

**MINUTES OF THE ADULTS AND HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT 6.00PM, ON  
TUESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2024  
BOURGES/VIERSEN ROOM, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

**Committee Members Present:** Fitzgerald (Chair), Boyce, Dowson, N Iqbal, Mahmood, Rafiq Rangzeb, S Farooq, Rangzeb, Ann Shaheed and Asif Shaheed.

**Officers Present:** Matt Makin, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Debbie McQuade, Service Director Adults and Safeguarding  
Mike Robinson, Interim Director of Public Health Peterborough  
Tina Hornsby, Head of Adult Performance and Strategic Development  
Joseph Keegan, PH Team Lead Commissioning and partnerships  
Emily Moone, Project Manager for Homeless and Rough sleepers Service and Housing Support Teams at CGL Aspire  
Sue Nicol, Amplifying Service User Voice for the Sun Network  
Jess Bendon, Primary Care Contracts Business Partner, Dental, ICB

**Also Present:** Cllr Shabina Qayyum, Cabinet Member for Adults and Health.

**10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were none.

**11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**12. MINUTES OF THE ADULTS AND HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 JULY 2024**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2024 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

**13. CALL IN OF ANY CABINET, CABINET MEMBER OR KEY OFFICER DECISION**

There were no call-ins received.

**14. SUPPLEMENTARY APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS 2024/2025**

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee received a report in relation to the appointment of Co-opted Members in accordance with the Council's Constitution Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions.

The purpose of the report was to seek approval from the Committee to appoint Parish Councillor Dierdre Hardy as Non-Voting Co-opted Members for the municipal year 2024/2025 to the Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee in accordance with Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions.

The Senior Democratic Services Officer introduced the report and explained that the nominations for Co-opted Members had been put forward by the Parish Council Liaison Working Group and that the appointments would be reviewed annually.

The Committee unanimously agreed to the appointment of Parish Councillor Dierdre Hardy non-voting Co-opted Members for the municipal year 2024/25.

### **AGREED ACTIONS**

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee agreed UNANIMOUSLY to appoint Parish Councillor Dierdre Hardy as an Independent Co-opted Member with no voting rights to represent the rural area for the municipal year 2024/2025. Appointment to be reviewed annually at the beginning of the next municipal year.

## **15. FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**

The Chair introduced the report which included the latest version of the Council's Forward Plan of Executive Decisions containing decisions that the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members would make during the forthcoming month. Members were invited to comment on the plan and where appropriate, identify any relevant areas for inclusion in the Committee's Work Programme.

- Members queried the work around the Award of the Care in the Community Contract decision and requested further information.
- Members were advised that the Recommissioning of Integrated Drug and Alcohol Treatment Contract decision would be postponed until February 2025 to allow time for a completed needs assessment.

### **AGREED ACTIONS**

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee considered the current Forward Plan of Executive Decisions included at Appendix 1 and identified any relevant items for inclusion within their work programme or requested further information. The Committee requested a briefing note on item Award of the Care in the Community Contract – KEY/26AUG24/02 prior to it going to Cabinet.

## **16. UPDATE ON THE IMPACT OF ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING ON ADDRESSING SUBSTANCE MISUSE IN PETERBOROUGH**

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee received a report in relation to the overview of the need, process and outcome of substance misuse services in Peterborough.

The Director of Public Health introduced the report and key points raised included:

- There had been a history of grants used to fund the service and there was an uncertain future for funding.
- The report presented what had been achieved with funding to date and sought support for the continuation of that delivery.
- Attention had been given to frontline services but there was now a good position in terms of grant funding to deal with issues.
- Officers summarised the drug alcohol treatment and grant project and the outreach work in the community.
- Officers had worked with the rough sleeper team and a variety of partners.
- The work undertaken at Garden House was highlighted.

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Members noted that Peterborough had been underfunded historically and there was an ambition to reduce the deficit.
- Members queried the frequency of drug and alcohol needs assessments and were advised that they were completed every 2-3 years.
- The online floating support service as a tool that held caseloads where tenancies were at risk.
- Members were advised that the challenges around detox referrals were that centres would not take those on the streets and where funded had been reduced.
- There had been higher rates of opiate and crack issues in Peterborough, though issues with synthetic opiates was a national problem.
- The figures for alcohol related conditions were for 2021/22 and there continued to be a significant increase in the numbers of treatment. Members requested the updated figure on treatment for alcohol related conditions.
- Members were advised that they were seeing less than half of those who needed treatment because some decline. Officers worked to maximise their exposure to the community to encourage residents to get treatment.
- Members noted that there was not enough funding to treat everyone and that it was only guaranteed until April 2025.
- Members were advised that any lobbying and publicity they could do would help.
- Members queried the success of the scheme assisting employment and were advised that it had started in January 2024. It worked with people in structured treatment and had mobilised effectively for its size.
- There were good links to employers and volunteer opportunities were also offered to those who were not ready for full employment.
- Members encouraged the Cabinet Member to engage with local MPs for future funding noting that previous funding had had a positive impact.
- Members also encouraged the Cabinet Member and Leader to make all representations to Government to get a fairer settlement for public health funding.
- Officers advised that Members could visit the services and that they could be arranged via Joseph Keegan, PH Team Lead Commissioning and partnerships.

