



Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP

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Minutes of the **MEETING of the PEOPLE (ADULTS & HEALTH) SCRUTINY PANEL**
held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP on Thursday,
3rd December, 2015 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

Mrs L Stephenson (Chair)
Mr G Conde
Mr R Gale
Mr A Mann
Miss G Waller
Mr A Walters
Mr O Hemsley (Substitute for Mr C Parsons)

APOLOGIES:

Mrs R Burkitt	Mr W Cross
Mr C Parsons	Mr A Stewart

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Dr T O'Neill	Director for People
Mr M Andrews	Deputy Director for People
Mrs D Greaves	Accountant
Miss J Narey	Corporate Support Officer

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr R Clifton	Portfolio Holder for Health & Adult Social Care
Mrs J Fenelon	Healthwatch, Rutland

432 RECORD OF MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the People (Adults & Health) Scrutiny Panel held on the 1st October 2015, copies of which had been previously circulated were not confirmed or signed by the Chair as Mr Walters requested changes to items No. 278 and No. 279.

AGREED:

1. That the minutes would be changed to state that for items 278 and 279 it had been agreed that the Panel would not note the content of the reports due to the reports being received so long after the event.

433 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

434 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

No petitions, deputations or questions were received from members of the public.

435 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS

One question had been received from Miss Waller. Miss Waller put the question to the Portfolio Holder for Health and Adult Social Care:

Question

When the Cabinet approved the development of the Community Agents Scheme it was that the scheme be provided by a partnership of Spire Homes and the Rural Community Council's Community Spirit. I have recently heard a presentation from both Spire Homes and Community Spirit and it appears these agencies were not working together and have, in fact, set up separate schemes; the Spire Homes' scheme replacing sheltered housing wardens. Can the Portfolio Holder:

- a) Give this Scrutiny Panel an explanation of the contractual and management arrangements of the Community Agents' Scheme;
- b) Give an assurance that a full report on the activities and impact of this scheme will be brought to this Scrutiny Panel as soon as possible given the scheme has been running 7 of its 12 months; and
- c) Explain what is to happen to the scheme next April and beyond as it was funded for only one year.

The Chair invited the Portfolio Holder, Mr Clifton to respond to the question. The response is shown below.

Answer

'The paper went to Informal Cabinet only as the scheme is overseen by the Health and Wellbeing Board under the Better Care Fund. The paper which went in March outlining the operational structure noted:

The contribution to the scheme from the Better Care Fund is £185,216 (from an allocation of £200,000), and the funding from the Lottery via Rural Community Council is £99,980.

The two services running are complimentary, although we have no influence on the Rural Community Council scheme as this is entirely funded by the Lottery. The scheme, now being run by the Rural Community Council as 'Round Rutland', combines two of the elements of the original scheme which were outlined in the Informal Cabinet paper in March. As such, the Rural Community Council is still delivering towards the overarching aims, simply under a different scheme name, and these are separate elements to those being delivered by the Community Agents.

The Community Agents scheme is not a replacement for sheltered housing wardens. It works across the county with all age ranges. It will offer some low level support to elderly individuals in any Registered Social Landlords properties as part of the equitable access for anyone in Rutland who needs the help and support which the Community Agents offer.

The Council has a contract with Spire Homes for the provision of this service; no contract is currently in place between the Council and the Rural Community Council. The Community Agent scheme is funded in its entirety by the Better Care Fund and is

subject to a contract with Rutland County Council with a detailed specification. In addition, there are 3 other partners also providing dedicated support via the scheme:

1. Citizen's Advice Rutland
2. Age UK
3. Home Straight

Rutland County Council has contracts with these three partners separately to the Spire Homes contract. Spire Homes provide performance information on behalf of all the partners on a monthly basis and have quarterly formal contract monitoring meetings. A monthly report is also tabled at the Health and Wellbeing Board's Integration Executive as part of the Better Care Fund monitoring arrangements.

There is monthly activity and performance information available, including case studies, which is used to manage the contract. The scheme was discussed in detail at the September Health and Wellbeing Board and the papers are publicly available on the council website.

