

AT A MEETING of the SAFE AND HEALTHY PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE of the COUNTY COUNCIL held at The Castle, Winchester on Friday 20 July 2012.

PRESENT

Chairman:
p Councillor Liz Fairhurst

Vice-Chairman
p Councillor Roger Kimber

Councillors:

p Ann Buckley	p Eric Neal
p Alan Dowden	p Jackie Porter
p Jane Frankum	p David Simpson
a Michael Geddes	p Patricia Stallard
p Mark Kemp-Gee	p Pat West
p Pam Mutton	

Also in attendance Councillor Felicity Hindson, MBE, Executive Member for Adult Social Care.

92. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Michael Geddes.

93. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were mindful that, where they believed they had a personal or personal prejudicial interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting, they should normally at the time of the debate declare their interest, and having regard to the circumstances described in paragraphs 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the County Council's Code of Conduct, consider whether to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 12 of the Code.

Councillor Mark Kemp-Gee declared a personal, non prejudicial interest as he is a Trustee of Age Concern Hampshire.

Councillor Pat West declared a personal, non prejudicial interest as she is a Trustee of Age Concern Hampshire.

94. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Select Committee held 25 May 2012 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Two matters arising from the minutes were noted:

The locations for the six 'wellbeing centres' under the Mental Health Joint Commissioning Strategy had been received by Members.

A further briefing on the NHS white paper would be heard in November 2012, once the Department had been able to fully understand how potential policy changes could affect services provided by Hampshire County Council.

95. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Committee noted its thanks to Lucy Butler, previous Associate Director for Learning Disabilities and Mental Health, for all her hard work in assisting the Safe and Healthy People Select Committee. Ms Butler would be taking up a new post at Oxfordshire County Council.

96. **COMMUNITY NUTRITION STRATEGY**

The Committee received a presentation from the Director of Adult Services on the community nutrition strategy for Hampshire, which included details of the community meals review.

(Take in report and presentation)

Members heard:

- That the main purpose of the review was to ensure that a consistent meals on wheels service was being offered across Hampshire. Currently the cost, regularity of deliveries and type of meal offered differs across Borough or District Council areas.
- That a further purpose of the review was to explore the possibility of widening the access of the service to those in need aged 55 and above, as part of the early intervention and prevention agenda. It also aimed to offer support and a "little bit of help" at specific times to an older person to prevent a crisis occurring and to support them to remain living independently at home.
- That the community nutrition strategy sets out how meal services can enable people to maintain an independent life for as long as possible at home, and help tackle the issues of malnourishment and dehydration amongst older people.
- The strategy also picks up on the vision of the

That an update is provided to the Committee on the Community Meals Support service six months after implementation of the pilot.

'Campaign to End Loneliness', which aims to reduce the number of people feeling chronic loneliness in older age and to enable more people to maintain their connections with their local community.

- That a consultation was undertaken on the future of community meals with both current service users, potential future service users and other relevant stakeholders. The proposed model for the community meals service factored in comments received as part of this work.
- That the future meals on wheels service will provide a midday meal across the County 365 days a year. Those delivering the meals will carry out a simple health and wellbeing checks. This will identify changes / deterioration in the individual and when and who to contact . Their training will include the use of the trigger tool.
- That the meals on wheels service will be open to anyone over 55 years of age who meet prevention and early intervention criteria, as well as those who meet Adult Services eligibility criteria. The meals on wheels service will be paid for from the charge to clients, with any further costs for the meals met by Hampshire County Council. The service, from April 2013, will not be dependent on District and Borough Council funding
- That the meals support service will be piloted in the County for one year from April 2013. This befriending service, staffed by volunteers, will provide weekly, fortnightly or monthly visits coinciding with meal times to support the social and communal aspect of eating. District and Borough Council have been asked to consider funding this service. This funding will be used directly to support the volunteers involved in providing the service in their district/borough council area.

In response to questions, Members heard:

- That cookery classes have begun as part of the community nutrition strategy, and so far over 50 individuals have benefitted from the skills taught as part of these courses. [amended post-meeting]
- That Adult Services are confident that there is enough voluntary resource in the County to help deliver the community meals and provide the meals support service.
- That the tender for the new community meals service is now out to advert. The new provider(s) will be in place by April 2013.
- That in order to tackle the issues of malnourishment and dehydration, all meals provided will have a minimum of 30% of an individuals recommended nutritional daily allowance. Service users will also have the opportunity to request that their meal be accompanied by a drink of water.

