

North Yorkshire County Council

Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2015 at 10.00 am at County Hall, Northallerton.

Present:-

County Councillor Patrick Mulligan in the Chair

County Councillors: John Ennis, Helen Grant, Bill Hoult, John McCartney, Brian Marshall, Shelagh Marshall OBE (as substitute for Jim Clark), Heather Moorhouse, Chris Pearson, John Savage and Tim Swales.

Representatives of the Voluntary Sector: Jon Carling (North Yorkshire and York Forum),
In attendance: County Councillors Clare Wood (Executive Member for Adult Social Care Health Integration). David Chance (Executive Member for Stronger Communities and Public Health)

Officers: Ray Busby (Scrutiny Support Officer, (Policy and Partnerships)), Sheila Hall (Head of Engagement & Governance, Procurement, Partnerships & Quality Assurance (HAS)), Joss Harbron (Head of Provider Services (HAS)), Marie-Ann Jackson Head of Stronger Communities Programme, Policy and Partnerships (CSD), Tony Law (Head of Performance and Intelligence, Resources (HAS)) ,Dr Lincoln Sargeant (Director of Public Health), Cath Simms Head of Targeted Prevention, Care and Support (HAS), Mike Webster (Assistant Director, Contracting, Procurement and Quality Assurance (Health and Adult Services)).

Apologies: County Councillors Val Arnold, Jim Clark and Mike Jordan. Jackie Snape (Disability Action Yorkshire) and Mike Padgham (Independent Care Group).

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

75. Minutes

Resolved –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2015, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

76. 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.

77. Annual Report of the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board

Considered -

The report of the Corporate Director - Health and Adult Services asking the Committee to receive the Annual Report of the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

Having now decided to retire, Jonathan Phillips, Chairman of the Board, introduced his final Annual Report to the committee.

Jonathan reported that the Board was feeling the benefit of the work over recent years on good governance. Reducing the membership of the Board, for example, had given it a stronger sense of focus. Attendance from representatives of agencies was high. Also, some recent staffing changes had strengthened support to the Board and increased the focus at the second tier level of governance.

Jonathan praised the proactive work of the Designated Adult Safeguarding Managers in relation to abuse of staff.

Jonathan highlighted a number of areas in which scrutiny might take an interest. He expressed the view that in respect of elder abuse, many people, if asked, would not know where to report incidents of potential abuse; most would look to their GP for support and advice. The question was, therefore, whether GPs were sufficiently engaged in safeguarding joint activity as they might be. As care homes and extra care come increasing pressure, this creates an environment where training becomes one area providers possibly look to squeeze and neglect.

Responding to questions, Jonathan agreed that putting the Board on a statutory footing has ensured that agencies are more easily accountable and has clarified responsibilities to ensure participation, in ways that guidance, differentially binding on the partners, was not able to. The coming into force of the Care Act is also significant in that it sets out a clear legal framework for how local authorities and other parts of the health and care system should protect adults at risk of abuse or neglect. This gives the board a clear basis in law.

When asked for his thoughts on safeguarding training for councillors, Jonathan agreed that the importance of raising elected member awareness to help keep adults at risk safe does not diminish. Councillor Clare Wood agreed wholeheartedly and said she would discuss options with the Corporate Director for Health and Adult Services.

Resolved -

- a) The Annual Report of the Safeguarding Adults Board be noted.
- b) The committee agreed that the evidence in its report for 2015/16 suggests the Board is in a healthy state - governance arrangements are sound; work on community prevention and awareness is robust, and strategic links with other partnerships in localities is good.
- c) That reports of progress be received.
- d) That the committee remains aware of national developments and best practice.
- e) That the group spokespersons discuss with the portfolio holder options for members development training on safeguarding.

78. Stronger Communities and Living Well

Considered -

Briefing and joint presentation of the Head of Stronger Communities and North Yorkshire Health and Adult Services on the relationship between the Stronger Communities and Living Well Programmes and outlines the differences and the inter-dependencies between them as they work towards the aim of helping to combat loneliness and isolation by strengthening existing and building new individual and community assets and networks.

Marie–Ann Jackson and Cath Simms gave a presentation and talked through the key elements of the briefing report.

Faced with delivering further significant savings by 2020, the Council recognises that there will be services it has traditionally provided that will no longer be available or will need to be delivered in a different way and in partnership with others - such as libraries transitioning to become community managed. This means a shift from the provision of universal services to targeted prevention and programmes to manage future demand on social care budgets.

Marie–Ann explained that the key characteristic of the delivery of the Stronger Communities Programme, as distinct from the Living Well Service, is it works with communities whereas the focus of the Living Well Service is with individuals.

