

## **SOCIAL CARE HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**(Committee Rooms A/B - Neath Civic Centre)**

**Members Present:**

**2 August 2018**

**Chairperson:** Councillor L.M.Purcell

**Vice Chairperson:** Councillor S.E.Freeguard

**Councillors:** H.C.Clarke, A.P.H.Davies, S.Paddison, S.H.Reynolds, D.Whitelock, C.Williams and A.N.Woolcock

**Officers In Attendance** A.Jarrett, Ms.A.Thomas, Ms.K.Warren, Ms.D.Berni, Ms.M.Selby, Ms.C.Howard, A.Bradshaw, Ms.L.Livingstone, R. Davies, J.Davies, Ms.N.Jones and L.Hedges

**Cabinet Invitees:** Councillors A.R.Lockyer and P.D.Richards

**Observers** E.Bradfield

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1. **MINUTES OF THE SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 5TH JULY 2018**

Members referred to the Young Carers Strategy report and queried whether a response had been received from Officers in relation to the question raised regarding the definition of first year pupils. Officers explained that they would look into this and get back to Members.

Members referred to the Quarterly Performance Management Data 2017/2018 report, and queried whether a response had been received from Officers in relation question raised regarding why there was a 12 week wait between Social Work Assessments and Direct Payments requests. Officers stated they would look into the matter further and circulate a response to the committee members via e-mail after the meeting.

The Committee noted the minutes.

2. **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 items of business which involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 13 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

3. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

**3.1 Community Based Care for Looked After Young People with Complex Needs.**

The Committee received information in relation to Community Based Care For Looked After Young People With Complex Needs as contained within the circulated report.

Members queried the difference between Residential Care and Foster Care provision. Officers explained that in residential care everything was in one place, there was a consistent and stable environment, and therapeutic support was available on site.

Members questioned were there any children under the age of 8 or 9 in Residential Care. Officers stated that the youngest was 12. Members questioned what MSJ stood for. Officers explained this was the term for “illegal highs.”

Members queried whether there had been a reduction in Stage 1 and Stage 2 complaints. Officers explained that Stage 2 complaints were at an all time low, and there had been a reduction in Stage 1 complaints due to dialogue with families at earlier stages.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

4. **SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19.**

Members requested for a report on Adult Safeguarding and Quality Assurance to be programmed in to the work planner. Officers confirmed that this would be brought to the Committee meeting in October.

Members requested for specific monthly performance indicators to be brought to each meeting for monitoring.

Members commented that they were pleased to see that the Autism Strategy was still due to come to the Committee meeting in September.

Members requested for a Mental Health Task and Finish Group to be set up.

## 5. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee scrutinised the following matters:

### Cabinet Board Proposals

#### 5.1 Neath Port Talbot Council's Consultative draft Homelessness Strategy 2018-2022

The Committee received information in relation to the Neath Port Talbot Council's Consultative draft Homelessness Strategy 2018-2022 as circulated within the report.

Members queried how confident were Officers that multi agencies were working together effectively. Officers stated they were very confident with the current partnership working arrangements in place.

In relation to Priority Three: Review of temporary accommodation service models on page 23, Members commented on the incorrect spelling of the word permanent, and also commented on the line spacing in the report. Officers apologised for these errors and stated that they would be rectified.

Following scrutiny, the Committee were supportive of the proposals to be considered at Cabinet Board.

#### 5.2 Neath Port Talbot's Plan for Adult Social Care 2018- 2020 Consultation

The Committee received information in relation to Neath Port Talbot's Plan for Adult Social Care 2018-2020 Consultation as circulated within the report.

Members commented that the section titled “What are we going to focus on” on page 64 in the strategy needed to be re-worded as it gave the impression that the Authority was not carrying out some of its duties. Officers agreed to look at this section and make the suggested amendments.

Members queried why the Homelessness Strategy consultation was 60 days but both the Adult Social Care and Children and Young People Services Consultation was 90 days. Officers explained that the Homelessness report would be going to Committee before Christmas, and the Adult Social Care and Children and Young People’s report would be going to Committee after Christmas.

Following scrutiny, the Committee were supportive of the proposals to be considered at Cabinet Board.

### 5.3 Neath Port Talbot’s Plan for Children and Young People Services 2018-2019 Consultation

Members questioned were there any plans to increase the workforce. Officers explained that the workforce has been increased by two members of staff.

Following scrutiny, the Committee were supportive of the proposals to be considered at Cabinet Board

**CHAIRPERSON**