

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES** held on 22 December 2014 at County Hall, Matlock

**PRESENT**

Councillor D Allen – Cabinet Member

Also in Attendance – Councillors C A Hart and E S Wilcox

**123/14** **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities held on 2 December 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

**124/14** **SAFE STORAGE AND SUPPLY OF FIREWORKS** The County Council was responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work Act that were intended to ensure that the public were not put at risk from explosives, particularly fireworks. The legislation had recently changed, and required retailers to ensure that fireworks were stored safely, that the public did not have access to fireworks stored on their premises, and to take active steps to identify and minimise the risk of fire or explosion.

A principal change brought about by the new legislation had been to remove a simplified form of Licensing termed 'Registration' which used to be appropriate for persons who wished to store up to either 250kg of HT4 or 100kg of HT3 explosive only. There was now only one form of storage licence and, in future, licence applicants had to detail the type and quantity of explosive to be kept and provide a location plan of the site. If it was intended to store more than 12.5kg of fireworks on a shop floor, the applicant also had to include a floor plan. Most Derbyshire firework sellers had been able to avoid this requirement in 2014 as their previous storage authorisation had been renewed before the 2014 requirements had come into effect on 1 October. It was anticipated that the more onerous requirements now required would give rise to many business queries when new licences were applied for in 2015, particularly as licensing authorities would be able to apply individual conditions. A further change was that Licences, where requested, could be issued for any period of up to five years where considered appropriate.

Regulations made under the Fireworks Act 2003 allowed the sale of fireworks only during permitted periods. Specialist businesses wishing to supply fireworks outside the periods had to apply to the County Council for an annual sales licence. Only three Derbyshire businesses were likely to request renewal of their annual sales licence.

The Division had prioritised visits to check compliance at firework retailers. 118 retailers had sought a licence to store fireworks in 2014, which was a reduction on the previous two years. 72 premises had been visited and

37 had been unsatisfactory in some regard. 31 of the unsatisfactory businesses had related to incorrect storage of fireworks, and whilst the majority of issues had been addressed at the time of the visit, the continuing level of incorrect storage highlighted the need for businesses to be independently checked.

It was often found that inexperienced employees who only dealt with explosives for short periods of time were found to be unaware of the risks and danger to persons present, and the types of issues detected were highlighted. Staff at each shop had been given verbal and written advice at the time of the visit and letters of advice and/or warning to the relevant responsible person had followed. Two potentially serious complaints relating to incorrect storage of fireworks had been received, one of which had resulted in a joint operation with a neighbouring trading standards authority and the Police. Enquiries were continuing in relation to another retailer that had been found to be storing fireworks incorrectly and had also been selling fireworks outside the permitted dates. The operator faced further enforcement action and the possibility of the revocation of their storage licence. Further details of activities undertaken were provided.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

**125/14      SUNBED SAFETY SURVEY – UPDATE** The Trading Standards Division had previously undertaken a survey of local tanning salons. During 2013, 34 businesses had been visited and 81 sunbed lamps inspected. A proportion of sunbeds at each location had also been tested. Only 31 out of the 81 appliances tested had been found to be compliant at 11 out of the 34 businesses visited.

A further 35 tanning salons had been visited during 2014 and a further 101 pieces of equipment had been examined. Compliance had been much improved, and 82 items had been found to be compliant at 22 of the salons visited. Of those that had failed, six had had emission ratings in excess 0.6 W/m<sup>2</sup>. All salon operators had been advised of the steps they needed to take to ensure that they only used safe tanning lamps.

As a result of the Trading Standards activity, 54 tanning facilities had been refurbished and brought within the European Union safety limit. Fourteen dangerous sunbeds had been taken out of use and 33 businesses previously operating unsafe tanning equipment had been brought into compliance. It was estimated that 96% of the known tanning providers in Derbyshire were now operating equipment within the EU safety limit with remedial action pending in relation to the remaining equipment.

A common factor in a number of failed emissions checks had been that the equipment had been serviced or supplied by a particular Derbyshire based

sunbed business, and Health and Safety Executive officers had met with the business to address concerns. The business had been advised and instructions had been given to remedy any previously supplied equipment of repairs to achieve safe emission levels. The business had also been required to amend website information which had the potential to mislead customers. The activities of the business would be monitored.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

**126/14      CENTENARY COMMEMORATIONS IN CHESTERFIELD LIBRARY** Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Labour History Society was planning to celebrate the centenary of the unveiling of the two National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) statues in Chesterfield. A plaque to celebrate the centenary would be added to the wall of the former NUM offices and this would be unveiled on 26 June 2015. It was proposed that Chesterfield Library would host a specific part of the centenary commemoration on 27 June 2015, and details of what this would comprise were highlighted. Throughout June 2015, there would be an exhibition in Chesterfield Library to commemorate the statues and the planned events.

**RESOLVED** to note the plans for Chesterfield Library to host part of the commemoration for the centenary of the unveiling of the NUM statues in Chesterfield.

**127/14      CREATIVE DERBYSHIRE** Following the success of the first phase of the programme, demand for Creative Derbyshire events had continued to be high, and based on feedback already gathered, there was still a need to undertake a range of tasks.

S4W Ltd, the company which had run the first phase of Creative Derbyshire on behalf of Arts Derbyshire, had initially submitted an application to Arts Council England for further funding, but this had been unsuccessful. In view of the limited amount of funding currently available, Arts Derbyshire wanted to concentrate further on the business development workshop programme. The County Council, on behalf of Arts Derbyshire, had applied to Arts Council England for a grant of £15,000 to help with the programme over the next two years. If successful, a freelance Programme Co-ordinator would be appointed to organise the workshop programme. If funding was received from Arts Council England, £18,900 match funding for the application would come from the approved Arts Derbyshire budget and reserve.

Arts Derbyshire also wished to use part of its budget (£4,000) to do further research into other elements of the Creative Derbyshire programme, in particular investigating better way of supporting young people into the creative sector, liaising with economic partners, and doing a gap analysis of what other support was needed. The County Council, on behalf of Arts Derbyshire, had

advertised through the usual procurement routes for a company to carry out this research and report back. Cultivate had been chosen as the best company to carry out the research, and funding would come from the approved Arts Derbyshire budget and reserve.

**RESOLVED** to (1) note the report; and

(2) approve the appointment of Cultivate as the freelance research company for the next phase of Creative Derbyshire.

**128/14      SUICIDE PREVENTION** The national Suicide Prevention Strategy highlighted six areas to support the aims of delivering a reduction in the suicide rate in England, and providing better support for those affected by suicide.

The Derbyshire suicide rate had been significantly lower than the England rate for a number of years, and in 2012, there had been 52 suicides within Derbyshire, with a small increase locally since 2008. National research had shown an association between the areas of England worst affected by unemployment and increased suicide rates. Numbers of suicide locally were too small to determine whether a similar association occurred in Derbyshire, but work was required to support those that continued to be affected by unemployment or welfare changes.

Following the transfer of public health from the NHS to local government, responsibility for co-ordination of suicide prevention lay with local authorities, and the One Year On report called on local authorities to undertake a range of activities, including developing a suicide prevention action plan. Development of a local suicide prevention plan required local authorities to work with key stakeholders, and local areas were recommended to map current practice and service provision and identify gaps.

A stakeholder event had recently been held in Derbyshire to explore the development of a community approach to suicide prevention work. Representatives from the Public Health teams at the County Council and Derby City Council had committed to providing strategic co-ordination for taking forward the suicide prevention agenda, and this would include working with stakeholders to co-produce a joint Suicide Prevention Plan for Derbyshire.

Suicide awareness training played an important role in suicide prevention work, and Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training was currently commissioned by Derbyshire CCGs. Due to the transfer of responsibility to local authorities, commissioning had become the responsibility of the County Council. Training was currently provided by Rural Action Derbyshire (RAD) at a cost of £16,000 per year. The funding employed

a project worker, and allowed for delivery of training courses across Derbyshire. In 2013, ten half-day courses had been attended by 229 attendees, and evaluation of the courses had been positive. It was proposed that the County Council continued to fund the training for an additional three years, and that a tendering process be undertaken to identify a provider.

Within the Public Health grant, there was a recurrent budget of £2,000 that would be used to support stakeholder engagement in developing and implementing the Suicide Prevention Plan for Derbyshire. Additional funding of £16,000 per annum for a period of three years to procure training would be supported from the existing Public Health grant.

**RESOLVED** to (1) note the responsibility for Public Health to co-ordinate suicide prevention work across Derbyshire; and

(2) agree to procure Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training, for a period of three years, at a cost of £16,000 per annum, commencing from the financial year 2015/16.

**129/14      DERBYSHIRE PLANNING AND HEALTH SUMMIT: PLANNING OUT POVERTY** Approval was sought for a Derbyshire Planning and Health Summit to be held on 23 January 2015. The proposed Planning and Health Summit, which would focus on Planning Out Poverty, aimed to support the integration of health and wellbeing into spatial planning in Derbyshire. This directly supported the delivery of key objectives within the 2014 Director of Public Health Annual Report on tackling poverty in Derbyshire. The summit aimed to explore the relevance of the recent reforms for health and planning, and would give planners, public health practitioners and other key partners an opportunity to consider how they could work together better to deliver progress.

The Town and Country Planning Association was uniquely placed to facilitate the event, providing nationally recognised expertise in planning policy. It was the only independent organisation for planning and housing, and would co-ordinate the summit by leading on developing the agenda, securing speakers and writing a feedback report setting out key actions. It was proposed to use of Protocol 8 of the New Financial Arrangements, Sole Supplier, to enable to Town and Country Planning Association to coordinate and deliver the event. The total cost of facilitation would be £2,995 plus VAT, and there was sufficient resource within the Public Health budget to cover the proposed costs of the summit.

**RESOLVED** to approve the Planning and Health Summit and to use Protocol 8 of the New Financial Arrangements, Sole Supplier, to enable the Town and Country Planning Association to co-ordinate and deliver the event.

**130/14**      **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 consider the exempt reports of the Director of Public Health on:-
  - a) Extension of Existing Children's Safety First Scheme (contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding the information))
  - b) Substance Misuse Section 256 Budget Expenditure Craft Training (contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding the information))