

SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

(Council Chamber - Port Talbot Civic Centre)

Members Present:

10 January, 2019

Chairperson: Councillor L.M.Purcell

Vice Chairperson: Councillor S.E.Freeguard

Councillors: A.P.H.Davies, C.Galsworthy, J.Miller,
S.Paddison, S.H.Reynolds, D.Whitelock and
O.S.Davies

Officers In Attendance: A.Jarrett, A.Thomas, K.Warren, J.Hodges,
K.Wedmore, A.James, J.Duggan, A.Bradshaw,
S.Walker, N.Jones and J.Woodman-Ralph

Cabinet Invitees: Councillors P.A.Rees and P.D.Richards

1. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Members made declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

Councillor C. Galsworthy: Re: Western Bay Carers Partnership – Valuing Carers Annual Report 2017/18 as it relates to Direct Payments as she is a Personal Assistant for her mother under the Direct Payments scheme.

Councillor S. Reynolds: Re: Commissioning of Care and Support Services in a Supported Living Scheme as Councillor Reynolds is a Member of the board of Tai Tarian.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Members noted the Minutes of the meeting held 6 December 2018 and queried whether Officers had the information requested in regard

to Direct Payments. Officers explained that there had been a delay due to ill-health in the team but the information would be circulated.

3. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2018/2019**

The Committee asked that the Valleys Action Plan be added to the Forward Work Programme. Officers explained that a report would be prepared identifying the actions allocated to Social Services.

4. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee scrutinised the following items:

Cabinet Board Proposals

4.1 Commissioning of Care and Support Services in a Supported Living Scheme

The Committee received information in relation to the Commissioning of Care and Support Services in a Supported Living Scheme, as contained within the circulated report.

Members asked for assurances that the successful provider would not be chosen on costs at the expense of care. Officers explained that the quality of care would not be compromised.

Members asked whether all the warden posts had been withdrawn from housing establishments. Discussions were taking place with housing providers but some of the information circulating was not based on fact.

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

4.2 Western Bay Carers Partnership – Valuing Carers Annual Report 2017/18.

Members received an update on the activity and key achievements of the Western Bay Carers' Partnership throughout the financial year 2017/18, as detailed in the circulated report.

Members asked if there was anything that needed to be developed. Officers explained that Welsh Government provided funding to ABMU and part of that monies was to support Young Carers with additional funding from the Integrated Care Fund to build on the Valuing Carers Transition Plan. Work was continuing to develop that plan, which would increase capacity in the Carers' Service, local hospitals and Community Resources.

Members asked why the Authority which had the highest percentage of carers, received less funding than either Swansea or Bridgend. Officers explained that there were lots of funding streams and that this was just identifying one. The Authority was meeting the priorities compared to other local authorities within budget. In other funding streams Neath Port Talbot could receive a higher percentage of monies in comparison to other Western Bay Partners; but across the whole Western Bay all partner authorities received equal funding.

Officers were asked how the Authority reached those who worked full-time and had caring responsibilities. It was explained that Neath Port Talbot has an Engagement Officer who was currently looking at a variety of different options for linking in with those individuals.

Members questioned what happened to Carers who refused a Carers Assessment. It was explained that Carers could chose not to have an assessment but that the services to support the person being cared for were still put in place.

The YMCA ran the Carers Programme in Port Talbot and Members asked how were the schools involved in that programme. Officers explained that the Youth Service was responsible for supporting young carers but that Officers would forward the list of schools to Members for information.

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

5. **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 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

6. **PRESENTATION ON 'OUTCOME BASED PRACTICE IN ADULT SERVICES'**

Members received a presentation highlighting how Outcome Based Practice works within Adult Services.

Case Studies were presented to Members to gain an understanding of the challenges faced, and how staff dealt with them together with the outcomes of the case studies. It was highlighted that continuous communication with service users and their families was a key part of the practice and the need to have the support of the families was important.

Members thanked Officers for the presentation and asked that more detail together with outcomes be included going forward.

7. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

7.1 **Contractual Arrangements for Shared Lives Support Service**

The Committee received information in relation to the Contractual Arrangements for Shared Lives Support Service as contained within the private circulated report.

Members asked the following questions:

- Was the decision before Cabinet Board today due to the increasing costs of the providers or would the Authority be receiving additional services. Officers explained that the reason for the report today was due to Bridgend County Council withdrawing from the Western Bay Partnership and the requirement to continue the project.

Members commented on the excellent concept of the Shared Lives Support Service.

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

7.2 The Manager's Report on Hillside Secure Children's Home

The Committee received information in relation to the Hillside Secure Children's Home, as contained within the private circulated report.

The Committee congratulated Officers on the report.

Members asked for clarification on the term Vinney Green, and were advised that this was an education establishment which was sharing good practice with the Hillside Secure Children's Home.

Members asked who was the Responsible Individual in the Hillside Secure Unit and who was the Registered Manager. Officers explained that a report would be submitted to the next meeting identifying all the lead roles at the Children's Home.

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

CHAIRPERSON