

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 (Chambers), The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale on Wednesday, 13th July, 2017 at 5 p.m.

Present

County Borough Councillor R.Yeo – in the Chair

County Borough Councillors

J. Davies, J. Elliott, S. Evans, M Forey,
L, Jones, J. Williams, C. Willis

In Attendance

County Borough Councillor M. Adams Chair of Overview and Scrutiny

Officers

Mr.G.Isingrini – Group Director, Community & Children’s Services
Mr.P. Nicholls – Head of Legal Litigation, Planning & Environment, Community and
Children’s Services
Mr T Garthwaite - Independent Consultant
Ms C Hendy – Democratic Services Officer

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillors L De Vet, L. Hooper, and (Mrs) A Roberts

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED – that in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct, there were no personal interests made at the meeting 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 15th March 2017.

4 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed Members and Officer to the Meeting of the new Health

and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

The Chair Informed Members that Item No: 5 of the agenda would be withdrawn as it was agreed at the Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 10th July 2017 that the matter in respect of Fire Safety Arrangements for Social Housing, Supported Housing and Council owned buildings would be dealt with by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in view of the cross cutting issues.

The Chair also announced that he had agreed to an urgent item of business which will be considered in conjunction with Agenda Item 6 – The Committee Work Programme.

5. TRAINING SESSION – ACHIEVING EFFECTIVE SCRUTINY OF ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES

The Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee is comprised of the majority of new Members therefore the Chair and Vice Chair felt that it would be helpful if the Committee received training in all aspects of understanding effective scrutiny with in Social Services.

Members of the Committee received a presentation facilitated by Mr T. Garthwaite, who is a former Director of Social Services and Corporate Director who is currently acts as an independent Consultant. Mr Garthwaite has experience of assisting a number of Welsh Authorities in his capacity as an expert advisor the Centre of Public Scrutiny .The objectives of the presentation were to:

- Develop a better understanding of the key issues facing Adult Services in the next year and beyond;
- Explore best practice in the Scrutiny of Adult Services;
- Identify priorities for the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

The Group Director Community and Children's Services presented the key priorities and challenges for Adult Services under the headings of;

1. Early Intervention / Prevention
2. Modernise Service
3. Safeguarding
4. Workforce.

Members of the Committee found the presentation very informative and agreed to take in to account all key areas when taking the work programme forward.

REPORT OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES.

6. DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee's comments were sought on the contents of the Director of Social Services Annual Report 2016/17. This will form part of the formal consultation process.

The Group Director Community and Children's Services explained to Members that the Director of Social Services must prepare and publish an annual report. It was explained that the annual report must evaluate the performance of the Local Authority in relation to the delivery of its social services functions in respect of that year and include lessons learned. It must also set out objectives in relation to promoting the wellbeing of people who need care and support, and carers who need support, for the forthcoming year.

Members considered the report in detail and put their views forward. Members thanked Officers for their timely report and after lengthy discussion it was **RESOLVED** that Member of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee would send their observations and remarks to the Group Director of Community and Children's Services who will incorporate the information in his final report which will be presented to Cabinet in September 2017.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

7. HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE 2017/18

Head of Legal, Litigation, Planning & Environment, Community and Children's Services explained to Members that there is a requirement to devise and publish a Work Programme for each of the Council's Scrutiny Committee as set out in part 4 of the Constitution (Overview and Scrutiny Rules) .

Members considered the draft work Programme that was present to them and after an in depth discussion it was **RESOLVED** to

1. Inform the Chair and Democratic Services Officer by E-Mail of topic Members of the Committee wished to be considered on the Work Programme before the meeting of the Committee in September.
2. Agree to Establish a Joint Working Group comprising of the Members of Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee and The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee in respect of 'Delivering Integrated Family Support Early Intervention and Prevention Services in RCT'

8. URGENT ITEM

The Head of Legal, Litigation, Planning & Environment, Community and Children's Services explained to Members that the Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Monday 10th July 2017 during consideration of the Committee's work programme reference was made by a Member to the following Notice of Motion that was considered and adopted at Council Meeting held on January 2017 :-

This Council seeks to support the Welsh Hearts Campaign to provide defibrillators in public places.

This Council notes the difference the availability of such equipment can offer in emergency situations and we already have these in a number of Council Sites, recognising their importance and commits to fund an increase provision of equipment across key Council Location.

It was felt at the Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the matter be referred to the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

After lengthy discussion it was **RESOLVED** to

1. Agree to the inclusion of the possibility for the provision of Defibrillators in appropriate public places where they may be made available on the Committees Work programme for the Municipal Year 2017/18
2. A Report from Officers to be presented in the Meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee in September 2017.

Meeting closed at 7pm

**Cllr R Yeo
Chair**