

**HEALTH, SCHOOLS AND CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING
Wednesday, 26th June 2019**

PRESENT: Councillor Dutton (in the Chair); Councillors Sultan Ali, Dale, Davidson, Gartside, Massey, Susan Smith and Sullivan

OFFICERS: W. Meston (Consultant in Public Health and Wellbeing), F. Davies, J. Hassall (Children's Services) and P. Thompson (Resources Directorate).

APOLOGIES

1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Hartley, Hornby and McCarthy.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2 There were no declarations of interests.

MINUTES

3 Resolved:
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Health, Schools and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held 30th January 2019 and 13th March 2019 be approved as correct records.

**JOINT SCRUTINY PANEL FOR PENNINE CARE (MENTAL HEALTH)
TRUST**

4 Resolved
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Committee for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust, held 21st March 2019, be noted.

**JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR PENNINE
ACUTE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST**

5 Resolved;
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, held 15th January 2019 be noted.

SITE FOR NEW SPECIAL SCHOOL

6 The Committee scrutinised a report of the Director of Children's Services which advised that a bid had been submitted from the authority to the Department for Education (DfE) for a centrally funded new Special Free School. The authority had been notified of the successful outcome and the DfE Free School Directorate wished to discuss Heads of Terms, on the proposed disposal of land, for the site of the new school.

The Committee's report had previously been considered by the Council's Cabinet, at its meeting on 28th May 2019, where Members had approved the recommendation to site a school on the site of Heywood Sports Village

subject to various checks and conditions being successfully completed. Alternative sites had been explored and but the Heywood site was ultimately chosen on the basis that it best met the specific criteria for the school.

Projections of financial costs of out of borough Independent and non-maintained placements show, that without the new school and with the projected pupil populations, the estimated costs of these placements will increase from 8% of the High Needs budget to 20% of the budget within 8 years.

The Heywood site was well within the target size of 1 to 1.4 Hectares, which was what was needed for a Special School Site. Special Schools in particular need additional parking and direct drop off access to give a door to door service to some of the most vulnerable children.

As a statutory consultee to any planning application on the Heywood Sports Village site, Sport England has been asked for pre-application advice and had concluded that they would have no objection to the release of this land, for a new autism school, subject to mitigation for the loss of the playing field land. An appropriate level of mitigation for any playing field loss would be discussed with Link4Life, the Football Foundation and Sport England, being mindful of issues highlighted within the Boroughs Playing Pitch Strategy. The appropriate mitigation would need to be agreed prior to the submission of the planning application and form part of the proposals.

A new Special School, for the 11 to 19 age group, was required as the Borough's Redwood Special School was full, despite having been extended. Numbers of children having to attend Independent and Non-maintained special schools out of Borough was large and rising. Costs for the out of Borough placements were a significant and rising portion of the High Needs school budget.

Resolved:

That a further report will be submitted to this Committee and to the cabinet after the completion of the due diligence exercise and the proposed Heads of Term have been negotiated.

3RD & 4TH QUARTER SOCIAL CARE COMPLAINTS

7 The Directors of Children's Services and Adult Services presented a report that provided Members with a summary of Adult and Children's Social Care complaints received during the third and fourth quarters of 2018/19.

Social care complaints are subject to a statutory reporting framework which are scrutinised by the Care Quality Commission. The Council's Customer Feedback Team extracted and reported on the information recorded for social care services during the study period, including the number of complaints received at each stage of the process, the numbers of complaints that are investigated and responded to within the permitted timescale and the numbers that were upheld.

Members of the Committee noted that a complaint had been received in relation to the Council's fostering and adoption services and in considering the complaint received an update on the processes and procedures relating thereto.

Decision: That the report be noted.

ADULT, CHILDREN & PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTORATE PLANS 2018-19 QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE UPDATE

8 The Committee scrutinised a report detailing progress during the fourth quarter 2018/19 (1st January – 31st March) towards the achievement of the targets contained in the Adult Care Directorate Plan 2018/19, Children's Services Directorate Plan 2018/19 and Public Health Directorate Plan 2018/19.

In considering the Adult Care Directorate Plan the Committee considered the work of the Greater Manchester Suicide Prevention Group (action PH18006) and requested that further details be forwarded to Members of the Committee prior to a report being submitted thereon to a future meeting of the Committee. It was suggested that this could be an area of work to be considered by the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust.

The Committee also noted the work of the Community Connectors (action PH18002), noting that previously the Council's Township Committees had received presentations from the Adult Care Service regarding 'Community Connectors' which was a new service created as part of the Locality Plan. They were a team based in and around EASY Hubs in localities providing people with information, advice and signposting to appropriate organisations. They would support people in the Borough with issues affecting their health and wellbeing such as employment/training, money management, lifestyles (including mental health), preventative services (such as stopping smoking), community opportunities (volunteering) and housing.

Resolved:

1. The report be noted.
2. That the Director of Adult Care Services be requested to provide the Committee with details outlining the work of the Greater Manchester Suicide Prevention Group and that a report thereon be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee; and that the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust be requested to consider this matter at one of their meetings.
3. That the Director of Adult Care Services be requested to submit a report and/or a presentation to a future meeting of the Committee updating Members on the work of the Community Connectors.

HEALTH, SCHOOLS AND CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME

9 The Committee considered a report which presented the Committee's Work Programme 2019/2020.

Resolved:
The report be noted.