

ADULTS COMMITTEE: MINUTES

Date: Thursday 7th December 2017

Time: 2.00pm to 3.50pm

Present: Councillors A Bailey (Chairwoman), A Costello, K Cuffley, N Harrison, M Howell (Vice-Chairman), D Wells and G Wilson

Apologies: Councillors J French and D Giles

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

45. MINUTES – 9 OCTOBER 2017 AND ACTION LOG

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairwoman.

The Action Log was received. Members noted that the consultation on the Fairer Contributions Policy had now started, and the requested information on voluntary agencies' charges for appointeeship services would be included in one of the planned reports to Committee, probably in March 2018.

The Chairwoman proposed, and the Committee agreed, that it would be better to take agenda item 5, on the Business Planning proposals, ahead of item 4, the Finance and Performance report, because the presentation on the Business Planning report was also relevant to the Finance and Performance report.

46. PETITIONS

No petitions were received

47. ADULTS COMMITTEE REVIEW OF DRAFT REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUSINESS PLANNING PROPOSALS FOR 2018-19 TO 2022-2023

The Committee received a report and presentation (attached to these minutes as Appendix A) setting out an overview of the draft Business Plan Revenue and Capital Proposals for services within the remit of the Adults Committee. Members noted that a revised version of Table 3: Revenue – Overview had been published and circulated prior to the meeting. The original edition had included as a saving an item on which consultation had only just started. Because of the need to be able to make an open-minded decision on this matter, it had been decided to remove it as a saving; £282k would still have to be saved, but a decision on how to do this would be taken later.

Discussing the report and presentation, members

- thanked officers for a clear and useful presentation, and enquired about the significance of the Capgemini work. Officers advised that interim feedback was due to be shared at an event the following week; Capgemini had found some good work had been done on early help, but had identified that it could be possible to improve the way in which the Council presented itself (for example, via website, literature, and how phone calls were answered). There had also been suggestions about the use of assistive technology. A report on the Capgemini work was planned for the Committee's meeting on 11 January 2018
- asked whether there were any risks associated with achieving mental health demand management measures, and whether the Authority's expenditure was relatively low because Cambridgeshire's revenue support grant and council tax were low, so less had been allocated to Adult Social Care. Officers advised that stretching targets had been identified which were thought to be achievable; in reality, some would be delivered above target, and others below or not at all. Cambridgeshire's adult care grant was unfairly low, and formed part of the Council's fair funding campaign, but there was also an element of local decision-making
- in relation to falls prevention, enquired about the link between Adult Services and Public Health, and urged that more be done to prevent falls, pointing out for instance the usefulness of strength and balance classes. Members noted that Adult Social Care worked closely with both Health and Public Health. As part of the Sustainability and Transformation Programme (STP), £600k had been invested across both Health and Public Health in falls prevention; officers stressed the importance of putting funding strands together and commissioning jointly, and offered to bring a deep dive report on falls prevention to Committee
- suggested that all members could benefit from having insight into the level of briefing that had been supplied to the Adults Committee and the Children and Young People Committee; the Executive Director offered to send the presentation slides to all members **Action required**
- welcomed the table of proposed transformation fund investments and enquired about the origin of transformation fund monies. Officers explained that an accounting review of the financing arrangements for the Council's capital programme had made it possible to re-phase the minimum revenue provision. By having regard to the length of use of assets created through the programme it was possible to delay revenue costs and divert this budget to the transformation fund instead. In answer to a question whether there was a risk of having to make higher payments in the future, officers acknowledged the risk, but said that on balance, in common with other local authorities, the advantage was that money had been made available to enable substantial savings to be made through transformation work in the current and future years; without these savings, the service would have been reporting far higher pressures than at present
- suggested that if the precept were to be increased, it would be possible to increase the amount of the Transformation Fund