An evaluation of the scheme is underway as part of a wider Better Care Fund programme interim evaluation. This is being done to help shape the 2016-17 Better Care Fund plan, and will provide an opportunity to reflect on the scheme and how it might be further developed. The resulting evaluation and new programme will be presented to and approved by two partnership-based Boards, the Better Care Fund Section 75 Partnership Board and by the Health and Wellbeing Board (provisionally in January 2016, but timing may need to be adjusted depending on national Better Care Fund timetables and dependencies). The January Adults Scrutiny meeting is dedicated to the budget, but the evaluation and plan could be shared with you if members felt it appropriate.

To illustrate activities and impact to date, by the end of October, 227 clients had accessed the community agents or health agent, for one-off information and advice or for more intensive support and advice. Everyone exiting the service so far has done so having made progress against their identified issues (e.g. looking after yourself, feeling positive, managing symptoms, managing money). Work to encourage and establish new community groups is also progressing with nine in place.

Recent case studies include an isolated individual with health difficulties who has been helped to remain living at home via a range of support including increased companionship and support for day-to-day living. In a further case, the support needs of a lady in her 80s had changed following a period in hospital, and the community agents facilitated a range of work by different agencies to help her and her husband to remain living at home, including levelling access to the house, adaptations within the home and fall detectors.

The initial funding of one year was instigated for two reasons: firstly in line with the Better Care Fund arrangements whereby we had no future confirmation of funding at the time; and secondly in order to ensure that we had the ability to sufficiently revise the scheme in line with any changes needed to ensure its effectiveness. We now have confirmation of the Better Care Fund funding for next financial year. The scheme will be revised in line with the evaluation being undertaken. This will allow the scheme to build on aspects of delivery which are having greatest impact and re-focus where necessary. In line with our wider commissioning intentions, the Community

Agents Scheme will be considered as part of our overall commissioning work with the voluntary/community and faith sectors due to take place over the next twelve months.

The Community Agents – Better Care Fund (Spire Homes (Longhurst Group) Ltd) contract runs from 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016, with a 12 month extension option which is likely to be invoked until 31st March 2017, albeit under a revised specification.'

436 NOTICES OF MOTION FROM MEMBERS

No Notices of Motion were received from members.

437 CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE PANEL FOR A DECISIONS IN RELATION TO CALL IN OF A DECISION

No matter was referred to the Panel for a decision in relation to call-in of a decision in accordance with Procedure Rule 206.

438 QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

Report No. 217/2015 which was previously circulated under separate cover, was received from the Chief Executive.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- a) The report reflected what the Council had achieved.

AGREED:

- 1. That the Panel **NOTED** the content of the Report

439 QUARTER 2 FINANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

Report No. 206/2015 which was previously circulated under separate cover, was received from the Director of Resources.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- a) It was queried if the quarterly finance and performance reports should be presented to the Resources Scrutiny Panel only.

AGREED:

- 1. That the Panel **NOTED** the content of the Report

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Mrs Greaves left the meeting at 7.18 p.m.

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440 HEALTHWATCH: MID YEAR REPORT AND ANNUAL REPORT

Items 9 and 10 were taken together. Report No. 232/2015 and Report No. 233/2015 were received from Jennifer Fenelon, Chair, Healthwatch Rutland.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- a) The role of Healthwatch Rutland was to keep an eye on the quantity and quality of services in Rutland.
- b) They worked with the East Leicestershire and Rutland Clinical Commissioning Group (ELRCCG) and all neighbouring counties.
- c) They did not cover domiciliary services in people's homes or areas covered by OfSTED.
- d) Services monitored by Healthwatch Rutland included:
 - Services for older people
 - Services for People with Dementia and their Carers
 - Primary and Community Care Services
 - Dentistry Services – Rutland had a significantly higher than the England average of children under the age of 5 with tooth decay.
 - Pharmacy Services
 - Mental Health Services – Adults
 - Mental Health Services – Children and Young People
 - Services for People with Learning Disabilities
 - Ambulance Transport Services
 - Accident & Emergency and Urgent Care – the numbers admitted to Accident & Emergency were rising due to the onset of winter and the increase in the ageing population.
 - Maternity, Children & Women's Services
 - Services for the Disabled
 - Carers – biggest workforce who were looking after people with healthcare issues.
- e) No member of the Healthwatch Rutland board had experience of occupational therapy or sensory impairment.
- f) Mr Clifton confirmed that the Council was looking at ways for all services to work together better so as to avoid duplication and improve communication regarding available services especially regarding mental health issues.
- g) Mr Andrews reported that all carers were trained and inspected to national standards. Any concerns should be reported to the Council who would then liaise with the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

