

SCRUTINY BOARD (ADULT SOCIAL CARE)

WEDNESDAY, 7TH OCTOBER, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor J Chapman in the Chair

Councillors C Fox, A Gabriel, T Hanley,
J McKenna, V Morgan and E Taylor

CO-OPTEEES: Joy Fisher – Alliance Service Users and Carers

42 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Care) meeting.

43 Late Items

In accordance with her powers under Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair admitted on to the agenda the following late items of business:-

- (a) Day Care Services Update (Minute 48 refers).
- (b) Independence Wellbeing and Choice Inspection Action Plan: August 2009 – minutes of the Proposals Working Group meeting held on 29th September 2009.

The items were late due to the fact that (a) above – the consultation process did not finish until the 30th September 2009 and the consultation with Area Committees was also still ongoing and, (b) above – the Working Group meeting was held on 29th September 2009, the day of agenda despatch.

44 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest reported at this stage.

(Refer to minute 49 below where declarations of interest were declared).

45 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Ewens, Mrs R Feldman, F Robinson and Co-optee Sally Morgan – Equality Issues.

46 Minutes - 9th September 2009

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2009, be confirmed as a correct record.

47 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minutes approved as a correct record
at the meeting held on Wednesday, 11th November, 2009

Minute 34 – Matters Arising Update:

(i) Minute 21 – Leeds Strategic Plan Performance Report for Quarter 4 2008/9

The format currently being trialled on the financial breakdown was brought to the Proposals Working Group meeting held on 29th September 2009.

(ii) Minute 23 – Independence Wellbeing and Choice Inspection Action Plan: May 2009

The Chair reported that the Independence Wellbeing and Choice Action Plan was brought to the Proposals Working Group on 29th September 2009. The Chair suggested that as the working group have been monitoring the plan for a number of months and are happy with progress that the Director of Adult Social Services submit these reports to the Chair on a monthly basis. Should the Chair notice any information which needed to be brought to the Board's attention, it would be brought to the next appropriate Board meeting.

RESOLVED - That the Independence Wellbeing and Choice Action Plan reports be submitted to the Chair on a monthly basis and to the Scrutiny Board on a quarterly basis as outlined above.

(iii) Minute 29 – Older People's Day Services for People with Learning Disabilities

The following information was requested and was circulated to the Board in advance of this meeting.

- Broken down by different sectors/groups, the number of people who had been refused day care, in which centres and on what grounds.
- The number of people who had started going to day centres in the past 12 months, by day centre.
- For each day centre a breakdown of where people were travelling from to attend.

With regard to the statistical representations of the 'Average day care attendance', a redefined way of representing the information.

(b) Minute 38 –Major Adaptations for Disabled Adults – Formal Response. Recommendation 9.

Members agreed that in line with Executive Board agreement at its meeting held on the 26th August 2009, that the following more robust response be adopted to recommendation 9 which the Director for Adult Social Services had also agreed:

Recommendation 9

That the Director for Development investigates and reports on the viability of adopting a model to be implemented, which reflects the spirit of the London Supplementary Planning Guidance for mandatory development to Lifetime Homes Standards, but suits the diversity and specific

requirements of the City of Leeds, reporting findings to the Executive Board before 31 December 2009.

Response - We are currently nearing completion of a draft SPD on Sustainable Design and Construction which it is intended to publish for consultation in the Autumn. For housing, this looks at the introduction of the Code for Sustainable Homes (CHS) which at various levels embraces the Lifetime Homes Standard. Lifetime home standards are mandatory at CSH level 6. From 2010 they will be mandatory at CSH level 4 and in 2013 at CSH level 3. Once approved we will be encouraging housebuilders to follow the guidance but it will not be mandatory. SPD`s have to be supplementary to a policy in an approved development plan document as was the case in London where their SPD clearly elaborated on a policy in the approved Plan for London. We will be dealing with the policy position through the LDF Core Strategy. It is currently proposed that the Core Strategy includes a policy requiring new major residential development to meet the requirements of CSH. However, the Core Strategy is only at a relatively early stage of development, although we hope to be in a position to undertake further public consultation in the Autumn. The Core Strategy will eventually will be subject to public examination by an independent inspector, testing the appropriateness and justification for the policies that the Council is seeking to introduce, including in this case issues of viability.

