

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES** held on 20 January 2015 at County Hall, Matlock

**PRESENT**

Councillor D Allen – Cabinet Member

Also in Attendance – Councillor E S Wilcox

**1/15** **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities held on 22 December 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

**2/15** **PROTECTING THE FOOD CHAIN** There were a range of legislative controls that were designed to ensure that the food eaten was safe, free from contaminants and as described. Some examples were provided of the types of actions taken by the Trading Standards Division to both support local businesses and to ensure that the public were protected from unsafe or illegal activity within the food chain. The types of interventions by the Trading Standards Team were highlighted, along with Divisional activity for the first six months of the financial year.

Details were given of the Food Standards activity, and this included a complaint against a company about a description of 'handmade chocolates', the labelling of colours, allergen controls, and the prosecution of a kebab manufacturer. In the first half of the year, the service had received 36 requests from businesses and individuals for advice and information on the new EU Food Information for Consumers Regulations. Advice on the new Regulations had been provided to local businesses during food inspection visits. The majority of the provisions of the new Regulations had come into force on 13 December 2014, and one of the most significant impacts of the Regulation was the requirement for businesses selling loose foods to provide allergen information to its customers. This would particularly impact on smaller businesses providing meals in cafes, restaurants and takeaways. 3,000 businesses had been affected by the changes.

In terms of feed hygiene activity, feed businesses across the feed chain were inspected to ensure that any animal feed was imported, produced, stored and transported in accordance with the hygiene rules and other legislation affecting its safety. This work was at the frontline of ensuring the food eaten was safe and contributed significantly to ensuring the health and welfare of animals. At seven of the businesses inspected, concerns regarding inadequate pest controls had been raised as an issue with the businesses. At 15 of the businesses inspected, the records kept by the businesses had been deemed incomplete.

Ensuring that the health and welfare of livestock was maintained and that the rules regarding traceability and bio-security were complied with remained a priority. The introduction of greater controls had had a significant impact on ensuring that the food chain was protected and that the risk of diseases infecting livestock and then spreading was reduced. The activity around Bovine Tuberculosis was stated, and the Trading Standards Service was working with the national regulator to ensure that one non-compliant business was brought into compliance and was at the early stages of enquiries into another business that appeared to be moving cattle without complying with the controls. Information was also provided around activity in relation to pig welfare, and cattle identification.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

**3/15      TRADING STANDARDS CONTRIBUTION TO THE SAFEGUARDING PROVISIONS WITHIN THE CARE ACT 2014** The impending Care Act 2014 was intended to consolidate existing care legislation and to set out the local authority's responsibility for both older people and the people who cared for them. It also sought to improve communication between all agencies that had a role to play in terms of safeguarding older and vulnerable people who could be at risk of harm. The Trading Standards Division already worked with key partner agencies to protect older residents, but the new Act could require the service to evidence that it was acting on intelligence about Safeguarding issues. Care and Support Statutory Guidance issued under the Care Act 2014 recognised that Trading Standards Officers needed to be vigilant about adult care safeguarding and to look out for signs of abuse or neglect. It had also been suggested that a trading standards representative could be included as an additional partner to certain Adult Safeguarding Board meetings. The Trading Standards Division had sought to prioritise support for older and vulnerable people in a number of different ways, including the Derbyshire Trusted Trader Scheme, Doorstep Crime, work around scams, and liaison with other agencies.

The Care Act 2014 made it clear that all those agencies that had a role in protecting older and vulnerable people should have effective engagement mechanisms. The Trading Standards Division had regular engagement with Police and Community Safety colleagues and attended the Safer Communities Tasking and Advisory Group. An officer had been seconded to the Police's Operation Liberal Team and Trading Standards staff provided training for Police colleagues. There was regular liaison with Adult Care regarding the Trusted Trader Scheme and training had been provided for Adult Care managers. Discussions were also ongoing with Public Health over areas of mutual interest.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

**4/15      BRIEFING PAPER – HELP FOR SINGLE HOMELESS**  
**DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

The Department for Communities and Local Government had announced a funding opportunity to support local authorities to improve services for single people at risk of homelessness. A joint application had been made by Derby City Council on behalf of all second tier local authorities in Derbyshire for a grant to help single homeless people, and this had been successful. The value of the grant was £93,750 in 2014/15 and provisionally up to £156,250 in 2015/16. The funding was to encourage authorities to work with other local partners to design and deliver sustainable services to prevent single homelessness rather than react to its consequences.

The funding would provide an integrated approach to addressing the housing needs of a range of homeless and potentially homeless people, and adopted an holistic approach with a range of partners to support young people into both housing and to enable them to sustain this through support into employment and training and to increase their self-esteem, prevent debt and prevent risk of homelessness. The approach adopted would enable work with a range of agencies, and this would provide a pilot approach which could be replicated across the county. The project worker would develop a pathways approach and would work with colleagues to share good practice and evidence of the need to extend the project wider. This would create a system change where all needs were addressed via a multi-agency team around the person approach.

