

Subject to approval as an accurate record at the next meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

HEALTH & WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held at the County Borough Council Offices, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale, on Thursday, 8th September 2016 at 5 pm.

Present:

County Borough Councillor R W Smith – in the Chair

County Borough Councillors:

(Mrs) A Calvert	(Mrs) M E Davies	(Mrs) M Tegg
W J David	I Pearce	Mr D H Williams
Mr C Davies	(Mrs) A Roberts	
J Davies	G Stacey	

In attendance:

Councillor L M Adams – Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Officers:

Mr G Isingrini – Group Director, Community & Children’s Services
Mr N Elliott – Service Director, Adult Services
Mr C B Jones - Service Director, Legal & Democratic Services
Ms S Nowell – Head of Transformation
Mr M Jones – Democratic Services Officer
Mrs C Hendy – Democratic Services Officer
Ms J Nicholls – Senior Democratic Services Officer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillors (Mrs) S Rees and L G Walker.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED - In accordance with the Code of Conduct, there were no personal declarations of interests made, pertaining to the agenda.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED – to approve as an accurate record the minutes of the meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held on the 16th March, 2016.

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REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

4. DRAFTING A SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE 2016/17 MUNICIPAL YEAR

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Legal and Democratic Services which set out a rolling work programme for the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2016/17.

The Service Director, Legal and Democratic Services drew Members' attention to the updated matrix set out at Appendix 2 (circulated at the meeting) and the Committee's views were sought on identifying potential topics.

In response to a matter raised in relation to the Annual Report for CAMHS the Chairman reported that this issue would be raised with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee.

Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED** - that the following topics be incorporated into the Committee's work programme for the municipal year 2016/17:-

- Commissioned Services.
- Public Health and Protection.
- Trading Standards.

5. MAESYFFYNNON RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME, ABERAMAN

The Service Director, Legal & Democratic Services presented the findings of the Scrutiny Working Group which was formed to oversee the process of the transfer of residents from Maesyffynnon Care Home.

Following discussions it was **RESOLVED** - that the report of the Scrutiny Working Group be endorsed and presented to Cabinet.

6. DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

At the meeting The Group Director, Community & Children's Services presented the Director Social Services Annual Report 2015/16 which outlined the work and achievements over the last 12 months.

The Group Director, Community & Children's Services reported that there had been improvements in many areas such as Adult and Children's Services, however, there was an area of concern with the number of Children who are 'looked after' by the Council rather than living with families. He added that there was a need to continue the Modernisation Agenda for Social Services (supported by the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act, 2014.

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The Group Director reported that the requirements for the Social Services Annual Report 2016/17 were likely to change and he therefore sought the engagement of the Committee in undertaking pre-scrutiny of next year's annual report prior to the matter being reported to Cabinet, the subject matter is also on the Committee's Work Programme for the meeting scheduled for the 22nd March, 2017.

Following a discussion, it was **RESOLVED** - that the Director of Social Services Annual Report 2016/17 undergo pre-scrutiny prior to the report going to Cabinet.

REPORTS OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY AND CHILDRENS SERVICES

7. PRE-SCRUTINY OF THE EXTRA CARE HOUSING STRATEGY

The Service Director, Adult Services provided the Committee with a presentation and gave his observations on the Extra Care Strategy under the following headings:

- What is Extra Care Housing.
- Strategic Content.
- Identifying Need / Case for Change.
- Our Extra Care Strategy.
- Next Steps.

The Service Director, Adult Services reported that this model of accommodation provision is more cost effective and sustainable to the future and the aim is to offer older people a greater choice in accessing suitable housing and support, in order to enable them to remain in their own homes as a viable alternative to residential care.

A Member queried whether the Extra Care Housing Strategy which had been carried out at the new Extra Care Housing Scheme in Talbot Green had made significant progress.

In response, The Service Director, Adult Services commented that over 80 residents have initially been identified from across Rhondda Cynon Taf and these were currently being assessed to determine their individual needs and suitability and eligibility for the new scheme in Talbot Green. The Service Director explained that this process would continue over the next 4 to 5 months to ensure that those people who would benefit the most from the service would be identified.

All Members supported the urgent need to develop and implement the strategy.

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Following consideration of the presentation it was **RESOLVED** -

1. That Members of the Committee receive a progress report in due course.
2. That arrangements be made for Members of the Committee to visit the new Extra Care Home in Talbot Green.

8. ANNUAL SAFEGUARDING REPORT/BUSINESS PLAN

The Service Director, Adult Services verbally updated the Committee on the Annual Safeguarding Report/Business Plan and reported that this is work in progress. He commented that the report would be presented to the Safeguarding Board on 12th September 2016 for consideration.

RESOLVED - that Members receive an update of the Business Plan at a future meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

9. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES WELLBEING ACT – PROGRESS REPORT

The Head of Transformation updated the Committee on progress in implementing the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act (SSWB Act) in Rhondda Cynon Taf since the commencement date on 6th April 2016 which set out:-

- The Aim of the Act
- General Functions
- Assessing the Needs of Individuals
- Meeting the Needs
- Financial Assessment
- Looked After and Accommodated Children
- Safeguarding
- Social Services Functions
- Co-Operation and Partnership
- Complaints, Representations and Advocacy
- Miscellaneous and General

Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED** to acknowledge the progress made to date in implementing the SSWB Act in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

R W Smith
Chairman

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Scrutiny Committee

The meeting closed at 6.36 pm.