

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES** held on 14 April 2015 at County Hall, Matlock

PRESENT

Councillor D Allen – Cabinet Member

Also in Attendance – Councillor Julie Hill

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor C A Hart

35/15 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities held on 17 March 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

36/15 **AWARD OF ARTS COUNCIL AND BINGHAM TRUST FUNDING** The Arts Council England (ACE) had recently announced the award of a series of grants to build resilience in the museum sector. Buxton Museum and Art Gallery had submitted an application with the Derbyshire Record Office to explore improvement to the shop and e-retail offers and to use the collections to inspire commercial benefit. The project aimed to review the retail operations of both partners and another three museums in Derbyshire and to develop the retail offer further. ACE had agreed to support the first year of a potential three year programme at £27,980, with an invitation to submit a further application to the fund later in the year. The first element was expected to end by March 2016. The proposal had included the appointment of a Museum Development Officer at Grade 9 for 15 hours per week for up to 30 weeks to support the programme, alongside a project mentor and commercial specialists to undertake the review. Artists would be commissioned to develop potential new product lines for retail.

Buxton Museum and Art Gallery had also applied to the Bingham Trust for a grant to support one of the digital programmes to be developed as part of the Heritage Lottery funded Collections in the Landscape. The Trust had awarded the Museum £3,000.

Both projects would require the input of museum specialists to support the delivery of the key elements. The commissioning of the specialists would be undertaken with support from the Council's Procurement team.

RESOLVED to (1) note the award of funding of £27,980 from the Arts Council England and of £3,000 from the Bingham Trust; and

(2) agree permission to spend the funds as outlined in the report.

37/15 EMERGENCY PLANNING SERVICE – FEES Approval was sought to increase the hourly rate for cost recovery on charges for work carried out by the Emergency Planning Team. The hourly rate was usually increased each year and it was currently £71.00 per hour. The proposed figure was £73.00 per hour, and this would be implemented from 1 May 2015.

RESOLVED that the hourly rate for charges be increased to £73.00 per hour for work carried out by the Emergency Planning Service from 1 May 2015.

38/15 FIRST ART First Art was an Arts Council England funded Creative People and Places programme which had been awarded £1.5 million in 2014 to be spent over a three year period in Ashfield, Bolsover, Mansfield and North East Derbyshire. Over the next three years, First Art planned to bring art, big events and new opportunities to the districts, and the aim of the project was to connect with people in these areas who had not engaged with artistic experiences before.

First Art had applied to Nottinghamshire County Council for funding to support the project and had been awarded £10,000 over the three years. It was also in the process of applying to the four district councils for funding, and had applied to Derbyshire County Council for £10,000 match funding to support the arts activities in Bolsover and North East Derbyshire. The grant would be taken from the existing departmental budget.

RESOLVED to agree to the allocation of a grant of £10,000 to First Art.

39/15 FOOD AND FEED SAMPLING RESULTS – OCTOBER TO MARCH To check compliance with Food Safety requirements, and in particular food composition and labelling requirements, the Trading Standards Division regularly made test purchases of food sold in the county and submitted them to the Public Analyst. The themes of the most recent food sampling projects were detailed. In addition, the Division also participated in regional and national initiatives coordinated by the Food Standards Agency by taking samples of agricultural and feed products, and submitting samples following routine visits to local food producers and retailers. In total, 102 food or feed products had been submitted for analysis, and of those, 35 had been reported as being unsatisfactory in some way. The Division had a range of sanctions to seek compliance with legal requirements, and the main activity was to provide advice and information to the relevant business.

Information was provided on two recent food sampling projects – artificial colours in curry products and a programme around lasagne. All local traders had been advised of the results of the sampling survey. Details of the Heart of Derbyshire scheme had been provided and a number of businesses had either already joined the scheme and were offering more healthy options

or were considering joining the scheme. Some of the responses and actions taken by the businesses were highlighted. A summary of each of the food projects, together with the results of analysis and the action taken was provided.

RESOLVED to note the outcome of recent food sampling activity, and to support raising awareness of the number of calories, fat and salt in some locally produced lasagne meals.

40/15 IMPROVING STANDARDS OF TRADING WITHIN THE SECOND HAND MOTOR CAR SECTOR In November 2013, the Department of Business Innovation and Skills had launched a Used Car Commission to investigate problems within the used car industry, and the findings had been reported in October 2014. The Commission had identified some areas for improvement, and the key recommendations were detailed.

The Division regularly reviewed the businesses generating the most complaints, and in March 2014 had written to 183 Derbyshire Used Car Dealers offering advice and information on how to comply with trading standards legislation. Recipients had been asked to complete a short survey seeking further information about the type of complaints they had received and whether there were any particular areas of advice that the business would benefit from. The vast majority of car traders that responded had indicated that they were either very confident that they were fully aware of the relevant laws when dealing with consumer complaints or fairly confident. The main customer issues that local traders received complaints/queries about, and the further advice requested, were highlighted. Those businesses generating the most complaints had also been visited to discuss how standards of trading could be improved and complaints reduced, and most of the traders had found this beneficial.

Following the project, an examination of complaint levels from Derbyshire consumers about second-hand cars had revealed that the total for 2014/15 had fallen. A more detailed analysis had shown that the number of complaints received during 2014/15 had fallen following intervention. It was noted that there was a significant turnover of businesses operating in the sector, and during the project period, 37 of the 183 traders written to had gone out of business, although an additional 39 traders had started a business. In recent years, four second hand car dealers had been prosecuted for selling unroadworthy vehicles and another two faced prosecution. In addition, 13 traders had been or remained the subject of an Enterprise action.

In terms of consumer detriment, the Office of Fair Trading had carried out research which had indicated that the typical consumer detriment as a consequence of the sale of unsatisfactory goods was 10% of the value of the goods involved. For the second-hand cars sold in Derbyshire, this worked out

at £444. As a direct result of the reduction in complaints about second hand cars, the savings in terms of consumer detriment was equivalent to £49,000. It was calculated that only one in fourteen consumers actually made a complaint about unsatisfactory goods or services, and this meant that the total potential reduction in consumer detriment as a result of Trading Standards intervention equated to £690,000.

An important consideration of the project had been to encourage local car dealers to join the Derbyshire Trusted Trader Scheme. Fifteen of those that had responded to the survey had indicated that they were interested in joining the scheme, and a further five had joined or said that they would join. The Division would continue to work with the local second hand car trade in an attempt to reduce the number of complaints.

RESOLVED to note the report and the reduction in consumer detriment arising from the work of the Trading Standards Division.

41/15 SUPPORTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE – TRADING STANDARDS SUPPORT Much of the work of the Trading Standards division was to support vulnerable older people, and the main areas of activity were summarised – tackling doorstep crime, tackling scam mail communications and targeting rogue traders.

A senior Trading Standards Officer had confirmed his intentions to retire in May, and much of his current role involved supporting vulnerable people. To assist in meeting the need in the short term, it was proposed to recruit an additional Grade 8 Trading Standards Enforcement Officer on a fixed term basis to engage in a project to help raise awareness about scams impacting on older people. A number of voluntary sector providers already supported older people, and part of the project would be to explore how the Division could work more closely with volunteers.

By using some resource to train and support volunteers already engaged with older people, this should ensure that more Derbyshire residents were supported. The Division could use its own resources to prevent victimisation, support those that had become victims and target the perpetrators. The Officer would be asked to engage with other agencies that had similar objectives, and the project would also include establishing processes and procedures to ensure that the Trading Standards Division fulfilled its obligations under the Care Act 2014.

It was anticipated that the funding for the post, which would be to the end of March 2016, could be met from Proceeds of Crime Asset Recovery Incentivisation Scheme funding that had been awarded to the Division following the successful conviction of a number of offenders who had breached trading standards legislation over the years.

RESOLVED to agree to the recruitment of a fixed term Trading Standards Enforcement Officer to support vulnerable people.

42/15 ANNUAL REVIEW OF CHARGES IN THE LIBRARIES AND HERITAGE DIVISION The total income received by the Libraries and Heritage Division from charges in 2013/14 was £491,715. This had been a significant reduction from the previous year and the trend was likely to continue.

Implicit in the annual review of charges was an assumption that they would increase in line with inflation. However, this was not always practical to implement. There was customer resistance to some increases and increasing charges could lead to a decline in use thereby further reducing income. It was therefore proposed that the fees and charges for the Libraries and Heritage Division for 2015/16 remain unchanged.

RESOLVED to approve the proposed charges for the Libraries and Heritage Division with effect from 4 May 2015.

43/15 ARTS, HEALTH AND WELLBEING The County Council had been working with the Arts Derbyshire partnership for the last five years on a series of Arts, Health and Wellbeing projects. Further projects were under development, including a series of cinema screenings for people with dementia and their families, further work with young musicians, and dance workshops for people with disabilities.

