

## North Yorkshire County Council

### Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4 April 2019 at 10.00am at County Hall, Northallerton.

#### **Present:-**

County Councillor John Ennis in the Chair

County Councillors: Cllrs Philip Broadbank, Eric Broadbent, Mike Chambers MBE, Caroline Goodrick, Helen Grant, David Jeffels, Andrew Jenkinson, Stanley Lumley and Stuart Martin MBE and Karin Sedgwick.

Jill Quinn (Dementia Forward).

In attendance:

County Councillors Caroline Dickinson (Executive Member for Adult Social Care).

Officers: Ray Busby (Scrutiny Support Officer), Dale Owens (Assistant Director of Commissioning & Quality, Health and Adult Services)

Apologies:

County Councillor John Mann

Voluntary and Community Sector: Independent Sector: Mike Padgham (Independent Care Group)

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

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#### **182. Minutes**

##### **Resolved –**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2018 having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **183. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest to note.

#### **184. 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.

#### **185. Respite**

##### **Considered –**

- a) Brief on Respite as agreed by Group Spokespersons.

- b) Presentation by Dale Owens (Assistant Director of Commissioning & Quality, Health and Adult Services)

Dale explained that our NYCC Carers Strategy emphasises the importance of carers being enabled to have a life outside of their caring role, but the current offer is quite traditional with NYCC offering in excess of 70% of respite services through their in house provision.

Members were pleased, therefore, to be informed of early directorate thinking on how to improve respite and short breaks. NYCC currently manages respite at 5 settings across the county, with the option of individual beds in our Elderly Persons Homes when they are available. Day services are provided at 7 locations.

In answer to the question: have we got our offer right? Dale responded that the intended review has some important issues to address:

- Availability of appropriate respite can be an issue particularly for young people transitioning into adulthood.
- There is a lack of respite generally available from the market due in part to the high costs of delivery.
- Currently we offer a very traditional respite service, focussed mainly for people with a Learning Disability.
- There are gaps in the market particularly around people transitioning into adulthood and people with a dementia.
- We do have emergency respite available at our in-house services across the county – this will always be costly to provide.

Members voiced some clear ideas, borne out of both personal and professional experience, about what ought to be part of this exercise: the role of volunteers; the gap in dementia respite provision; and the advantages of a brokerage arrangement whereby the authority purchases guaranteed places in the private and voluntary sector.

The directorate's ambition is to engage fully with communities in order to identify a proposed model beyond 2020. The committee agreed it needs to be involved.

**Resolved –**

- a) That the presentation be received.
- b) It was agreed that the committee be involved in any consultation process that is undertaken in connection with these proposals, and also has the opportunity to offer comments prior to any formal decision is taken.
- c) In respect of b) above, an appropriate reference be included in the committee's work programme.

**186. NYCC Use of Resources Peer Challenge – Feedback Report**

**Considered -**

- a) Final report of the regional Use of Resources (UoR) peer challenge as part of sector led improvement within the Yorkshire and Humber ADASS Region.

- b) Presentation by Dale Owens covering the main points and conclusions of the report, how the directorate has responded, and what action was being taken to meet the challenges the review team put forward.

**Resolved –**

That the report be noted.

**187. Health and Social Care Integration**

**Considered -**

Ray Busby reported that the joint members task group on Health and Social Care Integration had all but completed the key stage of its work - holding in-depth conversations with representatives of key Clinical Commissioning Groups and NHS Trusts, based on submissions they have already made.

The task group Chairman, Cllr John Ennis, said that carrying out an assessment of such a huge and complex topic was always going to be challenge. A significant body of information had been assembled to help the group arrive at some strategic level concluding thoughts. Those will be presented in full to meetings of the two parent committees - Care and Independence and Scrutiny of Health.

He advised that the overriding, emerging view was that whilst there is a common interest in integration, there are different interpretations of what it means in practice. There is a sense that health partners and providers have not reached a common understanding of what integration means. So despite efforts to integrate, and many examples of excellent practice, there is still a good deal of experimenting with ways to join up. With so many different health partners operating to complex boundaries in North Yorkshire, co-ordination on a wide scale will remain an ever-present challenge.

**Resolved -**

That the report be noted.

**188. User Participation and Co-Design – Feedback from Members and next steps**

**Considered -**

Feedback from Group Spokespersons

Ray Busby explained that the committee had previously agreed to look at service user participation. The aim was to be as confident as possible that our services are person centred, are locally appropriate and have been planned with individuals to put them and their carers in control.

Rather than see this as a task group project, group spokespersons and other committee members attended and participated in user-led meetings of service users - North Yorkshire Learning Disability Partnership Board, the North Yorkshire Disability Forum, and the Scarborough Dementia alliance.

Group Spokespersons emphasised that as a piece of scrutiny work, attending these user group sessions had given them a good opportunity to see whether the

engagement principles under which the directorate says it works appeared to operate in practice.

The conclusions of those members include:

- **Value each person as an individual - treat with dignity and compassion.** Arrangements at meetings are designed to make them as accessible as possible. Sensitive and appropriate techniques were employed which work for people with different experiences, abilities and perspectives
- **Support people to make choices in their own lives** – Members found there was a clear ambition to stretch up the ladder of participation as much as possible whilst respecting and understanding peoples abilities and choices. It was pleasing that the numbers of people with a learning disability who can self-advocate is growing.
- **Be accountable to people, listening to what they have to say and involving them in decision about their health and social care** – At the North Yorkshire Disability Forum the recent - and contentious - issue of Care Charging was opened up in such a way that prompted a full, frank and open discussion with people feeling freed up, in a safe space, to offer their views. This was not the only example members saw of accessible, timely information is being made available to help individuals and groups make choices.

Cllr Helen Grant commented that at the NY Disability Forum she attended the issue of Care Charging was opened up in such a way that prompted a full, frank and open discussion with people feeling freed up, in a safe space, to offer their views. This was not the only example that she and Cllr Eric Broadbent had seen demonstrating that accessible, timely information is being made available to help individuals and groups make choices. She praised the professionalism and understanding shown by the HAS members of staff responsible for facilitation these groups.

#### **Resolved -**

- a) The message those scrutiny members wanted to get across was that the directorate is committed to involving people in the designing, monitoring and improvement of services.
- b) The committee agreed that other groups scrutiny members might want to know more about, to observe and where appropriate participate in, included North Yorkshire Carers, Mental Health Forums, and patient participation forums.

### **189. Work Programme**

#### **Considered -**

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

#### **Resolved -**

That the work programme be agreed.