

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **the IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PEOPLE** held at County Hall, Matlock on 21 November 2018.

PRESENT

Councillor J Twigg (in the Chair)

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

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor J Coyle.

25/18 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 5 September 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the inclusion of Councillor J Frudd in those present at the meeting.

26/18 **DISCUSSION WITH CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT CARE**
Councillor Jean Wharmby, Cabinet Member for Adult Care, attended the meeting along with Helen Jones, Strategic Director for Adult Care and gave an update on the key achievements and challenges faced by Adult Care services over the last year.

Amongst the successes acknowledged were:

- Recognised as being a well performing county;
- Thomas Fields £30million Care Home improvement programme;
- Hazelwood Care Home improvement programme;
- Work that was currently being undertaken in the Belper area;
- Home Help surveys; and
- Working in conjunction with the Housing Strategy.

Members of the Committee asked questions in relation to the Adult Care portfolio and Councillor Wharmby and Ms Jones responded accordingly.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Wharmby for an interesting and informative report.

RESOLVED that the presentation be received.

27/18 **SUPPORT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY** Alex Howlett attended the meeting and gave a presentation to the Committee on the Special Educational Needs and Disability Service.

Amongst other things, the presentation referred to:

- SEND – Code of Practice;
- New Provisions required by the Children and Families Act 2014;
- The Derbyshire SEND Vision and Service;
- SEND Locality Teams and their roles;
- SEND Central team and its role;
- Learning Programme;
- Funding; and
- EHC Plan process.

A Member of the public attended the meeting to ask a question specifically related to Special Educational Needs and the Disability (SEND) Service.

The question asked was:

“If these children have to remain in mainstream education provision, where are all of the specialist teaching provisions such as Teachers and Teaching Assistants to support these children?”

The Chairman confirmed that a written response would be sent out after the meeting.

Members of the Committee then asked questions in relation to the service provision and Mr Howlett responded accordingly.

As part of the discussion the breakdown in communication between the Children’s Services Department and Adult Care Department was highlighted and it was agreed that further work would be undertaken in relation to this and a report would be given to a future meeting.

The Chairman thanked Mr Howlett for the presentation.

RESOLVED that (1) the presentation be received; and

(2) further work be undertaken in relation to the communication problems highlighted between the Childrens Services and Adult Care Departments and a report back to be presented to a future meeting once consultation work had been completed.

28/18 ENTER AND VIEW SUMMARY REPORT OF DCC RESIDENTIAL SERVICES – HEALTHWATCH DERBYSHIRE Daniel Pidkorczemny, Derbyshire Healthwatch attended the meeting and presented the Enter & View Summary Report of DCC Residential Services.

The report was a biannual one which updated the committee on progress made in relation to visits that had been commissioned by Derbyshire County Council for 2018-2019.

During 2018/2019, Healthwatch Derbyshire had been re-commissioned by Derbyshire County Council to conduct a range of unannounced visits to thirteen of the twenty six residential services across the county. Six out of the thirteen visits had been conducted and the findings of these visits were detailed in the report.

The report summarised the key data and findings from all visits and detailed the comparisons with previous Enter and View visits. A total of nine recommendations had been made that had already been responded to and these were included in the report.

RESOLVED to note the report.

29/18 SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN IN DERBYSHIRE – HOME TRANSPORT TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT The Committee was informed of the scope and purpose of a proposed review of the policies in place to safeguard children in Home to School Transport across Derbyshire. As part of the Committee's responsibility to scrutinise the safeguarding of children, it reviews the policies in place within the County Council and those of District and Borough Councils where appropriate.

The Derbyshire Chief Executives Group had commissioned a review in 2017, of the consistency and robustness of taxi driver licensing policies across Derbyshire. The review involved the District/Borough Councils, Derby City Council, Derbyshire County Council and the Police.

The review had stemmed from concerns identified within one of the District Authorities and also the significant issues highlighted nationally regarding Taxi Licensing and the protection and safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. The Chief Executives and the Police had recognised that taxi drivers were in a position of public trust and, due to the nature of their work, they were likely to have unaccompanied access to children and vulnerable adults.

The review had made nine recommendations which had been developed into a draft Action Plan that detailed the proposed timescale for delivery and identified Lead Officers for each element.

In addition to this work, the Strategic Director of Economy, Transport and Environment had reported to Cabinet on 22 February 2018 on the development of a Transport Safeguarding Standards Framework for Contracted Passenger Transport Services. This report also had an Action Plan to implement seven Standards which included the introduction of a

Drivers' Code of Conduct, improved collaboration with Derbyshire licensing authorities and other initiatives to ensure the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults whilst travelling in contracted transport.

The Scrutiny review would be conducted by a working group of Members from this Committee who would hear evidence from sources such as:

- Dan Swaine (Chief Executive of North East Derbyshire and Bolsover District Councils) who commissioned the review on behalf of the Derbyshire Chief Executives' Group;
- Officers of the Economy, Transport and Environment Department who are responsible for implementing the Safeguarding Transport Standards Framework and Action Plan;
- Officers and Committee/Cabinet Members of the county's taxi licensing Authorities;
- Safeguarding specialists in the Children's Services Department and Adult Care Department;
- Taxi and Passenger Bus operators' groups representatives;
- Public Transport Contract Procurement team;
- Derbyshire Constabulary;
- Parents and school Head Teachers.

The working group appointed by this Committee would undertake the review and submit a final report to the full Committee at the conclusion of the review.

RESOLVED to (1) agree the scope of the review; and

(2) appoint the following Members of the Committee to the review working group; Councillors Twigg, Fox, Chilton, Frudd and Barker.

30/18 WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19 RESOLVED to note the following items for consideration at the next meeting on 27 February 2018:

- DSCB Annual Report;
- DSAB Annual Report;
- Evaluation of the 3 shift rota system in Derbyshire County Council Care Homes;
- Budget Monitoring Report;
- Scrutiny review update subject to confirmation.

It was suggested that due to the length of the documents one of the Annual Reports should be deferred to a future meeting.

RESOLVED to note the items to be discussed at the next meeting on 27 February 2018.