

ADULTS COMMITTEE: MINUTES

Date: Wednesday 10 October 2019

Time: 2.00 pm to 3.50 pm

Present: Councillors A Bailey (Chairwoman), A Costello, S Crawford, J Gowing (Substituting for Councillor J French) N Harrison, A Hay (Substituting for Councillor M Goldsack) M Howell (Vice-Chairman), D Wells and G Wilson.

Apologies: Councillors J French, D Giles and M Goldsack

211. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies received from Councillor French (Councillor Gowing substituted), Councillor Giles and Councillor Goldsack (Councillor Hay substituted).

No declarations of interest were received.

212. MINUTES AND ACTION LOG – 12 SEPTEMBER 2019

Councillor Wells clarified that he was in attendance at the last meeting so this should be altered in the minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2019 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairwoman. Members noted the completed actions on the action plan.

213. PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None received.

214. MENTAL HEALTH AND AUTISM ACCOMMODATION FRAMEWORK FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH

The Committee received a report requesting approval for a Mental Health Accommodation Framework for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

In presenting the report officers explained that the report outlined a proposed procurement approach to develop a Mental Health and Autism Accommodation Framework for Adults for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The framework would be comprised of a mixture of spot purchase and block contracted arrangements. Officers highlighted that a number of gaps had been identified across the current provision including: lack of Supported Accommodation to meet the needs of complex, high risk service users, the current geographical spread of accommodation was mainly centred around Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire and

there were service users being supported by the Adults with Autism team who had a diagnosis of Autism and were not currently engaged with mental health service but who had Care Act needs. The new framework contract would address these gaps and would give the Council an opportunity to understand the strategic layout of options with Peterborough City Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group. Officers stated that, if agreed, the procurement exercise would start in the November 2019.

In discussing the report Members;

- Queried why the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust were not mentioned in the report. Officers clarified that they were heavily involved in the review and would be looking to the framework for placements going forwards.
- Questioned how providers would engage with the framework contract. Officers explained that the framework would be open on a regular basis for providers to apply and that there would be no limit on the number of providers on the framework.
- Sought clarification on the risk that current providers would not meet the requirements of the framework. Officers explained that this was a small risk and that they had been engaging with providers about the process.

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Approve the procurement exercise for a Countywide Mental Health Accommodation Framework.
- b) Delegate the approval of the Award of Tender to the Executive Director, People and Communities Directorate following outcome of the procurement process.

215. CARERS RECOMMISSIONING UPDATE

The Committee considered a report giving an update on the procurement of carers' services.

In introducing the report officers explained that in October 2018 the Adults Committee had approved the procurement of family carer's services, with a proposed start date of 1 February 2020 and approved the extension of two contracts with Making Space and the Carer's Trust to fit with the timescales. Officers clarified that the Council had been waiting for the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to make a decision related to the funding of support for Carers. The delay had resulted in the inability to deliver a new procurement in the intended timescales. In order to expedite the tendering process and ensure the contract was awarded the report set out revised timescales for the procurement process in order that the new service could commence on 1 August 2020.

In discussing the report Members:

- Queried the implications of the CCG not being involved in the service. Officers explained that the main implications could potentially be a lack of referrals in to the support that would be available through the service. The Chairwoman commented that it was a matter of regret that the CCG were not involved in the process but that the door had been kept open and dialogue was ongoing. It was hoped that the CCG would support the carer's agenda going forward. The Chairwoman commented that the current system was badly failing in supporting carers and urged the Council to send a message out to the system that help for carers needed to be prompt. She discussed an idea of holding carer's surgeries, and having individuals with expertise that could listen and help carers to solve problems promptly.
- Discussed the potential benefits of the carers service for the future. Officers highlighted the benefits of the use of hubs that carers could access for information and advice and to meet other carers as well as receive specialist support for individuals with dementia. Officers explained that there was a duty on the new providers to publicise the service including the hubs. A map of needs across the County had been provided as part of the tender process and this would be used by applicants in relation to where the proposed hubs would potentially be located. Further information would be provided to the Committee once the detail was known.
- Questioned if there was a budget saving attached to the proposal. Officers clarified that this work formed part of the carer's workstream in the Adults Positive Challenge Programme and there were cost avoidance savings in terms of supporting carers.

