

# **SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**(Council Chamber - Port Talbot Civic Centre)**

**Members Present:**

**16 March, 2017**

**Chairman:** **Councillor D.Jones**

**Councillors:** A.Carter, C.Edwards, H.N.James, J.Miller,  
C.Morgan, L.M.Purcell, A.Taylor and  
D.Whitelock

**Officers In Attendance** N. Jarman, H.Jenkins, R. Hopkins, G.Evans,  
Davies, G. Powell and Mrs.A.Manchipp

**Cabinet Invitees:** Councillors P.D.Richards and J.Rogers

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1. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 FEBRUARY 2017**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2017 were noted by the Committee, subject to, in relation to Minute No 4, more information be provided in the fourth quarter highlight report on Improving Outcomes/Improving Lives, as suggested by the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee held on 8 March, 2017.

2. **BUSINESS SUPPORT COMMUNITY CARE SERVICE REPORT CARD**

Members received an overview of the Business Support Community Care Service Report Card and raised the following points:-

- In relation to Point 7 of the Report Card – how was the existing customer questionnaire going to be improved and when. In answer to this Members were advised that the services' customers were internal Officers of the Authority and that the initial questionnaire had been basic. This year it was intended to make this more detailed.
- In relation to Point 9 of the Report Card – why had the Performance Management Oversight Group been disbanded

and were advised that there had been a high turnover of senior staff within adult services, however the Group would now meet again with a clear focus.

- In relation to sickness in the service, Members asked what was the average number of days of sickness per person and were advised that the measure was based on the full time equivalent (FTE), and could therefore not be attributed per person. The service however had a low incidence of sickness compared not only to the rest of the Authority but within Social Services as a whole.
- Members asked why there were no formal performance measures in place for 2015/16 and were advised that for 2015/16 this was done via action planning. This had now been superseded by the Score Card before Members today.
- Members also queried the high turnover of Senior Officers within Adult Services and were advised that since January 2016 the Head of Service together with 3 Principle Officers had left the employ of the Authority for various reasons such as promotion and ER/VR.
- In relation to Service Measures 4 and 5 on the percentage of files accessible electronically, Members asked when these would be completed and were advised that as yet there was no time line in place as the number of files was extensive.

Following scrutiny the report was noted.

### 3. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee scrutinised the following matter:-

#### Cabinet Board Proposal

##### 3.1 Residential and Non Residential Care Charging Policy

The Director of Social Services, Health and Housing advised Members that the Policy remained unchanged since last year.

Following scrutiny, the Committee was supportive of the proposals to be considered by the Cabinet Board.

#### 4. **ACCESS TO MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED:** that pursuant to Section 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following item of business which involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 14 and 16 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

#### 5. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee scrutinised the following private matters:-

##### Private Cabinet Board Proposals

##### 5.1 Pobl Residential Care Contract

Committee received an overview of the above private report and noted that, subject to the decision before Members today, Arwelfa would close on 31 March, 2017. Trem Y Glyn would be refurbished and remain open for a further 5 years.

Members then discussed the content of the report and in particular the financial aspects of the contract in particular the bed price.

Members asked if a simplified version of the report could be produced to update all Members and the Director of Social Services, Health and Housing agreed to provide this. Members also sought confirmation that the budget would be monitored and were advised that this would be done and that regular update reports would be provided to the Scrutiny Committee.

Following scrutiny, the Committee was supportive of the proposals to be considered by the Cabinet Board.

##### 5.2 Supporting People Contracts Renewal

Members considered the report in relation to the above and raised the following:-

- What was meant by the phrase 'clean' contract and were advised that this referred to the drafting of a new contract;
- Why were the contracts being extended and not retendered? Officers advised Members that the

commissioning exercise had taken longer than expected and it had not been possible to complete the process prior to the expiration of the current contacts.

Following scrutiny, the Committee was supportive of the proposals to be considered by the Cabinet Board.

**CHAIRMAN**