

Minutes of a meeting of the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday, 6 July 2017 at City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 4.35 pm
Concluded 6.05 pm

Present – Councillors

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT AND INDEPENDENT
Gibbons Barker	A Ahmed Akhtar Johnson Shabbir Greenwood	N Pollard

Observers: Susan Crowe, Trevor Ramsay, G Sam Samociuk and Jenny Scott

Councillor Greenwood in the Chair

1. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures of interest in matters under consideration were received.

2. MINUTES

Resolved –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2017 be signed as a correct record.

3. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted by the public to review decisions to restrict documents.

4. REFERRALS TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no referrals made to the Committee.

5. CO-OPTION OF MEMBERS TO THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Under Article 6 of Part 2 of the Constitution the Committee may make a recommendation to Council for the co-option of non-voting members to the Committee.

Resolved –

That it be recommended to Council that the following non-voting co-opted members be appointed to the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny for the 2017/2018 Municipal Year:

**Susan Crowe – Strategic Disability Partnership
Trevor Ramsay – Strategic Disability Partnership
G Sam Samociuk – former Mental Health Nursing Lecturer
Jenny Scott – Older People’s Partnership**

ACTION: City Solicitor

6. SUPPORT SURVEY - BRADFORD PEOPLE FIRST

Bradford People First is a user led self-advocacy organisation run by and for people with learning disabilities.

Last year they carried out a survey with people with learning disabilities about the support they get. The survey was based upon the REACH standards which are:

I choose who I live with
I choose where I live
I have my own home
I choose how I am supported
I choose who supports me
I get good support
I choose my friends and relationships
I choose how to be healthy and safe
I choose how I am part of the community
I have the same rights and responsibilities as other citizens
I get help to make changes in my life

Representatives from Bradford People First gave a brief presentation on the results of the survey and what the findings suggest should happen now. During the presentation the following information was alluded to:



- During the survey 71 people with learning disabilities were spoken to across Bradford, Keighley and Ilkley.
- Individuals and organisations were not named in the feedback.
- Some common themes included that most of the people were happy with the support they received.
- That when people were contacted at home by phone, most of the time it was the support worker who answered the phone.
- That information was not always being passed onto people.
- Out of the 37 providers and organisations that were contacted, only 9 responded.

Understanding the meaning of choice:

- Our staff give us a few ideas such as I go on my own with staff to the bank and for lunch
- In essence sometimes decisions are made by others and people do not know what choice is.
- The language people use is not always helpful i.e. “Staff tell me to go to bed”; “they would let me stay at home” or “we would be allowed to stay at home”

In relation to staffing the comments made in the survey included:

“When I am poorly I can’t stay at home because there is no staff”; they might change the rota without telling me and send someone else or sometimes forget to send someone.

“They don’t come into the doctors with me, but have to wait in the car while I have an appointment”.

Summary and Recommendations:

- The question posed - Is it support or care?
- That there needs to be a culture change.
- Recommend there be more independent quality checking of support services.



- That although the support people received was about promoting independent living this was not always the case.
- That the survey finding presents a real challenge for service providers to promote independent living.
- Given the low level of response to the survey, the survey only reflected a small number of people who received support and therefore we did not know the true picture.

During the discussion, a co-opted member stated that many of the people who received support were overall happy with the service they received, however a number of issues had been raised. In response it was stated that many suggestions of activities came from staff and not from the person with the learning disability, so the survey did flag up the issue that individuals receiving support were not always making their own choices.

In response to a question regarding the number of providers, it was explained that issues raised by service users were not always passed on. In response to a question on how this could be improved, it was mentioned that workforce training was key and the ability of staff to support conversations and prioritise concerns accordingly, as there was a tendency not to fully engage with service users.

A Member raised concerns that given the number of providers, only a few of them had responded to the survey and asked about the reasons for the low level of response. In response it was explained that staff responding to the survey had not understood its importance.