Note: Councillor A Gabriel joined the meeting at approximately 10.10 a.m. and Councillor C Fox joined the meeting at 10.15 a.m. during discussions on the above item.

48 Late Item - Day Care Services Update

The Deputy Director Adult Social Care – Strategic Commissioning submitted a report providing the board with an update on the consultation exercise undertaken with regard to Day Care Services in Leeds.

The report follows on from the special meeting held on 20th August 2009 and presents a summary of the consultation undertaken by officers between August and the end of September 2009 regarding the proposals set out in the report provided to Executive Board in 22nd July 2009 entitled 'From Day Centres to Day Services: Responding to the needs and preferences of older people'.

The report also provided an overall assessment of the views expressed in the consultation process within three main headings:

- Dealing with comments relating to the overall direction of the strategy.
- Dealing with fears and concerns regarding the future intentions of the Council in relation to its day centres.
- Dealing with those views expressed in relation to the seven specific centres directly referred to in the July report.

It was also reported that a full complete summary of the consultation would be presented to Executive Board on the 4th November 2009.

The following Officers were in attendance and responded to Members' questions and comments:

- Sandie Keene – Director Adult Social Services
- Dennis Homes – Deputy Director Strategic Commissioning
- Lynda Bowen - Chief Officer - Support and Enablement
- Ann Hill – Head of Finance – Financial Management, Adult Social Care

In brief, reference was made to the following issues:

- The Director for Adult Social Services explained the main drivers for change as defined in Government legislation and the 2007/8 CSCI report.
- That the timescales would not enable this Scrutiny Board to thoroughly look into this matter before it went to Executive Board.
(In response, the Chair Adult Social Services reminded the Board that this matter was also discussed at the special meeting held on 20th August 2009 during the consultation period).
- That the department's consultation process with Area Committees had been hurried. In particular, reference was made to the wholly unsatisfactory nature of the consultation arrangements for the South Inner Area Committee meeting held on 23rd September 2009, which had resulted in the item not being considered at all at that meeting, and the opportunity to comment therefore being lost.
(In response, the Director of Adult Social Services specified that any individual directly affected had been consulted. That consultation had been comprehensive but admitted that there had been flaws within the consultation process with Area Committees and that lessons had been learned by the Department. This exercise had been the first time the department had carried out a consultation on such a large scale).
- Clarification of the costs the department would incur, per individual per day at a Day Care Centre.
(In response, the Director of Adult Social Services stipulated that the service could be managed more cost effectively by consolidating day services, using buildings more efficiently, thereby reducing the current average cost per person. The department could also use this funding for other modernisation initiatives such as enabling people to stay in their homes for longer rather than being put into residential care).
- Concern was expressed that should the Day Care Centre in Holbeck be closed, the area would be void of facilities.
(In response, the Director of Adult Social Services informed the meeting that the outcome of the consultation would be considered and all factors including alternative provision would be looked into).
- What potential effect would future legislation as referred to in the government's green paper, shaping the future of care together have on the provision of Day Centres?

(In response, the Director of Adult Social Services informed the meeting that day care was just a very small element of the overall scope of the green paper).

- Whether people could use their individual budgets to buy into services such as day care service/Council residential care.
(In response, the Director of Adult Social Care informed the meeting that this issue requires legal clarification).

The Chair thanked officers for their attendance.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the update report be noted.
- (b) That the Director of Adult Social Services keep the Board fully informed of any changes as a result of the ongoing consultation process and any changes made by the Executive Board at its meeting to be held on 4th November 2009.

49 Commissioning in Adult Social Care

Pursuant to Minute 89, 11th March 2009, the Deputy Director, Strategic Commissioning submitted a report providing an update on progress made with the review of the Neighbourhood Network Services and the inspection made in 2008 by the Commission for Social Care Inspection of Adult Social Care services, with specific reference to older people and safeguarding.

Appended to the report was the Procurement Timetable – V14 on Neighbourhood Networks commissioning for the information/comment of the meeting.

The following officers were in attendance and responded to Members' queries and comments:-

- Dennis Holmes – Deputy Director, Strategic Commissioning.
- Tim O'Shea – Head of Commissioning – Adults.

Joy Fisher – Alliance Services Users and Carers/ Chair of LINK asked at what stage were the department at with the review on advocacy. In response, the Deputy Director, Strategic Commissioning informed the meeting that the department were still in the early stages of the review.

The Chair thanked officers for their attendance.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and its appendices be noted.

Note:

- (a) Councillor J McKenna declared a personal interest in his capacity as a part-time employee of one of the networks concerned but not stated in the report as it was a general policy and, therefore, he abstained from any discussion or vote thereon.

- (b) Joy Fisher – Alliance Services Users and Carers declared a personal interest in her capacity as a member of one of the networks concerned but not stated in the report as it was a general policy.

50 Independence Wellbeing and Choice - Action Plan Update

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report providing an overview of the progress made by Adult Social Services against the Independence Wellbeing and Choice action plan.

Members were reminded that on 10th of December 2008, the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board recommended that the Proposals Working Group (ASC) meet on a monthly basis to monitor overall progress of Adult Social Services performance against the objectives set out in the Independence Wellbeing and Choice action plan, and report directly to the Scrutiny Board. The Independence Wellbeing and Choice summary and progress report were brought before the Proposals Working Group held on the 29th September 2009.

The Working Group were presented with a report for the month of August 2009 and considered all targets falling within the action plan which meet the following criteria:

- (a) Completed Tasks in this reporting period.
- (b) Overdue Tasks in this reporting period.
- (c) Tasks due for completion by the next reporting period
- (d) Tasks commencing in the next reporting period.

The main focus of the working group was on item (b) above. The draft minutes of the Proposals Working Group meeting were tabled as a late item.

Dennis Holmes, Deputy Director Strategic Commissioning was in attendance for this item.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report, its appendices and the draft minutes of the Proposals Working Group meeting held on 29th September 2009 be received and noted .
- (b) That the Independence Wellbeing and Choice Action Plan reports continue to be submitted to the Chair on a monthly basis and reported quarterly to this Board where necessary.

51 Personalisation Inquiry Update

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report providing an update on the progress and work undertaken so far by the Personalisation Working Group.

Members were reminded that at Executive Board meeting held on 8 October 2008, the Board received an update on the work undertaken in Leeds to

prepare for the personalisation agenda, since the publication of the concordat "Putting People First" in December 2007. One of the outcomes from that meeting was that Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Care) be requested to monitor progress of the personalisation agenda. Progress had been monitored by the Personalisation Working Group since March 2009.

Appended to the report was a copy of the following documents for information/comment of the meeting:

- Appendix 1 – Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development dated 29th July 2009 – Personalisation – Update to Terms of Reference and Appointment of co-opted member to the Personalisation Working Group.
- Minutes of the Personalisation Working Group meetings held on 16th March 2009, 20th April 2009, 30th July 2009 and 14th August 2009.

The following officers were in attendance and responded to Members' queries and comments:

- Dennis Holmes – Deputy Director Strategic Commissioning
- John Lennon – Chief Officer Access and Inclusion

In brief, the main issues raised were:

- Had any arrangements been made to hold further Member Seminars? *(In response, the Chief Officer Access and Inclusion informed the meeting that a Members Forum had been arranged for 12th November 2009).*
- Members requested that the Board be given the opportunity to look into 'charges'. It was felt that should these charges be increased it would have a significant impact on individual budgets. *(In response the board was advised that the Income Review was scheduled to be brought before the board for scrutiny at the November 2009 meeting.)*

The Chair assured the meeting that this issue would be incorporated into the Board's Work Programme.

The Chair thanked officers for their attendance.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report, terms of reference and the minutes of the Personalisation Working Group, be received.

52 Work Programme

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report providing Members with a copy of the Board's current Work Programme and the Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period for the period 1st October 2009 to 31st January 2010.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the Board's Principal Scrutiny Adviser be requested to update the work programme to incorporate those updates requested at today's meeting.

53 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 11th November 2009 at 10.00 a.m. (Pre-meeting at 9.30 a.m.)

(The meeting concluded at approximately 11.50 a.m.).