The projects had been managed and coordinated for the last three years by a freelance Arts, Health and Wellbeing Project Coordinator, and the contract for the post had finished on 31 March 2015. A new contract had been advertised, following County Council procurement regulations under procurement protocol 6. A successful tenderer had been selected, and it was proposed to offer a contract on a one-year rolling basis, for a maximum of three years.

A budget of £18,200 would cover the Co-ordinator's fees, and this was made up of contributions from a range of organisations. Any other costs for particular projects would be bid for separately.

RESOLVED to (1) note the report; and

(2) agree to the appointment of the successful respondent to the tender as the freelance Arts, Health and Wellbeing Coordinator on a 'contract for services' basis on a one-year rolling basis, for a maximum of three years.

44/15 NATIONAL CHILD MEASUREMENT PROGRAMME 2013/14
The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) was a nationally

mandated public health programme that measured the height and weight of children aged 4-5 and 10-11 years on an annual basis. In 2012/13, local authorities had taken on responsibility for the collection of NCMP data as part of the Public Health ring fenced budget. The 2013/14 data showed that Derbyshire continued to maintain high participation rates. To try to increase participation rates further, a questionnaire would be sent to those parents/carers who had elected to opt-out of the NCMP. Responses to the questionnaire would enable a better understanding of the reasons for opting out and influence service improvements to influence uptake in the future.

Both Reception and Year 6 obesity prevalence was lower overall in Derbyshire than England and the East Midlands, and Reception and Year 6 obesity prevalence was lower than England in every local authority area in Derbyshire. Six out of the eight local authorities had lower Reception obesity prevalence than East Midlands, and five local authorities had lower obesity prevalence than the East Midlands. It was encouraging that seven of the eight indicators in Derbyshire were significantly better than England, and Derbyshire had achieved a greater number of green indicators than any other local authority in the East Midlands.

Childhood obesity was a key priority for Public Health England. The NCMP provided a robust evidence base to support the Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Board and the Children's Trust Board to bring together a range of local partners and inform local action to promote healthy weight. The County Council had established a life-course approach to tackle overweight and obesity prevalence, commissioning and influencing initiatives that placed an emphasis on early identification, intervention and behaviour change, support children, young people and families. The range of programmes were detailed.

RESOLVED to note the report.

45/15 SUBSTANCE MISUSE S256 BUDGET EXPENDITURE In 2013, a Section 256 agreement had been brokered between statutory partners Derbyshire Primary Care Trust and the County Council to carry forward a forecast underspend accumulated since 2010/11. The underspend currently stood at just over £400,000.

The proposed expenditure included three projects which had been developed in partnership between organisations, stakeholders and service users – DAAS Relate Family Counselling Project, DAAS Veterans' Alcohol Project, and Rhubarb Farm Recovery Café. Details of the projects were given, and the first two projects would run as pilot schemes with the aim of alternative funding being sought for future sustainability, dependent on the achievement of successful outcomes.

There remained sufficient resource within the S256 budget for the grants – DAAS Relate Family Counselling Project (£39,000), DAAS Veterans' Alcohol Project (£41,000) and Rhubarb Farm Recovery Café (£9,500).

RESOLVED to (1) approve the proposed expenditure from the S256 Substance Misuse Budget; and

(2) agree to receive subsequent reports with updated plans for further expenditure of the Budget within the headlines identified.

46/15 UNDER 18 CONCEPTIONS 2013 Teenage pregnancy was a significant public health issue. Under 18 conceptions in Derbyshire had fallen by 53.4% since 1998 to a rate of 19.4 per 1,000 female population aged 15-17 years in 2013. Derbyshire reflected national decreasing trends and was statistically significantly lower than both England and East Midlands. Under 16 conceptions in Derbyshire had fallen by 28.6% since 2008-10 to a rate of 4.5 per 1,000 female population in 2011-13. The declining trend was a success for the Council and could be attributed to a range of partnership and public health interventions.

Whilst the declining trend was a significant achievement, the Council had to maintain efforts to achieve further progress, as the majority of teenage conceptions continued to be unplanned pregnancies. In 2013, there had been 270 under 18 conceptions of which 40% had led to an abortion. In addition, there were differences in under 18 conception rates across the County, with the highest rate in the High Peak and the lowest rate in Derbyshire Dales. To further reduce under 18 conceptions across the County and narrow the gap between districts, the Council needed to continue to promote, support and invest in a range of initiatives.

RESOLVED to note the significant declining trends in under 18 conceptions and the Council's contribution to continuing to decrease rates and narrow the gap between districts and boroughs.