- noted that, in her statutory role as Director of Adult Social Services (DASS), the Executive Director had, with other DASSs, been lobbying and giving evidence about the inadequacy of adult social care funding
- pointed out an apparent discrepancy between the figures given in the main report for the number of clients (1,725) benefitting from accommodation-based housing-related support, and the number quoted (over 750) in the business case for the review of supported housing commissioning. The Executive Director undertook to clarify these figures **Action required**
- drew attention to the apparent uncertainty around the Government's proposals to restrict housing benefit payments for supported housing, and asked what certainty there was around possible savings arising from the review of supported housing commissioning. Officers advised that much of this spending was on housing in co-operation with the district councils, and the review was concerned with bringing together County and District funds for supporting people in accommodation, in the interests of creating efficiencies
- noted that the business cases for higher rate client contributions for day time care and for reassessments had been superseded by the revision to Table 3, and reminded officers of the request, made at the November 2017 meeting, for case studies to be included in the update on the Fairer Contributions Policy consultation process planned for January 2018 **Action required**
- enquired about feedback from service users with learning disabilities about the work to reassess each person's care needs in line with the Transforming Lives model and the revised policy framework. Officers said that the work was being done very carefully to ensure that needs were still being met in line with the requirements of the Care Act, and they were working with individual service users to ensure that they knew what services and support were available to them. In some cases, reducing package costs could lead to an increase in the service user's level of independence; officers undertook to share with members some of the case studies on the changes, some of which made very heartening reading. **Action required**

The Chairwoman thanked officers for all the hard work and effort that lay behind the business planning proposals, and said that the business case impact assessments were particularly helpful.

It was resolved unanimously:

- a) to note the overview and context provided for the 2018/19 to 2022/23 Business Plan revenue proposals for the Service, updated since the last report to the Committee in October.

It was resolved by a majority:

- b) to comment on the draft revenue savings proposals that were within the remit of the Adults Committee for 2018/19 to 2022/23, 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 were within the remit of the Adults Committee and endorse them to the General Purposes Committee as part of consideration for the Council's overall Business Plan.

48. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT – OCTOBER 2017

The Committee received the October 2017 Finance and Performance Report for People and Communities (P&C) Services, noting that the forecast pressure had worsened by comparison with the September report, and now stood at £5,562k. In response, Better Care Fund (BCF) monies were being used, particularly for work to improve performance on delayed transfers of care (DTC).

In the course of discussion, members noted that

- DTC performance had improved recently. The report compared performance with performance a year ago, but there had been a month-on-month improvement in September, and further improvement was expected in October. However, the most challenging months, when hospitals experienced most pressure and DTCs were most likely to rise, were still to come
- a year ago, the Adults budget had over-delivered on its savings targets, but in 2017-18, the point had been reached where it was no longer possible to reduce the costs of care and meet demand within the current budget for older people or people with Learning Disabilities where there had been an overspend for the last two years of approximately £2m.

In response to a question about the figures for Learning Disability Services cost and number of service users budgeted as compared with the annual budget, officers advised that the table represented a snapshot in time, but undertook to re-examine and check the figures.

Action required

It was resolved to review and comment on the report.

49. DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE CARE HOME PROVISION

The Committee received a progress report on the procurement process supporting the expansion of care home provision, noting that the Care Homes project was part of the Older People's Accommodation Strategy and focussed on current and future requirements for residential and nursing home care in Cambridgeshire. Members noted that there had been a very good response to the prior information notice and the invitation to attend a suppliers' event in October. The competitive dialogue was due to go live on 8 December. There had been some slippage in the timeline set out in the Gantt chart, but it was within tolerance.

Discussing the report, members

- commented that the timeline was very tight and asked whether it would be possible to start the first new build within it. Officers replied that in their view, and following much discussion, the timeline was challenging but achievable; account had been

taken of the length of time required for the competitive dialogue for work stream 3 (a year). The build timeline was different for different sites, as some already had planning applications under way while others did not. Work stream 2 concerned changing or adapting current provision, for which planning and building processes would be rather quicker

- noted that at least one home was expected to be built within the timeframe; work stream 1, extending existing block contracts as required, was expected to bring an increase in capacity soon. The stated aim of increasing existing capacity of around 3,500 beds by 450 beds took into account the needs of self-funders as well as of service users.

The Chairwoman asked that the new version of the Gantt chart and the key times when developments could be expected be circulated to members of the Committee. The Committee's working group would be asked to advise when a further report on the development of affordable care home provision should be brought to Committee.

Action required

It was resolved:

to note and comment on the content of the report.

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

Members noted that the Council had been asked to appoint a representative to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Sustainable Transformation Partnership (STP) Board.

It was resolved unanimously:

to appoint Councillor Anna Bailey as the County Council's representative on the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainable Transformation Partnership Board.

51. ADULTS COMMITTEE AGENDA PLAN AND TRAINING PLAN

The Committee received its updated agenda plan and training plan, noting that for the meeting on 11 January 2018, there would be a broader report on the Capgemini work, rather than a report looking at care and support planning in isolation.

It was resolved:

to note the Agenda Plan and Training Plan.

Chairwoman