**. Members suggested that the removal of the requirement for a separate bank account for the management of Direct Payment monies may increase the number of individuals applying.
- Confirmed that one of the core functions of double-up care team was to provide training to establish and enable carers to provide care on their own.
- Emphasised the importance of community engagement and questioned how community resilience would be increased. Officers drew attention to the Neighbourhood Cares model and highlighted the importance of officers working closely with Members to better understand communities and their specific needs. The transformation fund, social care Council Tax precept and Better Care Fund uplift would all support that work.
- Highlighted the financial constraints the NHS was facing and questioned the extent to which the NHS would be able to assist in the delivery of the programme. Officers understood the financial pressures the NHS was facing and emphasised the importance of joint working between organisations in order to deliver a whole system approach and reduce duplication.
- Noted the regular meetings of the Delivery Board and Commissioning Board to ensure that initiatives remained on target and welcomed the tracker that would be presented to Members to demonstrate progress.
- Drew attention to a case reported in the media where a local authority had reduced an individuals' Personal Budget by such an extent that they were unable to purchase the care they required. Officers explained that no policy decision had been taken to reduce Personal Budgets as the Council had statutory obligations to meet assessed needs. The Committee had previously approved recommendations regarding policy changes.
- Noted the paragraph 1.8 of the report and the uncertainty of the Local Government Finance Settlement and the risk to the Revenue Support Grant.
- Welcomed the bold and radical transformation programme that was designed to build the service rather than cut services.
- Noted the possible opportunities afforded by devolution and how health and social care could be better integrated. Members requested they be involved in the Devolution 2 discussions regarding devolved powers for Health and Social Care. **(ACTION)**

- Noted the briefing note provided to the Committee that demonstrated what additional funding through Council Tax increased could achieve and welcomed the examples provided noting that they were not simply reversal of cuts but transformational changes.
- Queried how the £19.8m projected savings from over 60 initiatives were accounted for within the budget. Officers explained that a tracker had been developed to monitor the progress of all initiatives. It was accepted that not all initiatives would be successful, however officers were confident that the savings could be achieved. Members would have regular oversight through Committee reports.
- Noted the inherent risks of the business plan and expressed concern about the resilience of communities in being able to absorb the increased pressure put upon them. Officers explained that there was a sound evidence base for the business plan and the risks involved were calculated and would be managed accordingly.
- Questioned whether community organisations would be guaranteed the funding they required to manage the demand for their services. Officers confirmed that there was no plan to cut funding to voluntary sector and discussion would take place with organisations to ensure that services were targeted and capacity was built.

Following the expressed concern regarding the wording of recommendation 'b' of the officer report, specifically the endorsement of the draft revenue savings proposals to the General Purposes Committee, Councillor Downes proposed, seconded by Councillor Crawford that the recommendation be altered. The word endorse would be deleted and replaced with "request that General Purposes Committee take note of comments made during the meeting".

On being put to the vote the proposal was lost following the casting vote of the Chairman.

It was therefore resolved:

- a) To note the overview and context provided for the 2017/18 to 2021/22 Business Plan revenue proposals for the Service, updated since the last report to the Committee in October.
- b) To comment on the draft revenue savings proposals that are within the remit of the Adults Committee for 2017/18 to 2021/22, and endorse them to the General Purposes Committee as part of consideration for the Council's overall Business Plan
- c) To comment on the changes to the capital programme that are within the remit of the Adults and endorse them.

221. ADULTS COMMITTEE AGENDA PLAN

It was resolved to note the agenda plan and the oral update provided at the meeting.

Item added January: Progress report on Continuing Health Care Funding.

222. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES, PARTNERSHIP LIAISON AND ADVISORY GROUPS AND INTERNAL ADVISORY GROUPS AND PANELS.

There were no appointments to be made.

Chairman