AGREED:

1. That the Panel **NOTED** the contents of the Mid-Year Report and the Annual Report.

441 STRATEGIC AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Report No. 203/2015 was received from the Chief Executive.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- a) Mr Walters informed attendees that the Resources Scrutiny Panel had informed Cabinet that an objective regarding the voluntary sector was missing from the strategic aims and objectives list as noted in Appendix A of Report No. 164/2015.

AGREED:

1. That the Panel **NOTED** the content of the Report.
2. That the Chair (Mrs Stephenson) would inform Cabinet that the Panel recommended that a strategic objective should be included for the needs of carers of older people and the needs of young carers.

442 PUBLISHED CARE HOME REPORT

Report No. 236/2015 was received from and introduced by the Portfolio Holder for Health and Adult Social Care, Mr Richard Clifton.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- a) The report from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) rated Aberdeen House in Uppingham as GOOD.
- b) Care homes were reluctant to share good practice information amongst themselves due to the commercial nature of their business.
- c) Concern was expressed regarding the delay between inspections and the delay between the inspection and the publication of the report. Dr O'Neill reported that concerns regarding the lack of capacity at the CQC were held by Rutland County Council and the CQC itself.
- d) Any issues highlighted by an inspection were also raised in contract meetings between the care home and the Council. They were also discussed at the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Board meetings.

AGREED:

1. That the Panel **NOTED** the content of the published CQC Care Home report.

443 PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND TOPICS

Copies of the Forward Plan were distributed to attendees.

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Dr T O'Neill left the meeting at 8.25 p.m. and re-joined at 8.30 p.m.

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During discussion the following points were noted:

- a) The Annual Complaints and Compliments Report would be reviewed only by the Resources Scrutiny Panel but all members would be notified of its publication by Corporate Support.
- b) Mrs. Stephenson noted that establishing a task and finish group to further scrutinise a particular area was available to the panel. Possible areas identified:
 - a. Community Agents: report to develop understanding of role and how this feeds into other organisations / sight of the forthcoming evaluation report
 - b. Signposting: urgent care
 - c. Dentistry and 5 year olds (in light of recent findings)
 - d. Children's mental health / mental health in general
 - e. Complaints

AGREED:

1. That the report on People (née Adult Social Care): Contracts & Procurements should be presented to the People (Adults & Health) Scrutiny Panel meeting on the 18th February 2016;
2. That the Better Care Fund Evaluation Report would be emailed to members of the Panel for feedback to the Clerk as to which specific items regarding Community Agents the Panel would like to receive a report on at the People (Adults & Health) Scrutiny Panel meeting on the 18th February 2016;
3. That the findings of the review of the 2012 National Dental Survey should be reported to the People (Adults & Health) Scrutiny Panel meeting on the 18th February 2016;
4. That the report on 'Reducing Substance Misuse Harm in Rutland' should be presented to the People (Adults & Health) Scrutiny Panel meeting on the 18th February 2016; and
5. That Corporate Support would arrange a short meeting session in January/February 2016 for interested Councillors to attend and identify what specific home care subject(s) they would like a report to be presented on at the People (Adults & Health) Scrutiny Panel meeting on the 14th April 2016.

444 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

445 DATE AND PREVIEW OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 14th January 2016 at 7.00 p.m.

This would be the Special Budget meeting.

AGREED:

Agenda items for the next meeting should include:

- i) Budget

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

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