

North Yorkshire County Council

Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 29 June 2017 at 10.30am at County Hall, Northallerton.

Present:-

County Councillor John Ennis in the Chair

County Councillors: Philip Broadbank. Eric Broadbent. Michael Chambers MBE, John Ennis, Caroline Goodrick, Helen Grant, David Jeffels, Andrew Jenkinson, Stanley Lumley, John Mann, Stuart Martin MBE, Karin Sedgwick and Nicola Wilson.

In attendance: County Councillor Caroline Dickinson (Executive Member for Adult Social Care Health Integration).

Officers: Ray Busby (Scrutiny Support Officer), Rachel Bowes Assistant Director Care and Support, Care and Support, Michael Rudd, Head of Commissioning - Hambleton, Richmondshire & Whitby, Commissioning (HAS), Richard Webb (Corporate Director HAS),

Apologies: Mike Padgham (Independent Care Group).

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

126. Minutes

Resolved –

That, the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 January, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

127. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest to note.

128. 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.

129. Social Care Overview and Areas for Scrutiny; Social Care Market

Considered –

Presentation and briefing by Richard Webb, Corporate Director

Considering the “newness” of the membership and the committee’s very broad remit, Richard Webb spoke to a presentation with a wide ranging content on the key issues

facing social care. That way, the committee was able to explore with him: "Is the current social care system sustainable? How far can we be confident that we will have fair and sustainable funding settlements that take account of rising demand for social care and increasing complexity of people's needs?"

Richard explained that North Yorkshire's offer in this regard falls into a number of areas, notably:

- A stable test-bed for policy and service innovation, with a strong-track record of delivery.
- Scarborough project with Primary Care.
- An extensive Extra Care Programme.
- Strong commitment to prevention.

Richard also concentrated on the state of the social care market. High-quality, personalised care and support can only be achieved where there is a vibrant, responsive market of service providers. But current market pressures can be clearly seen: we are seeing care home providers withdrawing from the market either for financial or quality issues, CQC inspections are much tougher, domiciliary care remains an issue in much of the county.

Members were encouraged by some of the draft proposals for addressing this instability:

- The possibility of market supplements for domiciliary care providers.
- Quality Improvement team to work with failing care providers.
- Centre of Excellence for recruitment.
- Enhanced quality monitoring.
- A focus on recruitment and retention.
- Capital grants.
- Employee benefits scheme for smaller businesses

Members agreed that the content of the presentation, and the discussion that followed, gives grounds for being confident that these challenges are being responded to by new ways of delivering services, joined up working and effective collaboration.

Resolved -

- a) That the presentation be noted.
- b) In terms of focussed scrutiny later in the year, the committee decided to look at how we can be reassured that care providers, particularly those who operate residential establishments, are satisfactorily meeting appropriate quality standards and requirements.

130. Assessment and Reablement

Considered -

Presentation Report by Rachel Bowes, Assistant Director Care and Support, Care and Support

As part of the committee's work under the theme Resource Management and Social Care, members examined that part of the operating model that is Independence and Reablement. The key features of which, outlined below, were supported:

- A single dedicated point of access for the public, an initial point of contact for professionals into adult social care in North Yorkshire and, where possible, maximising opportunities to respond to enquiries at this point
- The focus on supporting individuals to maximise their independence, including preventing unnecessary hospital admission and premature admission to long term residential care, providing early well planned safe discharge from hospital and a rapid response to urgent need. This can include a period of reablement for those who are identified as having reablement potential.
- Planned Care and Support - supporting people with long term social care and support needs as well as supporting their carers through better care co-ordination, support interventions and through commissioned services.

Members expressed interest in learning more about the development of strength-based assessments - an approach to care, support and inclusion which says let's look first at what people can do with their skills and their resources and what can the people around them do in their relationships and their communities.

Resolved -

- a) That the report and subsequent discussions be noted.
- b) Bearing in mind how critical the development of strength based assessments has become, and the aim to embed them in all processes, the committee decided to revisit, later in the year, progress and performance in this area specifically,

131. Dementia Strategy

Considered -

Report by Michael Rudd, Head of Commissioning - Hambleton, Richmondshire & Whitby, Commissioning (HAS) including the Draft Dementia Strategy to be taken at the next meeting of the Health and Well Being Board

Michael Rudd explained that over the past 10 years dementia has risen steadily up the agenda of both health and social care as the numbers of people living with dementia has continued to rise. Present estimates state that approximately 850,000 people are living with dementia in the UK and this figure is set to rise to over 2 million by 2050.

As is often the case the demographics of North Yorkshire mean that the county faces a greater than average challenge in terms of providing the care and support that people with dementia and their carers require. Around 10,000 people are believed to be living with dementia in North Yorkshire which equates to 0.98% of the overall population, significantly higher than the national figure of 0.74%.

Members liked the emphasis on using the experiences of people living with dementia to help shape the approach to dementia in North Yorkshire through the lifetime of the strategy. Members applauded the stated aim for a clearer, simpler and more person centred system of support and information for people living with dementia and their carers.

Resolved -

- a) That the report be noted.
- b) The Health and Well Being Board be advised that the strategy has this committee's wholehearted support.

132. Health and Social Care Integration

Considered -

The report of the Scrutiny Team Leader proposing Joint Scrutiny between the Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny and the Scrutiny of Health Committees on: "health and social care workforce planning"; and "integration of health, mental health and adult social care commissioning and service provision"

Resolved -

- a) That members of the committee be nominated to take part in the joint sub-group of the Scrutiny of Health Committee and the Care and Independence Committee.
- b) In terms of the second proposal in the report, It was agreed that the wider ranging topic of health and social care integration would benefit from joint scrutiny with the Scrutiny of Health Committee; it being acknowledged that a small number of clearly defined lines of enquiry would need to be drafted for this work

133. Work Programme

Considered -

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

Resolved -

That the Work Programme be agreed.