- That there can be difficulty of defining what age an 'older' person is. In order to fit in with the prevention and early intervention agenda, it was agreed that the age of 55 be the lower limit for access to the meals service. It is recognised that older people of the same age may have differing levels of physical mobility, fitness and need for services.
- That the main referral route for the meals on wheels service will be through an online form, but telephone referrals will also be taken.
- That the meals support service is being piloted for a year initially, as the demand is currently unknown, and changes may need to be made to the way the service is provided.
- That the Department were also exploring opportunities with local schools in the County to explore the possibility of older people being invited to have meals with pupils, providing new social connections between different generations.
- That it will be possible for the village agent scheme to tie-in with the meals support service.

Members suggested that the Department take some suggestions away with them for integration into any community meals service policies or processes:

- That older people are routinely shown, if appropriate, how to cook frozen meals if not in receipt of a 365 days a year hot meal service.
- That water jugs are not too heavy for service users to lift, and straws are provided.
- That meals are date and colour coded for ease of reference.
- That meals provided as part of the service have an element of 'fun', in order to encourage positive thoughts about eating.

RESOLVED:

That an update is provided to the Committee on the Community Meals Support service six months after implementation of the pilot.

97. **TRANSFORMATION OF IN-HOUSE LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES**

The Committee received an update from the Director of Adult Services on the transformation of in-house learning disability services one year into implementation..

(Take in report and presentation)

Members heard:

- That the aim of the transformation was to offer a range of services that better meet the needs of users, provide a greater variety and choice of accommodation and

That a further update is provided once the new service has embedded, and the residential sites have been identified and timelines for implementation

activities, and to make services fit for the future.

- That although the transformation came at a time when the Council's efficiencies programmes were prominent, the service review was not driven by savings, but by the need to look at how services can better fit service user's needs, and reinvesting capital where it is most required.
- That a significant programme of refurbishment and building of new units was agreed by the Executive Member, and work was underway to bring these projects to fruition.
- That the Hampshire County Council learning disability service now has 9 residential homes and twelve day services in the County.
- That work had been progressing in the Basingstoke and Bishopstoke day community links, with the first centre due to re-open in September 2012.
- That concern had been expressed during the consultation on the use of the 'launch pad' service, which aimed to put service users in contact with those providing accessible leisure and recreation facilities in their area in place of traditional day services. Feedback from those now using this service had reported positive experiences.

put in place.

In response to questions, Members heard:

- That there was a recurring theme in the consultation from stakeholders of fear of service user friendships being broken due to service changes. The launch pad service had managed to be successful in outlining existing friendships and group needs through person-centred reviews, and using advocacy services to enable friends to move into the same new service together, if requested. The Leader had generously made funds available to the service to assist with this work.
- That the south Hampshire respite facility would be located in Fareham.
- That transport routes and accessibility had been factored into the choices offered to service users.

RESOLVED:

That a further update is provided once the new service has embedded, and the residential sites have been identified and timelines for implementation put in place.

98. **OLDER PEOPLE'S DAY CARE**

The Committee received a presentation from the Director of Adult Services, following the agreement of the Executive Member for Adult Services to go out to tender to secure the long term vision for day opportunities for older people.

(Take in report and presentation)

That the results of the consultation on Older People's Day Opportunities are brought to the Committee, when

Members heard:

- That the expiry of contracts for the provision of older people's day care had presented Adult Services with an opportunity to look at how the services could be improved to meet with the current and future needs of this demographic, and how the service could fit in with the strategic aims of the Department.
- That older people's day care had moved from being a social service for people with a range of abilities to one in more recent times that provides for those with high needs. As a result, services had become more narrow in their offer. One of the aims of this review had been to provide day services to those who required early intervention and prevention, or those in receipt of reablement services.
- That the Government's recent White Paper on social care had outlined many of the strategic aims the Department already has in relation to services for older people.
- That the Department aim to undertake a consultation with current and future services users, carers and other interested stakeholders on the future services provided as part of older people's day opportunities. Providers of services had already made the Department aware that they are keen to help shape future services, and bring ideas to the table.

In response to questions, Members heard:

- That the Department agree that carer views are integral to the shaping of any future services.
- That part of the review will be to work with non-Hampshire County Council day service providers to ensure that they are able to support services users with high needs, such as those who are frail or have reduced mobility.
- That transport needs will be an important factor in an individual's choice of service, and the Department will ensure that these needs are taken account of in any future proposals. Future contracts and tenders may require that providers put on transport to convey service users to and from day activities.
- That gym equipment is not usually set up in service user homes unless there is a medical need for this.

RESOLVED:

That the results of the consultation on Older People's Day Opportunities are brought to the Committee, when available.

available.

99. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Chief Executive presented the work programme

(Item 8 in the Minute Book).

The Chairman agreed to consider the topic of carer needs assessment at her next planning meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee's work programme be approved subject to the issues raised at the meeting.

Chairman, 23 November 2012