



## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held on Tuesday, 7 January 2020 at 5.00 pm at the Council Chamber, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale, Tonypany, CF40 2XX.

### **County Borough Councillors - Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Members in attendance:-**

Councillor R Yeo (Chair)

Councillor G Holmes	Councillor A Roberts
Councillor M Forey	Councillor J Davies
Councillor J Williams	Councillor P Howe
Councillor G Stacey	Councillor G Hughes
Councillor D Owen-Jones	Councillor C Willis
Councillor W Jones	Councillor E Griffiths

### **Officers in attendance:-**

Mr G Isingrini, Group Director Community & Children's Services  
Mr A Wilkins, Director of Legal Services  
Mr N Elliott, Director of Adult Services

### **County Borough Councillors in attendance:-**

Councillor J Bonetto and Councillor S Evans

#### **23 Declaration of Interest**

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, there were no declarations made pertaining to the agenda.

#### **24 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillor M. Tegg.

#### **25 Consultation Links**

The Chair referred to the consultation links which were available through the RCT Scrutiny website. The Chair reminded Members that information is provided in respect of relevant consultations for consideration by the Committee which are circulated on a monthly basis by the Graduate Scrutiny Research Officer.

#### **26 Mental Health updating Report**

The Director of Adult Service presented Member of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee with an overview and update on the Together for Mental Health (TfMH) Strategy by considering the information provided in the Annual

Regional TfMH Statement for 2018/19 and the progress made against the key priority actions in the TfMH Delivery Plan 2016 to 2019.

It was explained that Members have received various reports on Mental Health Services with the local authority which included an overview of the work carried out by the Human Resources Department in addressing the issue of mental health in the Council.

The Director of Adult Services went on to explain the TfMH, and highlighted that its implementation is assured through TfMH Partnership Board at National and Regional Levels via Health Boards and the progress is reported through annual reports produced by Welsh Government and Regional TfMH Partnerships.

It was explained that the attendance of representatives from TfMH Partnership including the Chair of the Suicide prevention and Self Harm Group was not possible on this occasion.

Following delivery of the report the Director of Adult Services opened up the meeting for Members questions and observations.

The Committee acknowledged the very comprehensive report provided by the work of the TfMH Partnership. Members raised concerns regarding the high number of lives lost across Rhondda Cynon Taf due to suicide. Officers explained that the issue had recently been raised at the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board and that Partner Agencies were currently reviewing current arrangements in line with good practice in the Bridgend area. It was suggested that the current Chair of the Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group (Chief Executive) is invited to the Committee to discuss the current and future work of Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group.

Members also raised concern over the length of referral time for patients being seen by Cwm Taf Morgannwg Crisis team and CAMHS. Members agreed that it would be of benefit to the Committee to have a representative from Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board to attend a future Meeting to address Members concerns.

Members acknowledged that the final and third TfMH delivery plan for the period 2019/22 is due to be published by Welsh Government following consultation earlier this year and requested that they have more information presented to the at a future meeting of the Committee.

After further questioning and discussion Members RESOLVED:

- To acknowledge the content of the report
- That the Chair writes to the Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board and invites them to attend a meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee to discuss any issues they may have regarding Mental Health Services across Rhondda Cynon Taf..
- Invite the Chair of the Suicide prevention and Self Harm Group to discuss the current and future work of the Group.

The Director of Adult Service presented Members with an update on Delayed Transfers of Care (DTC) performance in Rhondda Cynon Taf. It was also explained that the report draws Members attention to the plans in place across health and social care for the winter pressures period to ensure continued focus on managing DTC.

Members were informed that over the 3 year period from 2016/17 to 2018 /19 Rhondda Cynon Taf has seen a steady decline in the number of people experiencing DTC. The number of patients experiencing a delay has fluctuated, but overall there has been a 29% reduction. It was highlighted that based on the current performance figures we are expecting an increase in the number of delays in 2019/20, in line with the national trend, and in particular patients aged 75 and over.