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Approve the revised timescale for the procurement of the new service.
- b) Approve the extension of two existing contracts to fit with the revised timescale.
- c) Delegate the award of the contract to the Executive Director, People and Communities.

216. FINANCE MONITORING REPORT – AUGUST 2019

The Committee received the August 2019/20 Finance Monitoring report for the People and Communities Directorate. Officers clarified that at the end of August, the People and Communities Directorate was forecast to overspend by £3 million (1.1% of the budget), within this Adults services were forecast to overspend by £1.1 million (0.7% of the budget), with budgets related to care provision forecast to overspend by £5.7 million and

mitigated by around £4.7 million of additional funding from grants. The pressures forecast at this stage were predominantly in Older Peoples services and Mental Health Services. Officers clarified that the forecast overspends were being dealt with through the business planning process

In discussing the report Members:

- Noted that the unit costs for care home placements were increasing. Officers explained that the risk of this happening was built into the business planning process and built into work in relation to the care home workstream of the Adults Positive Challenge Programme.
- Queried if there had been any progress around the extension of the Intergrated Brokerage Service. Officers explained that this would need to be revisited with the CCG at a later stage.
- Discussed how the budgets were built and queried why grant funding was not built into the care budgets at the start of the year. Officers explained that the grant funding was shown separately as they did not want to disguise the pressures and grant funding was not always confirmed by the time budgets were built. Members requested a table showing information about how each budget was funded. Officers explained that this information was made available through business planning reports but that they would produce a simple table setting this out for the Committee. **ACTION**

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

217. SERVICE COMMITTEE REVIEW OF DRAFT REVENUE & CAPITAL BUSINESS PLANNING PROPOSALS FOR 2020-21 TO 2024-25

The Committee received a report that provided an overview of the draft Business Planning Revenue and Capital Proposals for services that were within the remit of Adults Committee.

In presenting the report officers outlined the main savings of £3.8 million in 2019-20 identified through the Adults Positive Challenge Programme and further £3.8 million for 2020-21. Officers explained that further detail on progress so far against the savings targets would be reported at the next Committee meeting. Key opportunities for the future of the programme had been set out on page 81 of the meeting papers.

In discussing the report Members;

- Queried the assumption that there would not be any changes to adult social care legislation. Officers commented that there had been no further movement on the Governments Green paper in relation to Adult Social Care.

- Discussed the projections of population growth and the potential implications. Officers clarified that by 2026 there would be a 40% increase in the population of 65-74 year olds and a 66% increase in the 75-80 age bracket. This would potentially mean a 37% increase in falls but it was difficult to quantify.
- Noted that there were no changes to the capital programme for Adults Social Care.

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Note the overview and context provided for the 2020-21 to 2024-25 Business Plan revenue proposals for the Service.
- b) Comment on the draft revenue proposals that are within the remit of the Adults Committee for 2020-21 to 2024-25.
- c) Comment on the draft capital proposals that are within the remit of the Adults Committee for 2020-21 to 2029-30, set out in section 6.2.

218. UPDATE ON THE CARERS WORKSTREAM AND RESULTS OF THE CARERS SURVEY

The Committee considered a report that provided an update on work to support carers including progress on the Adults Positive Challenge Carers Workstream and the results of the Carers Survey published in June 2019.

