

ADULTS COMMITTEE: MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 6th January 2015

Time: 2.00p.m. to 4.00p.m.

Present: Councillors P Ashcroft, A Bailey (Vice-Chairwoman), K Bourke, S Crawford, A Lay (substituting for Councillor Tew), M Loynes, F Onasanya, S Rylance (Chairwoman), M Smith and G Wilson.

Apologies: Councillors M Curtis, D Giles, G Kenney, L Nethsingha, M Tew and F Yeulett.

67. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

68. MINUTES – 4TH DECEMBER 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairwoman.

Following a meeting of General Purposes Committee (GPC) on 6th January 2015, the Chairwoman provided an update, as a matter arising in relation to the minutes, regarding the Cambridgeshire Local Assistance Scheme (CLAS). The Committee was reminded that at its last meeting, it was resolved to agree options 5 and 6 for the development of CLAS pending the final decision with regard to the amount of funding available. The Committee was informed that there would be no additional funding provided from the Government. It had therefore recommended that £724k should be allocated from reserves. It was noted that the preferred option was 6 where CLAS would be funded for 1 year on a basic level while discussions took place with partner organisations to develop a scheme for the future. Members were informed that the GPC had agreed in principle to fund CLAS for one year but had requested that the Adults Committee provide a figure to be included in the Business Plan to fund the scheme. Officers advised that a basic CLAS scheme would cost approximately £350k for 1 year.

It was proposed by Councillor Bailey and seconded by Councillor Smith to request that the GPC allocate £350k from the corporate budget to fund CLAS for 1 year, and for a further discussion on how CLAS could be delivered in Cambridgeshire to take place at the next meeting of the Adults Committee.

The motion was agreed unanimously.

69. PETITIONS

No petitions were received.

70. TRANSFORMING LIVES: A NEW STRATEGIC APPROACH TO SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL CARE FOR ADULTS IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE

A report was presented to the Committee providing an update on the continuing work in changing the approach to delivering Adult Social Care in Cambridgeshire. Officers highlighted proposals contained within the report regarding geographical patches for Social Care teams, which were designed to reconnect statutory services with local communities and services.

Members were advised that the geographical patch covering the East Cambridgeshire area was missing from the report; however the current boundaries would remain unchanged. It was noted that Uniting Care Partnership was also looking at geographical areas for service delivery.

Members of the Committee discussed the report and commented:

- That the principles of Transforming Lives appeared to be sound but questioned the timescales regarding community resilience. Officers advised that they would provide information on what the programme of activity would look like.
- That they were disappointed there was no feedback provided on how the “Innovation Sites” were progressing with implementing the Transforming Lives model. Officers provided an example of a Service User of the Learning Disability Partnership (LDP) in South Cambridgeshire whose circumstances had become particularly challenging. It was explained that the links developed with the voluntary sector under the Transforming Lives model meant that services were able to be offered to the family by the voluntary sector which was something that could not have happened before.
- That they noted that April 2015 was the deadline for the business case but were interested to know when the model would be fully implemented. Officers reported that the implementation date for Transforming Lives was October 2015. It was explained that the LDP teams could adopt the model relatively quickly subject to the learning from the innovation, and that the Physical Disabilities (PD) team had begun to adopt it and this would need to be expanded across the team as a whole. Members were advised that the roll out across Older Peoples (OP) services was currently being worked through with Uniting Care Partnership, and emphasis was given to the link with a report presented to the last meeting of the Adults Committee regarding developing an integrated system for Cambridgeshire to improve outcomes for older people.
- That the involvement of Public Health appeared to be described in general terms in the report and asked what more could be done through care services to improve public health. Officers explained that the purpose of Transforming Lives was to involve organisations and agencies such as Public Health in preventative measures

such as falls prevention. For LDP and PD services it was explained that a similar approach was being taken with intervention to prevent situations escalating.

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Comment on the principles on which tier 1 and tier 2 of the Transforming Lives model were based
- b) Comment on the proposals for geographical patches for the Physical Disability Service and the Learning Disability Partnership and to note the continuing discussions with Uniting Care Partnership regarding the geographical patches for Older People's services.

71. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT – NOVEMBER 2014

The Committee received the November 2014 Finance and Performance Report. Attention was drawn to the increase underspend in Physical Disabilities and Older People's services. This underspend however, was in contrast to the Children's budget which was facing significant pressures regarding Looked after Children and Schools Transport.

Following discussion of the report Members:

- Asked whether the underspend meant that more money was available and whether it was ring-fenced. They sought assurance that money saved by individual areas would not simply be clawed back to the detriment of those teams. Officers reported that a detailed analysis of those areas that had overspent and underspent was taking place to ensure that the correct level of funding was matched to each area.
- Noted that the report contained figures concerning delayed transfers from hospital. Members were advised that although the performance regarding delayed transfers from hospital was improving it was against a backdrop of ever increasing pressure on hospital beds.
- Expressed concern over £123k in client contribution being recovered for a single client for the period April 2009 to September 2014, adding that it was a huge sum of money for an individual to produce. Officers explained that the Local Authority had not been informed that the individual owned a property and that was the reason for the backdated contribution.
- Expressed concern over the level of money being clawed back from Direct Payment accounts. Officers explained that this was standard practice towards the end of the financial year and although the total sum of money was great, it represented a cumulative total of many Direct Payment accounts and would not adversely affect individuals.

It was resolved unanimously to review and comment on the report.

72. BETTER CARE FUND

The Committee received a report that provided an update on Cambridgeshire's Better Care Fund plan. Officers informed Members that Cambridgeshire's bid had been accepted with conditions attached. In order for the Better Care Fund to be delivered, it was noted that it was necessary for a pooled budget arrangement to be established between Cambridgeshire County Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Therefore a Section 75 agreement needed to be agreed by representatives of both organisations. Officers suggested a Working Group be set up, consisting of Councillors Ashcroft, Bailey, Bourke, Kenny and Orgee to review and agree the final Section 75 agreement.

Following discussion of the report Members welcomed the setting up of a Working Group. Questions were raised around the conditions that had been attached to the successful bid. Officers explained that there were 4 conditions attached to the bid and these related to elements of detail that were not available at the time of the submission. Members Enquired as to whether David White, the Better Care Fund Advisor was still involved in the process. Officers confirmed that Mr White had provided a lot of help and he was confident in Cambridgeshire's Better Care Fund plan.

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Note the update contained in the report;
- b) Comment on arrangements for the creation of a Section 75 agreement for the Better Care Fund.

73. CARE ACT DRAFT POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Committee received a report that set out the draft policy framework for meeting the requirements of the Care Act 2014. The policy framework focussed on those parts of the Act that the Council had to implement in April 2015. Officers provided background to the report and explained that the Care Act complemented in many ways the Transforming Lives programme, and that there were elements of the Act that were already in practice such as Personal Budgets. Officers highlighted areas that presented significant policy changes. These included market shaping and provider failure, financial assessments and charges, deferred payments and support planning.

Following discussion of the report Members:

- Questioned whether 30 days would be long enough for the consultation to take place. The Committee was advised that a lot of what was contained within the Policy Framework was national law. Those areas that allowed for local discretion or choices to be made would be highlighted. The consultation was planned to focus on service user representative groups.
- Welcomed the "what does it mean for me" box within the Policy Framework document.

- Believed that there needed to be a change in the approach to people who pay for their care privately as they did not receive the same level of support from the Council when sourcing care. Members acknowledged that it was essential that they were provided with a good quality support plan which complemented the Transforming Lives model. Officers confirmed that terminology regarding the funding status of individuals would be reviewed as part of Transforming Lives. It was noted that there was a resource issue with members of staff only being able to work with those who had a statutory right to care services however, additional staff were being recruited.
- Questioned the impact of the Care Act on the role of Members. The Committee was informed that the Council had a good track record of successfully lobbying the Government on issues and advised that it was usually able to interpret statutory legislation to fit local needs.
- Struggled to identify the areas that allowed for local discretion and requested these be clearly highlighted for the consultation.

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Consider, comment on and provide a steer on the draft Care Act 2014 policy framework and statements for consultation.
- b) Agree that a consultation of the policy framework should be commenced prior to final approval of the framework in March 2015.

74. UPDATE ON ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY PROJECT

The Committee received a report on the Acquired Brain Injury project which had begun some years ago after the family of a young adult with an acquired brain injury had highlighted the lack of specialist social service provision in Cambridgeshire.

Members of the Committee discussed the report and commented:

- That the report demonstrated how different people wanted different things and asked whether members of the Project Group agreed with the recommendations. Officers advised that the proposals in the report had been shared with the group and the professionals were broadly in support with the proposals.
- Whether the building work in Papworth Everard was likely to be delivered on schedule. Officers advised that the completion date had slipped to January. However due to the Christmas break officers were unsure as to the current progress. It was agreed that Officers would circulate an update to Members.

ACTION

It was resolved unanimously to consider the report and comment on service developments.

75. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was resolved unanimously to:

Exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it contained exempt information under Paragraph 1 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 this information to be disclosed.

76. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM – CARE HOME PROVISION

The recommendations were agreed as set out in the report and it was agreed for a paper on Care Home Provision to return to the Committee in May.

77. ADULTS COMMITTEE AGENDA PLAN

The Committee was asked to review its agenda plan.

It was resolved to note the agenda plan.

Chairwoman