## **AGREED ACTIONS**

The Adults and Health Committee reviewed the improvements in the Substance Misuse service offer since the award of Supplementary Grants and the outcomes achieved and supported the continuation of delivery where there is impact.

The Committee also requested the percentage figure on the treatment for alcohol related conditions.

## **17. UPDATE ON ALL AGE CARERS STRATEGY AND THE CARERS SURVEY**

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee received a report in relation to the findings of the statutory biannual survey on unpaid adult carers and to update on progress in delivery of the All-Age Carers Strategy.

The Service Director Adults and Safeguarding accompanied by the Head of Adult Performance and Strategic Development introduced the report and key points raised included:

- This had been a national survey set with localised questions and of the 638 unpaid carers it was sent to, there had been a 36% response rate.
- There had been improvement in all categories from both the 2018 and 2022 surveys.
- Officers had worked with Social Care Futures to support the team to engage with carers.

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Members noted that some carers might not be IT literate and were advised that there were several tools available to support carers.
- Officers acknowledged that young carers could fall through the cracks, but the strategy included recommendations on how to do more.
- Members encouraged Officers to work with the Youth Council.
- Officers looked to pilot the Bridgit app with local GP practices to connect with unidentified carers via text.
- Members were advised that the survey was paper based only.
- Officers had reviewed the feedback, and Members were advised that there needed to be an established system for carers to provide it continuously, rather than waiting on the survey.
- Members noted that all complaints were logged and reviewed to ensure that lessons were learned.
- Members referred to the increase in the percentage of those who were completely dissatisfied and were advised that overall people were more satisfied, but the feedback indicated perceived system failure.
- Where concerns had been received of this nature, Officers would make contact to help reach a resolution.

## **AGREED ACTIONS**

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee:

1. Reviewed and commented on the self-reported experience of unpaid carers as reflected in the national survey of carers 2023/24.
2. Reviewed the ongoing work to improve the experience of unpaid carers being undertaken in line with the co-produced recommendations from the All-Age Carers Strategy 2023-26.

## **18. THE PROVISION OF NHS DENTAL SERVICES IN PETERBOROUGH**

The Adults and Health Committee received a report in relation to an update regarding the current provision and access to NHS dental services in Peterborough.

The Primary Care Contracts Business Partner, Dental, ICB introduced the report and key points raised included:

- The Officer advised that the report detailed a 6-month update following an initial report in April 2024.
- Dentistry had been delegated to the ICB in April 2023 and the services were delivered under that national framework.
- There had been an increase of 12,600 patients since the National Dental Recovery Plan in 2022.
- The National Dentist Incentivisation Scheme had offered 12 places across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and work had been ongoing to recruit to those posts.
- The minimum unit of dental activity had been raised from £23 to £28.

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Members were advised that the successful practices in the incentivisation scheme had been written too and recruitment was expected to take around 6 months.
- Members noted the low uptake on the additional mandatory sessions and were advised that several contractors could not deliver, and work was ongoing to increase capacity as more practices engaged.
- Members expressed their support for dental vans in rural areas given the lack of public transport and sought clarification on how the rural areas could benefit from this. Officers advised that this was a national service that looked to map provision and fund where possible.
- Officers clarified that the dental vans focused on rural areas rather than urban as the latter had more provision.
- Members acknowledged that emergency dental care gave no significant treatment and had poor provision.
- Members referred to their regular requests to review this topic but that there had been little action.

### **AGREED ACTIONS**

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee:

1. Noted the content of the report.
2. Noted that The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Integrated Care Board wanted to assure members that they were working closely with Dental Providers who deliver an NHS dental contract in Peterborough to continue to recover and restore effective dental services, since the delegation of the commissioning of these service since 1 April 2023, whilst also exploring a longer-term strategy to support a model of sustainable NHS Dental service provision in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

### **19. WORK PROGRAMME 2024/2025**

The Senior Democratic Services Officer introduced the report which looked at the work programme for the municipal year 2024-2025 to determine the Committees priorities. Members were invited to make comments and suggestions.

- The Committee requested Officers bring another dentistry report in 6 months' time.

### **ACTIONS AGREED**

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee RESOLVED to note the work programme and requested a further report on dentistry be provided in 6 months' time.

### **20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was noted as being 5 November 2024

CHAIR

Meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 7.54pm.