In presenting the report officers explained that progress had been made since the return of the carers trust staff to the County Council. They explained that the Neighbourhood Cares pilot had resulted in some useful learning and that there was a lot of work that could be done going forwards to make further improvements. Officers had made some system changes including the use of huddles to share good practice and the review of the backlog was ongoing. Discussions were taking place with Public Health on improvements to support for Carers health needs, including reviewing how libraries could be involved. Officers clarified that the Carers Survey was bi-annual and focused on impacts on health and the experience of services. Members noted that the results from the Carers Survey would be used by the Adults Positive Challenge Programme to inform the work on the Carers Workstream. Officers highlighted that there had been a 56% response rate but that the survey only went to carers that the Council were aware of.

In discussing the report Members:

- Expressed concern that 42% of carers had not had an assessment, 39% were only very satisfied with the services provided and that 24.3% of carers had developed their own health conditions as a result of the caring role. Officers explained that tackling these issues were key points in their work programme and that the Council was moving away

from its previous model and learning a lot about what could make a difference. The introduction of the new contract framework was key. Officers highlighted that the key performance indicators had not been measuring the right outcomes and that this was a national issue. Bringing carers assessments back in-house had resulted in officers having the right conversations with carers in terms of their needs. Taking the time to have these conversations had resulted in assessments numbers not being as good as expected. Officers reiterated that the work was not just about what the Council could do for carers but how the wider community could support them.

- Queried how the cases of inappropriate use of direct payments had arisen as stated on page 98 of the papers. Officers clarified that as the assessments had been previously commissioned outside of the authority, there had been cases where the individual had been given the direct payment, but this was not the support that the carer needed. Officers reiterated that through listening to the needs of carers this could help tackle carer's health issues.
- Requested that a shorter survey be carried out in house on an annual basis to include a focused set of questions particularly for the hard to reach. **ACTION** Officers explained that for every contact the authority had a short survey was sent out in order to gain feedback on the service and this had resulted in some very positive feedback.

It was resolved unanimously to:

- i. Consider the content of the report and note the work underway in the Carers workstream of the Adults Positive Challenge Programme.
- ii. Note the results of the Carers Survey undertaken in Autumn 2018 and published in June 2019.

219. THINK COMMUNITIES

The Committee received a report that gave an update on the progress of Think Communities, and how this had acted as a catalyst for change and transformation across the public sector.

In presenting the report officers explained that the Think Communities approach aimed to drive a whole system change in the way the public sector did business. Officers explained that a movement had been formed around 'place' taking the principles of Neighbourhood Cares to the next level and rolling the approach out across the County, keeping people independent for longer, helping them to feel stronger and more confident in their choices and avoiding statutory intervention. Officers highlighted that there were three things at the core of this approach; strength based conversations, workforce reform and data.

In summing up, officers highlighted the importance of hubs as an alternative to statutory intervention, helping people to help themselves. Officers explained that there were 15 early adopter areas and they already had some interesting examples in relation to volunteering. The Committee viewed a short film outlining the outcomes so far of the Neighbourhood Cares pilots.

In discussing the report Members:

- Queried how young people were being inspired to get involved. Officers explained that they were currently taking a divisional approach to look at attracting young people into employment. Officers gave an example of a service where there was a 30% reduction of younger people going into the care system since adopting the 'Think Communities' approach.
- Questioned how the third sector were involved in the approach. Officers clarified that Place Boards were being set up which were powerful local vehicles that involved the third sector.

In bringing the debate to a close the Chairwoman reiterated that a report updating the Committee on the outcomes of the neighbourhood Cares pilots in Soham and St Ives and the next steps would come to Committee in December.

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Note the scope and ambition of the Think Communities Approach.
- b) Comment on progress and activities to date.

220. AGENDA PLAN, APPOINTMENTS AND TRAINING PLAN

Members noted that there would be a Joint Neighbourhood Cares Seminar hosted by Community and Partnerships and Adults Committee for all Members, date to be confirmed.

It was resolved unanimously to:

note the Agenda Plan and the Training Plan.

221. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 7 November 2019

Chairwoman