Two projects had been developed and funded at a Sheffield City Region level, and these schemes were employment support schemes working on a 1:1 and group basis with 18-24 year olds. Ambition was for those on Job Seekers Allowance for more than three months, and Talent Match would work with those Not in Education, Employment and Training for twelve months or more. The scheme would also work with 24-35 year olds.

Derby City Council was working in partnership with Job Centre Plus to offer additional help and support to vulnerable single homeless people, and an Employment Advisor would be based in the Housing Team. Evidence would be gathered as part of the partnership to demonstrate improved tenancy sustainment following reduced sanctions. A business case would be developed with the evidence with a view to continued funding through Housing Revenue Accounts and the Department of Work and Pensions.

Southern Derbyshire CCG had recognised the health and financial benefits of a hospital discharge project for rough sleepers following the evaluation of a pilot scheme at the Royal Derby Hospital, and the pilot would be replicated at Chesterfield Royal Hospital to show the benefits to budgets to mainstream the project. The proposal was to provide a service that interfaced between a range of organisations offering expertise in welfare benefits and

money advice. The project would deliver sustainable solutions to high impact users and in-patients who were homeless.

**RESOLVED** that (1) the grant award from the Help for Single Homeless Fund be noted; and

(2) further reports be made to update the Cabinet Member on the project's progress and outcomes.

**5/15      UPDATE ON A FAIRER, HEALTHIER DERBYSHIRE** The Director of Public Health's Annual Report for Derbyshire had been distributed to a wide range of partner organisations, and presented to key Boards and Groups. Representatives from stakeholder organisations had been asked to consider how they could make a material contribution towards the recommendations within the report.

Much support had been expressed for the report, and a number of organisations had supported the recommendations in principle, and were considering what commitments they could make. A number of specific comments had been received, and these were presented. Public Health staff that linked to the organisations would continue to encourage firm commitments to contribute towards the recommendations.

**RESOLVED** to note the wide distribution of the Director of Public Health's Annual Report, and the commitments made by organisations to supporting its recommendations.

**6/15      PROPOSAL FOR THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE DECLARATION OF ZAGREB AND THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO JOIN THE UK HEALTHY CITIES/COMMUNITIES NETWORK** Cabinet had previously approved the proposal to progress with submitting an application to join the UK Healthy Cities Network (UKHCN), and following discussions with the eight District and Borough Councils, approval had been given for the proposed implementation model whereby the local authorities would apply to the network as an affiliated member of the overall County Council application. The application was now complete.

Representatives of the District/Borough Councils had met with Public Health locality teams to discuss their organisation's proposed application, and all had indicated a willingness to become members of the UKHCN as partners in the countywide application. It was envisaged that the delivery mechanism at local level would be through the locality action plans. The submission of the applications would be phased over the next six months with the intention that all of the Districts/Boroughs would submit their applications by summer 2015.

In applying for membership of the UKHCN, the authority was required to provide a signed endorsement of the Phase VI goals and themes of Health 2020 Zagreb agreement: *Improving health for all and reducing health inequalities and improving leadership and participatory governance for health.*

Membership of the network would provide an opportunity to learn from other cities and authorities, and would provide a mechanism for a joined up approach in addressing health inequalities across and within organisations. Community and citizen engagement and strong partnerships were integral to the Healthy Communities approach, and this could support in the delivery of public health outcomes. The Healthy Communities approach also linked to the Council Plan, individual service plans and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, and provided an overall framework for making Derbyshire a healthy place in which to live and work.

The Derbyshire-wide application outlined the evidence of how the authority met the criteria for membership across the themes and priorities of Phase VI and the proposed development of the approach across the county. There would be an annual subscription fee, which was expected to be in the region of £6,000, and this would be met from the existing County Council Public Health ring-fenced budget.

**RESOLVED** to approve (1) the endorsement of the Declaration of Zagreb and the aims and themes of Health 2020;

(2) the submission of the application to join the UK Healthy Cities Network; and

(3) the payment of the £6,000 membership fee to be met from the Public Health budget.

**7/15      BUDGET MONITORING MONTH 7 2014/15** The gross budget for the Health and Communities portfolio was approximately £53m, and the budget monitoring was projecting an underspend for the year of £4.745m, £4.478m of which related to the Public Health function. At year-end, the Public Health underspend would be transferred into the Public Health Resource Fund, leaving a projected underspend for the remaining portfolio of £0.267m.

The key variances were reported, and included an underspend in Public Health. The Department's Earmarked Reserves totalled £3.068m, and budget reductions totalling £1.288m had been agreed by Full Council as part of the approval of the 2014-15 budget. The savings would be achieved by the end of the financial year.

**RESOLVED** to note the position on the 2014/15 Revenue Budget.

**8/15**        **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC RESOLVED** to exclude the public from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of the kind of information detailed in the following summary of proceedings:-

**SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC HAD BEEN EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING**

1.        To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities held on 22 December 2014

**9/15**        **EXEMPT MINUTES RESOLVED** that the exempt minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities held on 22 December 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.