

MINUTES of a meeting of **the IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PEOPLE** held at County Hall, Matlock on 4 July 2018.

PRESENT

Councillor J Twigg (in the Chair)

Councillors N Barker, Mrs L Chilton, J Coyle, Mrs C Dale (substitute), R Flatley (substitute), Mrs A Fox, R Iliffe and D Taylor.

Ms M Collins, Mrs J Hollister and Councillor Mrs J Wharmby.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors J Frudd and R Parkinson and Ms D Turner.

15/18 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 23 May 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

16/18 **DISCUSSION WITH CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT CARE**
Councillor Jean Wharmby presented an update on activities within Adult Care.

Thomas Fields Extra Care facility would be open late Summer; work was about to start on a new care home in Belper. The Red Bag Scheme was working very well in residential homes, with 350 bags in circulation. There had been a large response to engagement with people with learning difficulties. A peer review had provided lots of information and good points however care worker recruitment was continuing to be a struggle.

Derbyshire County Council Adult Care Provision had been shortlisted to the last four at the MJC Awards.

There was a programme for change for the disabled, with people attending day service provision being canvassed on how they see their futures and realising their ambitions. Better evening and weekend activities were wanted.

Forensic Out-Reach support teams, that include social workers, were working in the community with people with mental health conditions avoiding them being inappropriately detained in police custody. The mental health and enablement services would be reviewed next year.

Joy Hollister, Strategic Director of Adult Care gave an overview of the Direct Care Service.

RESOLVED to set-up a working group to review the mental health enablement service. Councillors Judith Twigg, Alison Fox, Richard Illife, Nigel Barker and Jim Coyle to be on the working group.

17/18 REVIEW OF HATE CRIME Michelle Collins, Community Safety presented how Derbyshire County Council had responded to the 19 recommendations following a scrutiny review of Hate Crime:

1. A thorough review of the contract with Stop Hate UK had been undertaken. Services and benefits offered by SHUK were fully utilised. Due to long-term membership, DCC enjoys free publicity and training packages at a discounted price. Partners had jointly agreed to continue to fund until 31 March 2019.
2. Customised Hate Crime publicity materials had been developed through joint working to deliver Step Up, Beat Hate campaign, with 121 sessions with Youth Groups, schools and events throughout the summer to raise awareness of Hate Crime.
3. The Hate Crime Communication Plan had been fully adopted by partners and was reflected in the Step Up, Beat Hate Campaign.
4. The Diversity and Inclusion Board had been instrumental in supporting events to raise awareness of hate crime and working with Community Safety to develop a Hate Crime Policy for DCC.
5. The Hate Crime Commissioning Group and the Hate Crime Practitioners group had ensured recommendations were included in the Hate Crime Action Plan and considered as part of the CSU work.
6. The Authority had worked with districts/boroughs/town and parish councils to ensure awareness and support of Hate Crime services through signposting. Adult Social Care – Prevention Team were responsible for developing Safe Places.
7. Joint working with the Police was underway to harness technology to enable improved reporting of hate crime.
8. The nationally used definition for Hate Crime had been adopted and was included in awareness raising materials and campaigns.
9. Training and development of the Authority's staff included Face-to-Face Hate Crime Awareness, which was held every two months' an e-Learning package was also available to all DCC staff.
10. Stop Hate UK had a number of different products that were used to raise awareness of hate crime. Adult Care commissioned McIntyre

to work with people with learning disabilities and to raise awareness of hate crime and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner new Disability and LGBT+ advocate work with those experiencing hate crime.

