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Meeting	Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee
Date	23 October 2019
Present	Councillors Doughty (Chair), Cullwick (Vice-Chair), Perrett, Waudby, Kilbane and Melly
Apologies	Councillors Pearson

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## **26. Declarations of Interest**

Members were asked to declare, at this point in the meeting, any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests or any prejudicial or discloseable pecuniary interest that they might have in respect of the business on the agenda.

Councillor Melly declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in item 5 of the agenda the Substance Misuse Review, having previously worked for the Life Live Project.

Councillor Doughty declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in item 6 of the agenda the Mental Health Update, in that his partner was one of the advisors working on the Framework.

There were no further declarations of interest.

## **27. Minutes**

Members requested that the following amendments be made to the previous minutes of the meeting held on 17 September:

- (i) On the item on Repeat Medicines Ordering under the heading Resolved: that the Committee: (ii) that the word 'support' be changed to 'acknowledged'.
- (ii) Also that changes be made to the attendance as Cllr Cullwick had chaired that meeting.

Please note: these changes were made on 7 November 2019.

## **28. Public Participation**

It was reported that there had been two registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

It was agreed that Cllr Pavlovic would join the discussion under agenda item 5, 'Substance Misuse Review Implementation Update'.

Cllr Waters spoke about a York resident, not from his ward, who was unable to get a doctor's appointment at his local practice at Wenlock Terrace and instead had to travel from the Wenlock Terrace to the practice at Unity Health. This patient had raised a number of various complaints regarding this to Unity Health and was now at risk of being de-registered.

Resolved: That the chair of this committee draft a letter to the Wenlock Terrace practice requesting further information on appointment availability. This letter would be circulated to members of this committee for their comments and approval prior to the Scrutiny Officer sending this to the practice.

Reason: In order for members to receive information regarding service delivery.

## **29. Older Persons Accommodation Needs Survey**

Further to an engagement and consultation programme to better understand the accommodation needs of the city's older residents, members received the report which presented the results of this survey and outlined how that research could shape the future work of the Older Person's Accommodation Programme. Vicky Japes, Head of Older Persons Accommodation and Phillip Pye, Older Persons Accommodation Intern, were in attendance to present the report and to respond to questions.

Officers, earlier today, had met with the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust and other stakeholders who had signed up to joint working on housing approaches in the city. They had asked that in consideration of the accommodation needs of older residents that this committee considers: (i) Their call for action regarding technology to support older residents, and (ii) How we make policy that reflects the need for accommodation

recognising that the majority of York's older residents are homeowners.

The following information was provided in response to questions from committee members:

- The consultation had been undertaken as the council did not have qualitative data from residents and had been reliant upon population data.
- This was a council consultation undertaken in partnership with the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust. The interview, qualitative data sessions had been organised by them.
- There were 406 on-line or paper responses to the questionnaire, in addition there were interviews to gain qualitative data, quotes and in depth personal insights. 34 per cent of responses were from men. There had been difficulty in getting people to complete the survey.
- 81 per cent of the residents surveyed were home owners. 29 per cent of them wanted to stay in their existing home.
- There was a lack of awareness of the various accommodation options. A common response to questions was 'we don't know what is available'. As a result of this, the council would produce a directory of options, once people were aware of the options available there may be further changes in demand.
- It was noted that a high number of people had been interested in a self-build property within a multi-generational community. The council were aware of two groups considering this. The council has a community and self-build officer. Although younger people had not featured in the action plan officers agreed to provide feedback on this aspect.
- Regarding the 10 per cent of people wishing to live in a single story property and whether this target was high enough given the increase in population who will be aged over 75 in future, officers reiterated that this consultation had reflected the wishes of older residents and had not been a commitment for the council to build these properties. A higher target would result in a planning commitment to put obligations on developers.
- 80 per cent of York's older residents had expressed that they were receptive to trailing new technology to assist them.
- Officers needed to give further consideration to the housing demand in relation to those moving to York from

outside the area. 40 per cent of residents who had purchased properties at Cardinal Court were from outside of the city.

- In hindsight the consultation would have asked people about their existing living circumstances.
- In response to concerns from members regarding care home provision which had been given a green RAG rating at the recent Corporate Scrutiny Committee. It was agreed that this committee would receive an update on this concern. Officers explained that the council major projects report had been given a green RAG rating as collectively the programme in relation to care provision was moving at a good pace with a number of care provisions opening in the New Year.

Resolved that the committee:

- (i) Noted and commented on the Older Persons Accommodation Needs report and the results of the engagement work.
- (ii) Considered how the consultation responses could be used to inform the future of the Older Person's Accommodation Programme.
- (iii) Requested further information on care home provision.

Reason: So that the committee is updated on the findings of the Older Persons Accommodation Needs Survey and are involved in how the consultation responses could be used to inform the future of the Older Person's Accommodation Programme.

### **30. Substance Misuse Review Implementation Update**

Members received the report which provided their first update on the implementation of the approved recommendations arising from the Substance Misuse Scrutiny Review at Annex 1 completed by the former Health, Housing and Adult Social Care Policy and Scrutiny Committee (HHASC), during the previous administration.

Fiona Phillips, Assistant Director Public Health and Leigh Bell, Advanced Practitioner in Public Health, were in attendance to present the report and to respond to questions.

Cllr Pavlovic who had been chair of the Substance Misuse Scrutiny Task Group participated in the discussion of this item.

In relation to funding of the substance misuse service, financial reductions had been made to the service during 2018 – 20. 330k had been taken from the service and about £75k before that. £200k had then been put back into the service, a payment for this financial year only, there remained a shortfall of approximately £130k. Officers explained that when this service had been recommissioned, the first year had been about working with the provider to consider where savings and efficiencies could be made, in line with a reduction in public health budgets nationally. The reduction in funding had impacted on the level of service provided therefore £200k had been allocated to the service to bring it to the standard it had previously been.

Members considered that budgetary reductions to the service had resulted in the loss of key staff. The later allocation of £100k then another £100k which was non-recurrent funding had meant that the service was not in a position to: re-appoint staff, raise expectation or be innovative. The additional funding therefore could not bring the service to the standard it had previously been. Members considered that Public Health needed to make a decision on funding so that the service could plan its provision rather than exist 'hand-to-mouth', which was not in the interest of the service, the administration or the client group.

Members discussed each of the 5 recommendations in turn, which had been made by the Substance Misuse Scrutiny Review and supported at Executive in March, to consider the progress against each recommendation.

Members considered that recommendation 1 had not been met and that budgetary reductions had led to a year of a truncated service. The committee requested that a risk assessment of the impact that financial cuts have had on treatment and waiting times be undertaken in order to accurately evaluate these concerns.

On recommendation 2: regarding 'future proposals for changes to the funding available...should be accompanied by clear risk and impact assessments'. Members considered that those assessments should consider how funding reductions impact

upon other services such as hospitals, police and primary care. Officers responded that it could take a year to measure the impact on other services.

On recommendation 3: Under the heading 'Implementation September 2019' comment, members requested that the word 'considering' be replaced with the word 'identifying'. It was agreed that the report of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment steering group which would identify the resources required within CYC and partner organisations to undertake alcohol service provision, would be received at this committee. Officers reported that this scoping exercise of identifying resources would probably be completed by February 2020.

Recommendation 4 and 5: Members considered that whilst the intention behind these updates was commendable, they were concerned that there was a lack of urgency in addressing this health crisis. Alcohol abuse is one of the biggest health concerns in York that has a huge impact on families and society.

It was agreed that officers would share the concerns of this committee with the executive before budgetary decisions are taken and that this committee would receive a progress report on these concerns in 6 months.

The Scrutiny Officer mentioned that Health Watch would be attending the December meeting of this committee to provide an update on the multi-complex needs network further to the previous discussions on this item at this committee in July.

Resolved: That the committee considered the content of this report and the update report presented by the council Public Health and:

- (i) Requested that their comments in relation to the update provided against the recommendations from the Substance Misuse Review be shared with the Executive.
- (ii) Requested that they receive further updates in six months' time or at any time prior to changes in funding.

Reason: To raise awareness of those recommendations which have been implemented or are yet to be properly implemented.

### **31. Mental Health Update- Developing a Community Approach to Mental Health and Wellbeing**

Members received the report which outlined plans to develop and 'pilot' a community approach to mental health and wellbeing in the northern sector of the City of York. The pilot is one of the York Mental Health Partnership's top four priorities, as recently presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in its Annual Report on 11 September 2019.

Michael Melvin, Assistant Director Adult Social Care and Chris Weeks, Commissioning Manager were in attendance to present the report and to respond to questions.

The following information was provided in response to questions from committee members:

- There had been debate about where to undertake this pilot - do you go to a place with bigger needs and fewer assets or to an area where there are more assets and may be a chance to establish a meaningful service, like York. This will be evaluated through a corporate produced approach with the client outlining their priorities.
- Officers would be working with partners at York St John University.
- This is an innovative approach rather than a pilot. Officers understood the concerns of the committee and wanted this approach to gain funding in order to help those most in need in our community. Officers were working with the voluntary sector who have a voice in terms of developing and commissioning services.
- Officers were considering organising an engagement event early in the New Year involving elected members and local area co-ordinators.
- This pilot is about reactivating and making the most of existing services.
- There is additional capacity if take-up of this service increases.
- The service will be offered over seven days because people want flexibility in terms of access, to help support in a crisis

but also help with longer term goals like assistance with gaining employment.

Resolved: That the committee:

- (i) Noted this report and the work that is underway to develop a plan for how a place-based community approach to mental health and wellbeing might work, initially in the northern sector of the city.
- (ii) will be invited to engagement events arranged in the northern sector of the city as and when they happen.

Reason: To support a co-produced, community led approach to mental health and wellbeing in York.

### **32. Bootham Park Update**

Members received a report which provided an update on the Bootham Park site, the former Bootham Park Hospital, owned and currently being marketed for sale by NHS Property Services (NHSPS). The City of York Council (CYC) completed a consultation exercise that ended on the 11<sup>th</sup> October on a Site Development Master Plan in partnership with York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (YTHT), indicating future uses for the site and its surrounding areas which had included the following:

- 147 dwellings
- 52 key worker apartments
- New physiotherapy suite, medical training and research centre of excellence
- 70 bed care home
- 60 assisted living/supported living apartments
- New children's nursery
- 250 space multi-storey car park
- extensive public open space

Committee members considered the options above and made the following comments which they had requested be reported to the Executive:



- A member considered that the committee would support any developer who would bring forward the majority of options listed above.
- A member considered that the council does not own the site and has no influence over the developers. The Executive should consider the option of buying the site for the city.
- The report mentions 'micro-flats' for key workers. That would not be suitable for key workers with families.
- A few members did not consider it beneficial to use the site as a repurposed multi-storey car park.

Resolved: Members considered the report and requested that their comments on the health and wellbeing benefits that might be achieved from a future development on the site be reported to Executive alongside the result of the consultation.

Reason: To keep the committee up to date with the ongoing developments of the Bootham Park site and its future use.

### **33. Work Plan**

Members considered the work plan for 2019/20

It was noted that the following items would be added to the work plan:

#### November meeting

- Emergency Dental Treatment

#### December meeting

- Update on the Older Persons Review  
- Community Groups.

During discussion on how this committee links with other committees the chair mentioned that he meets with the chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board every six months and that the chairs and vice-chairs of the scrutiny groups meet regularly to share information on their agendas. Members suggested inviting Health Watch and patient groups to the committee. Members were keen to hear from service users so that the

committee could identify themes that they could scrutinise. It was noted that the remit of this committee was to scrutinise themes rather than individual concerns.

Cllr Doughty, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 8.00 pm].