In response to a question of encouraging higher levels of autonomy amongst service users, it was explained that supported living sometimes lacked imagination and a pattern was followed in terms of the activities undertaken, as an alternative set of options would require undertaking risk assessments etc., so choice was therefore limited by giving only a limited set of options to service users.

It was suggested that what was required was a in depth quality review of what was currently in place and how this could be improved.

A Member commented that in improving choice and the number of activities people undertook could be realised by advanced planning rather than relying on rigid, familiar activities.

The Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder confirmed that getting people independent was key to what the Council was trying to achieve.

The Strategy and Engagement officer acknowledged that workforce development was essential to achieving better service provision and that flexibility would offer an improved service.



The Strategic Director Health and Wellbeing echoed the above sentiments and expressed her disappointment at the low response rate to the survey, adding that the Service had done a lot of work to extend choice to service users across the piece and ensure that activities provided were balanced.

In addition Members were keen to see that in improving services, better engagement and consultation took place with service users.

Resolved –

- (1) That a report be provided to the Committee in 6 months time covering the issues raised by the presentation around support and gatekeeping and how these might be addressed through workforce development and work with providers.**
- (2) That the report also consider how improvements could be made as part of the commissioning process, by for example, increased engagement and consultation with service users and compulsory independent quality checking.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Health and Wellbeing

7. GREAT PLACES TO GROW OLD PROGRAMME

Previous reference: Minute 85 (2015/16)

This Committee received an update report on the delivery of the Great Places to Grow Old Programme at the meeting held on 3 March 2016.

The report of the Strategic Director of Health and Wellbeing (**Document “A”**) provided an update on the progress made over the past year on the implementation of the integrated plan that aims to help older people, including people living with dementia to be independent and have a better quality of life by meeting their care and support needs within their own home, keeping them near their friends and family for as long as possible.

The Strategic Director explained that in the light of the vision for home care, Great Places to Grow Old needed a rewrite in the context of how we support and deliver services. To this end work was already underway to fill the gap in intermediate care with a proposal for short stay accommodation and a greater emphasis on supporting people in their own homes.

During the discussion a Member asked what support mechanisms were in place to those that were not identified within the care system, however they still required a level of support. In response the Strategic Director stated that the Adult Services as well as the voluntary sector were active in supporting communities to embrace people that lived isolated lives and that this group was a particular cause



for concern as they were more likely to end up in care.

In addition the expansion of the shared lives scheme, to support independent living as well as a big drive to improve home care were alluded to.

Resolved –

That this Committee be consulted as part of the Great Places to Grow Old Programme review, and that a future report includes information on affordable housing provision for older people.

ACTION: Strategic Director Health and Wellbeing

8. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18

A work planning discussion took place on the Committee's work programme for the new 2017/18 municipal year.

Resolved –

That the Work Programme be presented to the next meeting of the Committee for adoption.

ACTION: Overview and Scrutiny Lead

9. WEST YORKSHIRE JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Previous reference: Minute 36 (2015/16)

At its meeting of 29 October 2015 the Committee considered a report of the Chair and resolved 'That the West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny be supported'. It also nominated two members from within its membership to sit on the Joint Committee. As the Committee has since been reconstituted, there was now a need to appoint two new members to sit on the Joint Committee.

Resolved –

That Councillors Greenwood and Gibbons be nominated to sit on the West Yorkshire Health Overview and Scrutiny.

ACTION: Overview and Scrutiny Lead



10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Resolved -

That the dates for the remainder of the 2017/18 Municipal Year for meetings of this Committee scheduled to take place at 4.30 pm in City Hall, Bradford be noted:

Thursday 7 September - Committee Room 1
Thursday 5 October - Committee Room 1
Thursday 26 October - Committee Room 1
Thursday 16 November - Committee Room 1
Thursday 7 December - Ernest Saville Room
Thursday 25 January 2018 - Ernest Saville Room
Thursday 8 February - Committee Room 1
Thursday 1 March - Committee Room 1
Thursday 22 March - Ernest Saville Room
Thursday 12 April - Committee Room 1

ACTION: *City Solicitor*

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER

