

HEALTH, SCHOOLS AND CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Wednesday, 28th March 2018

PRESENT: Councillor Cocks (in the Chair); Councillors Sultan Ali, Gartside, O'Neill, Smith and Sullivan.

OFFICERS: D. David (Assistant Director – Adult Care (Commissioning), L. Shaw (Adult Care Service) and P. Thompson (Resources Directorate).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: M. Hynes, I. Stringer and M. Gamlyn (North West Ambulance Service)

APOLOGIES

52 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ali Ahmed, Cecile Biant, Dutton, Meredith and Donna Williams.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

53 Further to the Council's Code of Conduct, Councillor Sultan Ali and Councillor Sullivan each declared a personal interest in respect of Minute 58 (Additional Funding for Adaptations).

URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

54 There were no urgent items of business for the Committee to consider.

MINUTES

55 Decision:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Health, School and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held 25th January 2018 be approved as a correct record.

NORTH WEST AMBULANCE SERVICE NHS TRUST

56 The Committee received a detailed presentation from representatives of the North West Ambulance Service on two main areas of work: Emergency Care and Patient Transport Service. The Emergency Care service has come under particular scrutiny following the Kerslake Report and winter pressures effects on ambulance services. The Committee were told about the new performance indicators which are not yet being met but are improving and how they are trying to get the right response to each call to ensure the best care although this will not necessarily mean a hospital emergency department.

The Patient Transport service provides 45,000 patient journeys in the borough each year. While 80% of these are planned journeys for appointments and treatment, 20% are linked to hospital discharge and unplanned and where most complaints arise.

Increased demand, average travel times across Greater Manchester and staff recruitment and retention while funding is reduced are their biggest

challenges. Members queried the location of ambulance stations, support for staff after trauma and the promise to always have a paramedic on board following the closure of Rochdale A&E but the transformation of the NHS services is changing this picture again and so rather than taking everyone to A&E, taking them to the right place is now given higher priority.

ADULT CARE MARKET OVERSIGHT REPORT: QUARTER 3 - 2017/18

57 The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Director - Adult Care (Commissioning) regarding the Market Oversight Plan which provided quality assurance information for services commissioned by the Adult Care service for quarter 3 in 2017/18 (October – December).

The Committee noted that the Adult Care Service was currently on-track with all of its current reviews.

In considering the report a Member sought clarification on a care home detailed in the report which had been rated as 'inadequate' by the Care Quality Commission. The Assistant Director undertook to investigate this matter further and to write to Members of the Committee with information thereon.

A Member also sought clarification on the element of the report regarding 'family satisfaction' and requested that future reports contain more information that expands on this.

Decision: That (1) the Assistant Director – Adult Care (Commissioning) be requested to investigate the matter of the Care Home, detailed in her report, that was found by the Care Quality Commission to be inadequate and to write to Members of the Committee with information thereon including reasons for this rating and measures that the Care Home was taking in terms of remedial action.

(2) the Assistant Director – Adult Care (Commissioning) be requested to include in future reports more detailed narrative information in the 'family satisfaction' section of the report so as to give the Committee a fuller understanding of issues that may be of concern to family members.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ADAPTATIONS

58 The Committee scrutinised a report of the Assistant Director – Adult Care (Commissioning) that provided information on the additional government funding for adaptations and how Adult Care Services was making best use of this funding to support elderly, disabled and vulnerable residents to continue to live as independently as possible in their own homes for as long as they want to or are able to.

The report was presented as the Committee had requested additional information on the important role adaptations can play in supporting people to remain independent and how additional Government funding was enabling a more innovative approach to supporting people who may not traditionally have been eligible for support.

The Government had increased funding for the Disabled Facilities Grant and had made the decision to move it into the Better Care Fund in 2015/16, on the basis that there is a growing evidence base on the contribution that housing can make to good health and wellbeing. At a system level, poor housing costed the NHS around £1.4 billion per annum and there were also costs to local government and social care.

In considering the report Members of the Committee sought clarification on a number of technical and operational details that were raised in the report suggesting that a further report on this matter, updating on progress being made, be presented to the Committee in approximately six months.

Decision:

That the report be welcomed and a further report, updating the Committee on progress being made with regard to the implementation of the Disabilities Facilities Grant be presented to a future meeting of the Committee, in approximately six months.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

59 Decision:

That the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business, in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

Reason for Decision:

Should the press and public remain during debate on this item there may be the disclosure of information that is deemed to be exempt under Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

ADULT CARE FEE LEVELS FOR COMMISSIONING SERVICES FOR 2018/19

60 The Committee scrutinised a report of the Assistant Director -Adult Care (Commissioning) which had sought, and received, approval from the Integrated Commissioning Board, at that Board's meeting on 13th March 2018, for fee rate increases for a range of Adult Social Care services delivered by externally commissioned providers in Rochdale Borough.

The Integrated Commissioning Board had been required to make the relevant decisions as the responsibility fell within the context of the Council's statutory responsibilities in relation to the Adult Social Care Market, as set out in the Care Act 2014. The Care Act requires that the Council ensured that there was a sustainable market to meet the adult social care needs of its residents. The duties include a requirement that Councils pay fees at a level that enables providers to retain an effective workforce and, at least, to comply with the National Living Wage.

The Council's Adult Social Care Service, wherever possible, worked collaboratively with providers to reach agreement regarding contracting issues including fee levels. Consequently, a four week period of consultation had

commenced with Home Care, Outreach, Care Home and Supported Living providers on 1st February 2018 on the proposed new fee rates. Feedback from consultation has been taken into account and the proposed fee rate increases were amended based on this feedback.

Decision:

That the Committee endorses the decision of the Integrated Commissioning Board, at its meeting on 13th March 2017 (minute 87 refers), to approve the recommendations that were detailed at paragraph 4.48 of the submitted report.