Stronger Communities has set out to work with local organisations, community groups and other partners from the public and private sectors across North Yorkshire, identifying opportunities to co-produce a range of local support and services aimed at improving the well-being of people of all ages.

Cath Simms advised that as part of its wider prevention programme - Independence with Support When I Need It - the Council has invested in a new Living Well Service which aims to improve the health, well-being and independence of individuals and in doing so prevent, reduce or delay their need for long-term health and social care support.

Whereas the focus for the Stronger Communities programme is to support voluntary and community groups, services and facilities, the Living Well team are working with individuals (and their carers) who are on the cusp of becoming regular users of health and social care services by helping them access local community organisations and supporting them in finding their own solutions to their health and wellbeing goals.

Members discussed local activity in their areas which they believed contributed to the work of the two teams.

The Committee asked to be kept informed of the progress of a shared outcomes framework which is being developed to measure future performance so that when it reviews the topic again, probably in a year's time, it can properly gauge what has been achieved.

Resolved -

- a) That the report be noted.

- b) Members recognised the inter-dependency of the two programmes, and were reassured by the evidence presented that they are working together effectively.
- c) That at a future mid-cycle briefing, the committee's group spokespersons be advised on the progress on the shared outcomes framework, so that they can take a view whether, and at what point, the committee should review this topic again.

79. 2014 Annual Report of the North Yorkshire Director of Public Health

Considered -

The report of the Director of Public Health for North Yorkshire introducing his annual report.

Resolved -

That the report be noted.

80. Local Account for Adult Social Care and Public Health Services 2014/15

Considered -

The report of the Corporate Director - Health and Adult Services reporting on the contents of the Draft 2014/15 Local Account in respect of the performance of the Adult Social Care and Public Health Services (set out at Appendix 1 to the report) and asking for Members' comments.

Resolved -

- a) That the Committee's comments on the Local Account be noted.
- b) That the policy of publishing the Local Account as an electronic document only, be continued.

81. Provision of an Integrated, Adult Substance Misuse Service: "North Yorkshire Horizons" - Discussion with Providers - Developing Initiatives Supporting Communities and Lifeline

Considered -

The Report of the Director of Public Health reporting progress within North Yorkshire New Horizons during year one of their contract with NYCC.

Dr Lincoln Sergeant explained that the Council had awarded contracts to DISC (Developing Initiatives Supporting Communities) and Lifeline in May 2014 for the provision of an integrated, adult substance misuse service for North Yorkshire. DISC was awarded the contract for the Treatment Service, and Lifeline was awarded the contract for the Recovery and Mentoring Service

The new service placed an emphasis on peer led recovery, where mutual aid will help individuals recover. Recovery is based on inspiration and motivation from the outset, from 5 key hubs based across the county, as well as local access in rural

areas. The service is focused on helping and supporting people to recover from substance misuse and dependence

The services developed include:

- Supporting 33 GP practices to deliver a drug treatment service, and over 20 pharmacies to deliver a needle exchange service.
- Supervised consumption service from over 30 pharmacies

Ted Haughey (Treatment Service) highlighted a number of achievements:

- 2618 service users have engaged with the service since October 2014.
- The Single Point of Contact service (SPOC) consistently received over 1000 calls per week in the initial months of operation, and it continues to receive in excess of 6,000 calls per month.
- The number of community based 'Meet and Greet' and 'Recovery' groups across North Yorkshire has expanded to over 40. North Yorkshire Horizons inherited only a couple from previous service providers. Groups operate in all localities across North Yorkshire.
- 262 individuals have 'successfully completed treatment' between October 2014 and 30th June 2015 and no longer require support from the North Yorkshire Horizons Treatment Service.

Members agreed that these results and achievements are to be commended, showing as they do that many people are receiving the support they need to turn their lives around.

Resolved -

The committee recognised the initiative's success a year later into the contract, and agreed to talk to the providers on similar lines in another year's time.

82. Strategy for Meeting the Needs of Children, Families and Adults with Autism in North Yorkshire 2015-2020

Considered -

The report of the Corporate Director - Health and Adult Services updating the Committee on progress of the strategy for meeting the needs of children, families and adults with autism in North Yorkshire 2015-2020 to be published in October 2015 and updating the Committee on the Health and Wellbeing Board's decision on whether to publish a brief document specifically for people with autism and the wider public stating the overall ambitions for supporting people with autism in North Yorkshire up to 2020.

Joss Harbron agreed to review how local prevalence figures were presented in the report to give a clearer sense of their relationship to the national context.

Resolved -

That the progress on the strategy for meeting the needs of children, families and adults with autism in North Yorkshire 2015-2020 be noted.

83. Work Programme

Considered -

The report of the Scrutiny Team Leader on the Work Programme.

Resolved -

That the Work Programme be agreed.

The meeting concluded at 12:45pm