11. Children Services collect data on bullying incidents in schools, with those in targeted areas having access to the Zebra Red Programme.
12. The Zebra Red project was used to raise awareness of hate crime and radicalisation - a total of 22 sessions was expected to have been delivered during 2017/18, with approximately 1,600 pupils participating.
13. Elected members were to progress the use of the Community Leadership fund and the Communities Priority programme as a means of building community cohesion and education in areas of most need.
14. Further work was needed with the Youth Council to ensure representation and dissemination of information on Hate Crime was cascaded to young people in Derbyshire.
15. The Scrutiny team was on the circulation list of the CPS Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel and would keep members informed about issues being discussed.
16. The Safe Places Scheme was the responsibility of Adult Care Prevention. There are 182 safe places in Derbyshire and Safe Places officers attend Hate Crime Practitioners meetings and provide regular updates on the project.
17. The Community Safety Unit would, wherever possible, assist partners and community groups to access DCC venues to deliver training.
18. At the time of the meeting, it was not known who the Authority's representative on the Hate Crime Commissioning Group was.
19. Performance data was provided down to district/borough council areas to enable partners to address localised issues such as the location of "safe places". Performance information was provided on a quarterly bases from Stop Hate UK and Safer Derbyshire research and Information Team.

RESOLVED to note the actions taken in response to the review recommendations.

18/18 **DEMENTIA REPORT – HEALTHWATCH DERBYSHIRE** Helen Henderson-Spoors, Healthwatch Derbyshire presented the findings of a report on dementia care and support within Derbyshire. The key findings were based around early education, prevention and the types of dementia. Diagnosis was delivered in a compassionate manner however some participants felt they received too much information following diagnosis.

GP and health professionals were positively received, as were specialised wards within hospitals however, it was found that language barriers for participants from the BME community were a concern. DCC-linked care services were favourably looked on, with continuity of care, routine and training of staff considered very important. Participants felt there was poor facilitation, inappropriate activities and a lack of one—to-one service provided by the Derbyshire Dementia Support Service (DDSS) although it was “getting better”.

Carers spoke of feeling unsupported, with the co-ordination of services for support to carers being described as “disjointed”. Self-funded participants felt they were left to “fend for themselves”. Experiences relating to Continuing Healthcare were poor but Dementia Friendly Communities were positive.

All points raised in the report had been taken on board and work was continuing on improving provision, support, clear information and communication and maximising the need and importance of continuity, routine and training. It was recognised that there was a massive challenge ahead across health and social care.

RESOLVED that the findings of the report be noted.

19/18 **FINAL REPORT OF THE REVIEW OF PERMANENT EXCLUSIONS** Roz Savage, Improvement & Scrutiny Officer outlined the findings of the report. It was recognised that there had been a worrying rise in the number and rate of school permanent exclusions nationally and in Derbyshire. This review was designed to gain a better understanding of why this was happening and what might be done in response.

The decision to permanently exclude a child was not taken lightly by a school and many head teachers spoke of their concerns about the impact this could have on the life chances of a young person. It was found that there were three main factors that attributed to exclusions:

- the pressures associated with the school’s accountability framework, in particular the Progress 8 measure and the narrowing of the national curriculum;
- the difficulties in accessing alternative provision for young people who were disengaged with the mainstream school environment and felt shut out from the more academic curriculum and

- the rise in mental health and emotional wellbeing needs of young people, coupled with the reduction in school budgets and effective pastoral support.

As a result, the working group made the following recommendations:

1. The Authority makes representations to the National government regarding the unintended consequences created by the schools accountability system, Progress 8, and the associated narrowing of the curriculum that impact on less academic students.
2. The Authority explores the feasibility of a policy that ensures that when a pupil is excluded and transferred to another school, funding is made available to the receiving school in the same term as the transfer occurs.
3. The Authority reviews how the Higher Needs Block is allocated and explores the feasibility of some of the funding being transferred to schools so that more support is available within schools before a young person is permanently excluded.
4. The Authority explores the feasibility of a proportion of Support Centre funding being ring-fenced so that the service can plan and provide preventative support throughout the academic year and an outreach service to schools.
5. The Authority (through the mechanism of the Future in Mind Programme and associated commissioning activities) ensures that the expectations placed on schools to support the mental health needs of young people are not overly reliant on schools filling the gap in community provision to the detriment of the time available to teachers to fulfil their primary role of educating children.

RESOLVED that the findings of the report be noted and the recommendations be submitted to Cabinet for approval.

20/18 **WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19** The work programme for the period September 2018 to February 2019 was presented to the Committee.

RESOLVED that the report be approved.