

ADULT CARE & SUPPORT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Adult Care & Support Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday, 9th September, 2010 at 2.00 p.m. in the Civic Offices, Telford, Shropshire

PRESENT: Councillors R.G. Chaplin (Chairman), N Dugmore (part) V.A. Fletcher, and K Sahota.

ACSSC-1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor K.L. Tomlinson and M.J. Smith

ACSSC-2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

ACSSC-3 APPOINTMENT OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2010/11

No nominations were put forward for the position of Vice Chairman of the Committee. Consequently, neither a vote or decision on the matter could be taken. It was agreed to continue the year without an appointed Vice Chairman, and on occasions where the Chairman was unable to attend meetings, a Chairman for that particular meeting would then be elected at the meeting.

ACSSC-4 CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE REPORT

The Chairman reported that the Chairman's' Forum had met on the 16th August (the meeting was open to any Member of the Scrutiny Assembly to attend to observe) and it was agreed that the 3 in-depth reviews for the current year would be:

- Budget formulation - suggestions about how to save money (the scoping meeting for this review will be held next week)
- Working with community groups to help improve the local environment
- Affordable, available and flexible childcare

Scrutiny Meetings would be supported by the Scrutiny Team during the year had been allocated by the ~~Chairmans'~~ Chairmen's Forum, and each Committee would hold one meeting during the budget consultation process to consider the budget proposals for that priority area. The Adult Care and Support Committee would have 3 meetings to carry out the work programme during the year (excluding the budget scrutiny meeting).

Each Scrutiny Committee would receive a report on the service reviews that are underway across the Council, and it was important that Scrutiny Members were aware of the financial constraints and the service reviews when planning the work programme.

The Chairmen also met to review and rationalise the Recommendations data base to filter out the completed jobs and archive out of date recommendations. Officers

would be asked to update the remaining recommendations and inform the relevant Scrutiny Committee Members and upload on the Scrutiny Extranet.

ACSSC-5 SERVICE REVIEWS

A report was presented that informed Members of the service reviews that were taking place within the Council, in line with the One Council Vision.

The programme of service reviews was currently being undertaken across all service delivery units within the Council. The reviews would look at how services were managed and operated to identify ways in which services can be delivered to the community more efficiently and effectively, within the resources available. The reviews needed to produce operational (non-staff) savings of 20% and were likely to lead to restructuring.

A Service Review Steering Group had been set up to oversee the programme and to monitor the progress of each service delivery unit, including information on changes in activity and savings.

A Table, within the report, provided information on the timetable for service reviews taking place across the Council.

The Steering Group would ensure a consistent approach across the Council.

Reviews should produce cashable efficiency savings aligned to the budget position and corporate priorities. Regardless of whether re-structuring was planned, all service areas would be expected to identify savings in line with corporate targets. All reviews would be expected to demonstrate how they had taken into account issues/suggestions arising from the engagement session carried out in their area.

Members commented that Looked After Children needed to be managed within the service as part of the safeguarding role of the Council. The statutory responsibilities needed to be undertaken to ensure a seamless passage from child care to adult care packages. It was agreed that this would be raised with Paul Clifford the director leading this review. Members asked for an update on the outcome of the service review in December (this could be a written briefing sent to members of the committee).

RESOLVED – that the report be noted, together with an acknowledgement of the role of the service reviews when planning the Committee's work programme.

ACSSC-6 WORK PROGRAMME

The Scrutiny Manager presented a report that aimed to assist Members to plan the work programme for the Adult Care and Support Scrutiny Committee

The Scrutiny arrangements had been established in June 2010 to enable each Scrutiny Committee to determine its own work programme within the resources

available. To ensure that the Scrutiny work programme was a Member led process and the work was balanced between Scrutiny Reviews and the Scrutiny Committees, the work programme was planned through 3 stages, the detail of which was explained within the report.

The Scrutiny Handbook set out that there would be a total of approximately 80 Scrutiny meetings during the year and the Constitution stated that each Scrutiny Committee would have a minimum of 2 formal meetings per year. In recognition of the fact that some committees (Active Lifestyles: Leisure and Culture, Children and Young People and Community Focussed and Efficient Council) had statutory roles and additional work the Scrutiny Chairmen allocated those committees 3 additional meetings.

Each Committee would also hold a meeting to scrutinise the budget proposals. The remaining meetings were allocated between the committees, 2 meetings were allocated to committees that did not have Scrutiny Review and 1 meeting was allocated to the Committees with a Scrutiny Review. The number of meetings per Committee was shown in the Table 1 of the report.

Within the table, the column 'Free Meetings' indicated the number of meetings the Scrutiny Team could support for each committee (that did not include the September Committee Meetings). The Adult Care and Support Scrutiny Committee had 3 meetings to scrutinise issues during 2010/11.

The Scrutiny Handbook set out a range of methods that Members may wish to use to undertake the work of the Committee:

- Formal Committee Meeting

The Members of the Committee receive reports on several issues as agenda items at a Committee meeting.

- Special Interest Meeting

One meeting to consider one issue in more depth. It is important that the focus of this meeting is scoped carefully to ensure it can be covered in a single meeting.

- Spot Light Review

This process for a spot light review is the same as an in-depth review but the evidence gathering takes place in one meetings. The review should require 3 meetings in total.

Also, where 2 Scrutiny Committees had an interest in an issue, Members may decide to hold a joint meeting between two Committees.

Members considered the suggestions made at the recent Scrutiny Assembly workshop and agreed to examine the:

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NHS service changes allowing GPs to commission services

A joint meeting with the Active Lifestyles Scrutiny committee will be held. The date agreed was the 27th September to submit a Council response by the 11th October.

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Extra Care provision of a 500 bed target / Re-assessment of Care Needs

It was agreed that a report would be by the Committee that would look at the services for older people in particular re assessment of care needs and the impact this will have on future provision including the provision of Extra Care.

Monitoring the recommendations of the Care Quality Commission on adult safeguarding and increased choice and control for older people. It was agreed this should take place around March 2011. This meeting could be an member supported working group.

Members also indicated a desire to also examine the suggestion of Young Adult Respite Care but were reminded of the limited resources available and agreed to look at it as part of next years work programme. It was agreed that a written briefing would be requested and circulated to Members.

The next meeting of the Committee would be a Joint meeting with the Active Lifestyle SC on 27th September at 3.00 pm to discuss the consultation response on the Dept of Health White Paper. It was important to make a positive response to the consultation

Furthermore, a joint meeting with Active Lifestyles SC to discuss the Foundation Trust status for Hospital and Ambulance services was suggested

The Scrutiny Manager stated that suitable meeting dates would be formulated with the Corporate Diary and notified to Members as soon as possible

RESOLVED –

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- (a) that the following topics be examined by the Committee during 2010/11 :
- NHS service changes allowing GPs to commission services
 - Extra Care provision of a 500 bed target
 - Re-assessment of Care Needs
- (b) that a Briefing paper on the Extra Care provision and also on the Care Needs issue be prepared
- (c) that a joint meeting with Active Lifestyles, Leisure & Culture SC be held, to discuss the Foundation Trust status for Hospital and Ambulance services.

- (d) that the next meeting of the Committee be a Joint Meeting with the Active Lifestyles, Leisure & Culture SC on 27th September at 3.00 pm to discuss the consultation response on the Dept of Health White Paper

The meeting ended at 3.21 p.m.

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Chairman:

Date:

