

## North Yorkshire County Council

### Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2014 at 10.30 am at County Hall, Northallerton.

#### **Present:-**

County Councillor Patrick Mulligan in the Chair

County Councillors: Liz Casling, Helen Grant, Mike Jordan, Penny Marsden, Brian Marshall, Shelagh Marshall (substitute for John Ennis), Heather Moorhouse, Joe Plant, Chris Pearson and John Savage.

Representatives of the Voluntary Sector: Ian Carling (North Yorkshire and York Forum) and Jackie Snape (Disability Action Yorkshire)

Officers: Richard Webb (Corporate Director - Health and Adult Services), Dr Lincoln Sargeant (Director of Public Health, (Health and Adult Services)), Mike Webster (Assistant Director, Contracting, Procurement and Quality Assurance, (Health and Adult Services)), Ruth Chamberlain (Commissioning and Change Implementation Manager, Procurement, Partnerships & Quality Assurance (Health and Adult Services)), Robert Ling (Assistant Director (Technology and Change)), Ray Busby (Scrutiny Support Officer, (Policy, Performance and Partnerships))

Apologies: County Councillors: John Ennis, Lindsay Burr.  
Independent Care Sector Representative: Mike Padgham

---

#### **Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book**

---

#### **27. Minutes**

##### **Resolved –**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2014, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **28. Public Questions or Statements**

The Committee was advised that no notice had been received of any public questions or statements to be made at the meeting.

#### **29. Health and Adult Services Directorate**

Considered -

Presentation by Richard Webb, NYCC Corporate Director - Health and Adult Services.

Richard Webb spoke to a series of slides covering: his career and background; the national and local challenges facing social care; and briefly updated on progress on the Prevention Strategy.

He highlighted the significant changes brought about by the Care Bill, and its expected additional financial burdens. It was agreed that this would feature in a report to the next Committee meeting.

Members supported Richard's remarks when he emphasised the importance of mental health services and agreed with his opinion that, in the range of support services for people in the community, for too long this had been "a forgotten corner".

The implications of the Better Care Fund – a national pooled arrangement which is worth £39.8m locally, between the NHS and North Yorkshire County Council - would be reported to the next meeting summarising the main implications.

Richard also covered how social care, like many other local authority services, would benefit from the transfer of public health responsibilities and funding. He was aware the Committee had taken a great interest in this.

Richard stressed that assisting people, especially those who are vulnerable to access the right information about support and social care services would be critical.

Richard responded to questions about people living longer and North Yorkshire's demographic profile. In this context, the prevention agenda and implications and importance of the Loneliness and Isolation agenda were discussed - Shelagh Marshall in particular commenting on the national campaign and local initiatives. Richard supported Shelagh's comments. For him, combatting, and dealing with, the effects of Loneliness and Isolation remained a key concern of the Directorate; he understood it was also a priority area for the Health and Wellbeing Board.

He agreed with Members' comments regarding the vital role carried out by the voluntary and community sector in the health and social care agenda. He emphasised his commitment to working in partnership.

#### **Resolved -**

That the information given be noted and a report be made to the Committee at its next meeting on Better Care Funding.

### **30. Integrated Reablement and Intermediate Care Service**

Considered -

The report of the Corporate Director - Health and Adult Services updating Members on the performance of the START/Reablement Service and proposals to develop and integrate with Health Intermediate Care Services in North Yorkshire.

In speaking to the report, Mike Webster highlighted the challenges of providing consistent services across the County. North Yorkshire was one of the first authorities to provide a Reablement Service. Over time, the results have clearly shown the effectiveness of the service in terms of supporting people, helping them live independently in the community. During this period START had remained an "in-house" provided service. Acknowledging the advantages of integration with health services, it was now time to consider other potential options for how those services might be configured, commissioned and provided. The report outlined current thinking.

Members were interested in knowing more about the workforce implications of the different potential options. Mike Webster explained that, in anticipation of alternative models of provision being developed, work is on-going to clarify transition requirements, such as the terms and conditions of transferred staff.

In the meantime, the Committee asked its Group Spokespersons to review these workforce considerations and consider when it would be appropriate for a report to be brought to Committee.

**Resolved -**

That the report be noted.

**31. Dementia Strategy**

Considered -

The report of the Corporate Director - Health and Adult Services updating Members of the Joint North Yorkshire and York (NY&Y) Dementia Strategy 2011-2013, and informing of plans to refresh the strategy and associated action plan and outlining current activity.

Ruth Chamberlain explained the good progress that had been made up to 2013 on the joint Dementia Strategy with health. The changing commissioning landscape had presented challenges in maintaining that early positive momentum.

Members discussed the award of the contract for Dementia Support Services and agreed that Group Spokespersons monitor progress regarding the contract. Assurances were given by Mike Webster regarding the capacity of the successful providers to deliver against the terms of the contract.

**Resolved -**

That the report be noted and an update on the progress of the Dementia Strategy be brought back at a future date later in the year.

**32. 2020 North Yorkshire**

Considered -

Robert Ling, the recently appointed NYCC Assistant Director (Technology and Change), spoke to a presentation regarding 2020 North Yorkshire.

Robert explained that a similar presentation was being made to all Scrutiny Committees. Robert explained the purpose behind 2020, current progress and how Members were involved in the governance arrangements regarding decision making.

**Resolved –**

1. That the presentation be noted.
2. That further updates be submitted as appropriate in order that the Committee could:
  - i. be briefed on how the Directorate was responding to the requirements of the 2020 programme;
  - ii. test whether service developments brought before the Committee or which Members became aware of, were consistent with 2020 objectives; and
  - iii. feed in whatever relevant comments and learning it was believed could helpfully inform the 2020 process, for example comments

from user groups and organisations Members received whilst engaged in their scrutiny work.

### **33. North Yorkshire Draft Alcohol Strategy**

Considered -

The report of the Director of Public Health for North Yorkshire noting the information in the report and Draft Alcohol Strategy and asking the Committee to participate in and encourage others to participate in the engagement process.

Dr Lincoln Sargeant acknowledged the references Members made to comments reported in the media that morning about the recent encouraging national figures on the volume of alcohol consumption. Anecdotally, professionals were seeing some of these reported emerging national trends reflected at a local level, but it was important, he observed, not to be too hasty in 'declaring victory too soon'.

**Resolved -**

- a. That the information in the report be noted.
- b. It be noted that Members were encouraged and were invited to encourage others to participate in the engagement process regarding the preparation of the Strategy.

### **34. Work Programme**

**Resolved -**

That the Work Programme be agreed and that items relating to the Care Bill and Better Funding for Care come forward to the next meeting of the Committee and that Group Spokespersons consider how the agenda for the next meeting should be amended to accommodate those items.

The meeting concluded at 12:35 pm

RB