

**MINUTES** of a meeting of **the IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PEOPLE** held at County Hall, Matlock on 5 July 2017.

**PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs J Twigg (in the Chair)

Councillors N Barker, Mrs D Charles, Mrs L Chilton, R Flatley, Mrs A Fox, J Frudd, R Iliffe and D Taylor.

Ms D Turner.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of R Peat

**9/17** **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 1 March 2017 be received.

**10/17** **MATTERS ARISING** Transition into Adulthood Final Review report (Minute 5/17 refers) It was noted that following the decision at the previous meeting of the Committee on 1 March 2017 to submit the report and its recommendations to Cabinet, that this was yet to happen. The Chairman explained that as the membership of this Committee was newly established following the elections that she wished to familiarise herself with the review report and its findings, prior to any potential submission to Cabinet.

**11/17** **DERBYSHIRE HEALTHWATCH ENTER AND VIEW PROGRAMME OF DERBYSHIRE CARE HOMES** David Weinrabe, Healthwatch Derbyshire, attended the meeting and provided a briefing on the Enter & View visits undertaken from June 2016 to February 2017.

Details were given of the overall findings following the visits and a summary given of the recommendations

On average each report generated eight recommendations which were not necessarily indicative of many major concerns, but often sought clarification on issues raised/evidence gathered or suggestions to reflect upon or review an aspect of the care facilities or delivery.

Recommendations made were generally addressed positively by managers/DCC and a summary sheet was provided which illustrated some of the more common '*themes of concern*' within the recommendations and the responses received as a consequence.

The Chairman thanked David for a most interesting and informative presentation.

**12/17      REVIEW OF CARE HOMES – SCOPING REPORT** Members were informed of the scope of the Care Homes review.

In recent years, there had been developments in the statutory duties on Local Authorities that could impact on provision of services in Adult Care. This included the responsibility for Public Health, which moved over to Local Authorities in 2012 and changes to the governance of Public Health. The Social Care Act 2014 had also added responsibilities onto Authorities. In addition, there were inspection regimes including the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and Derbyshire Healthwatch, through their Enter and View programme.

The review would aim to understand how best the authority could ensure the consistent delivery of care to residents of its care homes. This would include the extent to which potential and actual care home residents (and their families) were supported and listened to, so their care needs were met.

The review would focus on the following key lines of enquiry:

- The authority's response to Derbyshire Healthwatch's programme of Enter and View visits to the authority's care homes.
- How standards were maintained to provide the appropriate level of care, for example risk assessments, social workers and care plans.
- How staff were trained to provide mechanisms of recording, reporting and early intervention.
- How staffing levels are appropriately managed and residents are placed in facilities appropriate to their care needs.
- How residents are being treated with dignity and how a quality of life is maintained.
- The use of appropriate auditing to ensure the measurement of compliance to standards.

Evidence would be sought from the relevant officers from Adult Care including Public Health, Cabinet Member for Health and Communities, Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Director of Public Health, Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Board, Derbyshire Healthwatch, Clinical Commissioning Groups in Derbyshire, Care Quality Commission, Derbyshire Home Care Association, Derbyshire Care Providers Association, Groups and organisations which support older people in residential care home settings and their families, Care Home visits by the working group, Care Home staff, Care Home residents and their families

The Chairman commented that the original date for completion of the review would be revised and brought forward to August 2017 in anticipation of a report being submitted to Cabinet on 14 September 2017.

A working group would be appointed to undertake the review and submit progress reports and a final report to the full Committee at the conclusion of the review.

The Chairman outlined her views on how she wished to proceed with the review.

**RESOLVED** (1) to approve the scope of the review of Care Homes;

(2) that Councillors Twigg, Fox, Iliffe, Flatley, Charles and Barker be appointed onto the review working group and;

(3) that D Rose, Scrutiny Officer, contact Members to arrange a date for the first working group meeting.

**13/17      SAFEGUARDING SUB-GROUP** Members were asked to consider the continuation of the Improvement and Scrutiny - People Committee's Safeguarding Sub-Group.

The Improvement and Scrutiny - People Committee agreed in 2013 to have a sub-group on safeguarding and for this to be a standing item. This reflected the importance Members placed on safeguarding and the desire to provide effective challenge and support to Cabinet, officers and partners.

The sub-group scrutinised the work of the Authority against the priorities as laid out in the Council Plan and work of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children and Adult Boards.

Since 2013, the Safeguarding Sub-Group had met over twenty times. Additionally, safeguarding had been the topic of numerous full People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee's since 2013.

The sub-group's body of work had included full scrutiny reviews which had been presented and accepted by Cabinet, an interim review of safeguarding which was accepted by the full Committee and regular monitoring of performance and other issues through discussions with officers and partners. In addition, the sub-group had contributed to external inspections, for example Ofsted's assessment of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Childrens Board, highlighting the importance of scrutiny and challenge in this important service area.

The feedback from Cabinet Members, Senior Officers and partners had been very positive, including the Child Sexual Exploitation Review, which was

highly commended by the Independent Chair of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board.

Given the scope of some of the reviews, some had a wider remit than purely safeguarding. However, some of the key findings in the area of safeguarding from the scrutiny reviews included:

- Strong partnership working between the Council, Police, Health and other public and community organisations.
- A desire by the safeguarding boards and other steering groups to fully sign to recommendations of Scrutiny Reviews and put into their action plans.
- Impactful ways to increase the awareness and knowledge of safeguarding.
- Established skills in the Authority and through partners to provide advice and training on safeguarding issues.

As well as producing Scrutiny Reviews as above, the standing safeguarding working group has undertaken a role of monitoring safeguarding performance and service delivery. Such activity had instigated Scrutiny Reviews, particularly the reviews on CSE, Radicalisation in Schools and Starting Point. As well as this, the full I&S People Committee had presentations by the Safeguarding Board on their annual reports.

**RESOLVED** (1) to approve the continuation of the Safeguarding Sub Group as a standing item, and

(2) that Councillors Twigg, Fox, Iliffe, Chilton, Frudd and Charles be appointed onto the Safeguarding Sub Group to undertake the scrutiny of safeguarding for children and adults.

**14/17      WORKING PROGRAMME 2017/18** For the new municipal year of 2017/18, it was necessary for the Committee to consider its work programme for the year. The Committee was asked to consider undertaking scrutiny reviews, with updates being brought to the full Committee by the relevant working groups when needed. In addition, it might wish to consider allocating agenda items for specific Committee dates for the following:

- Cabinet Member portfolio update for Adult Care and Young People
- Updates from Strategic Directors on key items of work
- Healthwatch Derbyshire reports
- Budget monitoring reports
- Annual reports from Derbyshire's Safeguarding Boards
- Scrutiny Reviews for approval

Appendix 1 to the report provided a proposed work programme for 2017/18. Further items could be approved to be included in the work programme with the agreement of the chairman.

**RESOLVED** to approve the work programme for 2017/18.