

**North Yorkshire County Council**

**Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2014 at 10.30 am at County Hall, Northallerton.

**Present:-**

County Councillor Patrick Mulligan in the Chair

County Councillors: Lindsay Burr, Liz Casling, John Ennis, Mike Jordan, Penny Marsden, Brian Marshall, Heather Moorhouse, Chris Pearson and John Savage.

Representative of the Voluntary Sector: Jon Carling (North Yorkshire and York Forum)

Representative of the Independent Care Sector: Mike Padgham (Independent Care Group)

County Councillor Don Mackenzie, Portfolio Holder – Public Health and Prevention

Officers: Mike Webster (Assistant Director, Contracting, Procurement and Quality Assurance, (Health and Adult Services)), Keith Cheesman (Programme Manager, (Health and Adult Services)), Shelia Hall (Transformation Manager, Performance and Change Management, (Health and Adult Services)), Tom Hall (Consultant in Public Health, (Health and Adult Services)), Tony Law (General Manager, Performance & Change, (Health and Adult Services)) Janine Tranmer (Contracting, Procurement & Quality Assurance Manager, (Health and Adult Services)), Ray Busby (Scrutiny Support Officer, (Policy, Performance and Partnerships))

Apologies: County Councillors: Helen Grant and Joe Plant  
County Councillor Clare Wood, Portfolio Holder – Adult Social Care and Health Integration  
Representatives of the Voluntary Sector: Jackie Snape (Disability Action Yorkshire)

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

**35. Minutes**

**Resolved –**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2014, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**36. 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.

**37. Better Care Fund**

Considered –

Report by Richard Webb, NYCC Corporate Director - Health and Adult Services, regarding the development of the North Yorkshire Better Care Fund Plan.

Members welcomed the opportunity to discuss the £3.8bn pool budget for Better Care Funding for 2015/16. For Members, the important element was the movement of care out of hospital into the community and the aim to improve working and integration between health and social care.

The Committee learned that there is little in terms of national definition in the way this integration should happen; there are, however, nationally set conditions that must be met.

It was noted that the County Council had worked with health partners to set out the three main priorities in the Plan:

1. to improve health, self-help and independence for North Yorkshire people;
2. to invest in primary care and community services; and
3. to create a sustainable system.

Ministerial signoff of the Plan had yet to be given, but the Committee was reassured that absence of that approval would not delay activity on the plan's key objectives.

**Resolved –**

- i. That the Committee keep a weather eye on how the stated ambition of the Better Care Fund is delivered.
- ii. That, recognising the implications of Better Care Funding are potentially of interest to a number of North Yorkshire County Council scrutiny committees, the Scrutiny Board be invited to consider how this topic might be most effectively and appropriately examined in a scrutiny context.

**38. Care Quality Commission Consultation on Inspection Methodology and the HAS Processes for the Monitoring of Services**

Considered –

The report of the Corporate Director - Health and Adult Services:

- i. Informing the Committee of the proposed changes to how the Care Quality Commission (CQC) intends to regulate, inspect and rate Health and Social Care Services.
- ii. Explaining how Health and Adult Services undertakes its own monitoring of services.

For Members, the outcomes from last year's assessments demonstrated that an effective service is in place to protect the public and ensure that residential care and domiciliary care services are of a quality that people would expect.

During discussion, Members expressed interest in local elected Member involvement in the work of the HAS Inspectorate and Monitoring Team - perhaps accompanying staff, where appropriate, on certain inspections and visits.

**Resolved –**

- i. That the report be noted.
- ii. That the notion of Member involvement in the HAS inspection regime be initially considered by the Group Spokespersons at their next meeting.

**39. North Yorkshire Tier 2 Lifestyle Service**

Considered –

Report of the North Yorkshire Director of Public Health on the North Yorkshire Tier 2 Lifestyle Service which supports people to make sustained changes.

Members welcomed the opportunity to discuss a project dealing with Prevention and discussed the scheme's relevance for the whole county.

**Resolved –**

That the information given be noted.

**40. The Care Act**

Considered –

Report of the Corporate Director – Health & Adult Services on the implications of the Care Act and preparations for implementation.

Members recognised the radical nature of the planned Care Act reforms in that they provide a whole new legal framework for adult social care, to the funding system and the wider duties of local authorities and rights of those in need of social care. Consequently, the Act would have a prodigious impact on the Directorate's finances and working practices.

The Act's requirements would be challenging to implement, but Members rated the changes as progressive, especially: the new duty for authorities to promote physical, mental and emotional wellbeing in all decisions regarding an individual's care needs; and the greater emphasis than ever before on prevention, particularly around advice and information. As for the Act's other proposals - greater support for carers, a duty of local authorities to co-operate and to map out the process for assessment charging, entitlements and care planning – these would be looked at as part of the Committee's regular scrutiny work.

**Resolved –**

That, mindful of the significance of the changes in the Care Act for Social Care and the financial consequences for the Council and the HAS directorate in particular, the Committee wishes to receive timely reports on the progress of implementation.

**41. Work Programme**

**Considered –**

Report of the Scrutiny Team Leader on the work programme.

**Resolved –**

That the Work Programme be agreed

The meeting concluded at 12:30pm

RB