Members were presented with various graphs which highlighted DTC performance, along with the main reasons for the delays in particular those begin experienced in 2019/20.

Officers went on to explain that the Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board is required to prepare and publish an annual Winter Pressures and Preparedness Plan in partnership with its local authority partners and the Welsh Ambulance Service Trust.

Rhondda Cynon Taf's contribution to the plan focuses on the existing arrangements that support the hospital discharge process; primarily Stay Well @Home (SW @H). It was also explained that Rhondda Cynon Taf domiciliary care Support @Home Service also supports discharge and hospital avoidance through a range of targeted community responses.

The Director of Adult Service continued to explain that in September 2019, in recognition of the ongoing challenges across the health and social care system, the Minister for Health and Social Services agreed a package of £30 million to support delivery of health and social care services across Wales over the remainder of 2019/20, with a particular focus on winter pressures.

It was explained that £17 million of the additional winter pressures funding had been awarded to Regional Partnership Boards (RPB). For Cwm Taf Morgannwg RPB, the allocation is £2.7 million to focus on community based solutions of which £1.3 million had be allocated to Rhondda Cynon Taf to facilitate hospital discharge and prevent admission and provide additional

- Interim placements;
- Intermediate care and reablement capacity;
- Domiciliary care capacity;
- Social Work assessment capacity at the hospital interface
- Community occupational therapist capacity.

When concluding the report Officers opened up the meeting for Members questions.

A Member commented on the fact that the population is getting older and the support we are providing people in need of our care and support is excellent however it was concerning that national trends are showing an increasing number of delays.

A Member raised concerns over patients being transferred from District General Hospitals (e.g. Royal Glamorgan) to Community Hospitals (e.g. Ysbyty Cwm Rhondda) and in particular those patients who need nursing care home provision, the Member stated that this can be very difficult especially with there being long waiting times for a nursing home placement . The Member asked why therefore we are closing care homes.

It was explained that Members of the public are reminded that they have until December 20 to take part in the ongoing residential care consultation – and have their say on specific options for the Council’s future provision.

Members were reminded that following Cabinets agreement in September 2019, the Council is now further consulting residents over proposals to modernise residential services for older people in RCT.

The Council is currently consulting residents over proposals to modernise residential care home provision for older people and not nursing care home services.

Officer also explained the current Regional Market Position and reports to Cabinet has identified the need for more nursing care home provision and in particular dementia nursing care and work was underway Regionally to commission additional capacity with Health and other local authority partners.

The Chair also commented on the work done by the Committee on dementia nursing care beds provision and the issues highlighted around current supply and demand.

Members raised questions in respect of home care services and the increasing high demand to supporting people with more complex packages of care to live at home rather than in a care home. Members questioned the capacity across domiciliary care to deal with the current demand and how are we looking to retain staff with this very important role.

Officers explained that there was pressure on supply and capacity in some areas of the county at “peak call” times and this is being managed across care providers to minimise impact on delays awaiting commencement of care packages. It was also explained that we continue to actively support and work with providers across the sector to build capacity and resilience in the domiciliary care market and support is provided where possible by the local authority in-house Support @Home Service as a short term measure where there is a lack of capacity in the independent sector.

Member thanked the Officers for the report and after further discussion

**RESOLVED** to:

- Acknowledge the content of the report;
- Agreed that the Chair writes to the Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board inviting them to a future meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee to discuss Delayed Transfers of Care.

The Director of Adult Services provided Members with an overview of the Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Charter.

It was explained that as Members would recall at its meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019 the Committee requested an overview of the MND Charter in order to adopt the aims of the Charter across RCT, following the adoption of a notice of motion at the Council meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

After consideration Members RESOLVED to

- Acknowledge the content of the report;
- Agree to adopting the MND Charter across Rhondda Cynon Taf.

**29 URGENT ITEMS**

**This meeting closed at 6.30 pm**

**CLLR R. YEO  
CHAIR.**