

Social Care Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

(Via Microsoft Teams)

Members Present:

16 September 2021

Chairperson: Councillor L.M.Purcell

Vice Chairperson: Councillor C.Galsworthy

Councillors: A.P.H.Davies, O.S.Davies, J.Miller, S.Paddison, S.H.Reynolds, A.N.Woolcock, C.Edwards, W.F.Griffiths, H.C.Clarke and N.J.E.Davies

Officers In Attendance A.Jarrett, A.Thomas, K.Warren, J.Hodges, Chele.Howard, H.Short, N.Headon and C.Davies

Cabinet Invitees: Councillors P.D.Richards and L.Jones

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th July 2021, were approved, subject to the reference 'Afan Valley' within the minutes being amended to 'Amman Valley'.

2. **Pre-Decision Scrutiny**

The committee chose to scrutinise the following cabinet board items:

West Glamorgan Safeguarding Annual Report 2020-21

Members were presented with the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Boards' Annual Report 2020-2021, as detailed within the circulated report.

Members commended the enthusiasm that the young people had shown in shaping their plans and showing engagement across all areas.

Discussions took place around the statement detailed within the report around obtaining a clear picture of the spread of Covid-19. Members asked for clarity around when the priorities were set and what was done with the data once collected. Officers explained that following the pandemic the plan changed overnight to ensure that safeguarding was being adhered to. It was important to have an understanding on the spread of the virus to see how we could try to reduce cases. It was noted that data was difficult to collate at the time due to workloads during the unprecedented time.

Following scrutiny, the report was noted.

West Glamorgan Safeguarding Boards Joint Annual Plan 2021/2022

To present the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Boards Joint Annual Plan 2021/22 for approval, as detailed in the circulated report.

It was noted that the previous 'Education, leisure and Lifelong Learning Director - Aled Evans' was detailed within the document. It was noted that this was written during Aled Evans being in post and the report was therefore correct.

Following scrutiny, the committee was supportive of the proposals to be considered by cabinet board.

Health Board Proposals to Change Older People Mental Health Services

Members were informed of the proposed changes that were being made by Swansea Bay University Health Board (UHB) to Older People Mental Health Services.

Members shared their concerns on the timing of the conclusion of the Consultation in relation to the proposals to change Older People Mental Health Services. Members felt that they should have been considered and invited to participate within the consultation period.

Members asked the following questions on the understanding that the relevant officers may not have a response and the questions would therefore be required to be put to the Health Board:

- It was discussed that the report mentioned that there was a lack of confidence from Commissioning Colleagues in the Local Authority and that Care Homes could be a replacement for

hospital care. It was noted that Officers had included this concern within their response to the Health Board and Members may wish to also raise this with the Health Board.

- Members asked that evidence be provided on the investment in to Community Services.
- Costings were discussed around the 24 hour care that would be required in care homes as detailed within the report. It was noted that Officers had included this concern within their response and members may wish to also raise this with the Health Board.
- Discussions took place around the potential development of mental health concerns for those already residing at a nursing home. What would be the result and replacement following the reduction of beds in Tonna?
- Members aired their concern around the centralisation of services in Swansea, creating further distance from the valleys.
- Members asked that Cross-boundary co-operation be considered.

Following the discussion Members proposed and agreed that the Chair write a letter to the Health Board on Behalf of the Committee. Sharing their concerns around the proposals to change Older People Mental Health Services. Along with inviting the Health Board to a future meeting to discuss these proposals and providing them an opportunity to respond to the questions that had been raised at today's meeting.

Following, scrutiny the Committee noted the report subject to the agreed proposal above.

3. **Forward Work Programme 2020/21**

The Forward Work Programme was noted.

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 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.

5. **Impact of Covid-19 on The Sustainability of Older People Care Homes In Neath Port Talbot (Exempt under Paragraph 14)**

Members were presented with the Impact of COVID-19 on the Sustainability of Older People Care Homes in Neath Port Talbot, as detailed within the private report.

Members commended the officers for their work and efforts during the pandemic.

Following scrutiny, the report was noted.

6. **Pre-Decision Scrutiny of Private Item/s**

The committee chose to scrutinise the following cabinet board items:

The Regulated Service (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2017

Due to the nature of the report members agreed that they would not scrutinise the report at today's meeting but instead include it on the Forward Work Programme to scrutinise the report in detail at a future meeting of the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

CHAIRPERSON