

AT A MEETING of the HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SELECT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE of the COUNTY COUNCIL held at The Castle, Winchester on Tuesday, 29 July 2014

**PRESENT**

Chairman:  
p Councillor Patricia Stallard

Vice-Chairman:  
p Councillor Chris Carter

**Councillors:**

a Graham Burgess	p Chris Lagdon
a Rita Burgess	p Martin Lyon
p Charles Choudhary	p Fiona Mather
p Alan Dowden	a Andy Moore
p Jacqui England	p George Ringrow
p David Harrison	p Steve Rippon-Swaine
p Marge Harvey	p Frank Rust
p Roger Huxstep	p Bruce Tennent
a David Keast	p Martin Tod

**Co-opted Members:**

Councillors:

a Tonia Craig  
p Alison Finlay  
a Tim Southern  
p Dennis Wright

**In attendance at the invitation of the Chairman:**

Councillor Liz Fairhurst, Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Graham Burgess, Rita Burgess, David Keast and Andy Moore, and co-opted members Councillors Tonia Craig and Tim Southern. Councillor Keith Evans, as the appointed conservative substitute member, attended in Councillor Graham Burgess' place, and Councillor Tim Rolt, as the appointed UKIP substitute member, attended in Councillor Andy Moore's place.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest and, having regard to Part 3, Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with

Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Personal Interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered, having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 4 of the Code, whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 5 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code

Councillor Chris Carter declared a Personal Interest in Item 5, as family members volunteer for the Gosport War Memorial Hospital League of Friends.

Councillor Jacqui England declared a general Personal Interest, as she is the Chairman of the Lyngton Hospital League of Friends.

Councillor Marge Harvey declared a Personal Interest in Item 6, as she is a member of the East Hampshire District Council Domestic Abuse forum.

Councillor Martin Tod declared a general Personal Interest, as he is the Chief Executive of the Men's Health Forum, which receives funding from the NHS.

3. **DEPUTATIONS**

No deputations were received.

4. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed all to the first meeting of the new Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASC).

The Chairman made three announcements:

**Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Member Development Session**

The Committee were reminded that the second Member Development session on these topics would be taking place on Tuesday 2 September, from 2pm, in the Mitchell Room, Elizabeth II Court Podium.

**Health and Social Care Publications**

The Chairman noted to members two publications which had been recently released from the Department of Health and the Local Government Association. The first, entitled 'Local Authority Health Scrutiny' Guidance, had been circulated to members as part of the information pack following a recent induction session. The second was entitled 'Advising residents about health and social care complaints: a guide for councillors', and a web link would be circulated to members following the meeting.

**Care Act Working Group**

The Chairman asked the Vice Chairman to give a brief update on the work of the Care Act working group.

Members noted that a major consultation on the draft regulations and guidance for parts of the Care Act being introduced in April 2015 had started in June, to which the County Council would be responding to. Officers would be discussing their proposed draft response to this consultation with the Care Act working group and the Executive Member on 1 August.

It was noted that officers had held their first meeting with Southampton, Portsmouth and Isle of Wight Council colleagues and would be meeting regularly with this group over the coming months to discuss how they could work together on the Care Act.

5. **PROPOSALS TO DEVELOP OR VARY SERVICES**

The Director of Policy and Governance presented a report on proposals to develop or vary health services in the area of the Committee (see Item 5 in the Minute Book). The report was presented in three parts which comprised items for action required by the Committee to respond to proposals from the NHS to substantially change or vary NHS services; items for monitoring, which allowed the Committee to monitor outcomes from substantial changes, and items for noting which alerted the Committee to forthcoming proposals from the NHS to vary or change services.

***Under items for information:***

**Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust: Temporary closure of Daedalus Ward**

The letters provided in the report (Appendix 1 and 2 to Item 5 in the Minute Book) were noted by Members.

Members heard that any provider of NHS services, such as Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust, are able to temporarily close services without consulting the HASC when it believes that a decision has to be taken because of a risk to safety or welfare of patients or staff. In such cases, the provider of NHS services must notify the local authority that consultation has not taken place and the reasons for this.

Southern Health had written to the Chairman on 13 June 2014 in order to inform the HASC that the Trust had on 9 June temporarily closed to new admissions Daedalus Ward in Gosport War Memorial Hospital, which is a 17 bed organic (dementia) Older People's Mental Health ward. The reason for the temporary closure was the identification of MRSA on the ward, and the subsequent decision to undertake works to eliminate probable contributing factors to colonisations of MRSA.

In their most recent update, the Trust had stated that in order for the work to be completed in a timely way whilst maintaining the safety, privacy and dignity of the remaining patients, they had taken the decision to close the ward and rehouse the three remaining patients elsewhere within Gosport War Memorial Hospital. The Trust noted in this letter that there had not been any patients required to be admitted elsewhere in the County during the

temporary closure. The Trust stated that all the works on the ward would be completed by the 1 August 2014.

Members asked questions of the Director of Public Health, Dr Ruth Milton, on MRSA and the possible causes of this on an Older Person's Mental Health ward. Discussions were held on the actions taken when admitting patients on to a ward, and when a MRSA colonisation of an individual has been identified. The Committee on hearing this information were reassured that temporarily closing the ward for works to reduce probable causes of MRSA was in line with best practice.

The Committee expressed concern at the high levels of MRSA cases reported in the Trust's letter of 13 June 2014, and requested additional monitoring information on this area. Dr Milton assured the Committee that the NHS operates a zero-tolerance policy to healthcare-associated infections and that data related to this is in the public domain through the regular reporting processes of all NHS providers and commissioners.

## RESOLVED

That:

1. Members are satisfied with the actions of Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust to temporarily close to admissions the Daedalus Ward in Gosport War Memorial Hospital from 9 June to 1 August 2014, and to move some patients to alternative accommodation in this time.
2. Members require the following further information:
  - a. Confirmation of the date that Daedalus Ward reopens to admissions, and that the Ward remains 'dementia friendly'.
  - b. Reassurance that all cases of MRSA are subject to case review, and result in a 'deep clean' of the area where a case is reported.
  - c. An update in six months time on MRSA rates within the Older People's Mental Health directorate for review by the Committee.

## 6. **ADULT SOCIAL CARE: SUPPORTING PEOPLE REVIEW**

The Director of Adult Service presented a report on Supporting People: Changes to Budget, Services Commissioned and Commissioning Responsibilities (see Item 6 in the Minute Book).

The Chairman indicated her intention to split this item into three sections based on the three sectors of the report (socially excluded, older people's and disabilities), taking a summary, questions, debate and then recommendations on each area before summarising at the end.

Members were informed that the County Council had agreed at the February 2014 Full Council meeting to reduce the budget available to Supporting People in 2014/15 and indicated the likely need to make further such savings in 2015/16. The review presented today sought to identify where reductions

in service could be achieved in order to bring about the savings required. Members of the HASC had been briefed on the likely outcomes of this review at their informal briefing in June 2014, and although the recommendations reported at this time were similar to those in the report, it had been subsequently agreed to allow more time to implement some changes.

Members were reminded that reductions in Supporting People spend would not affect the 93% of services for those with a statutory eligible need for adult social care, and that all individuals requesting an adult social care assessment would be provided with one.

### Socially Excluded Sector

The current service offering and review of the service in preparation for the report was summarised to members. Reviews relating to Supporting People services for Mental Health, Crisis and Prevention, Ex-Offenders and Veterans were ongoing and would be reported to the Executive Member in due course. It was proposed under this sector:

- To transfer commissioning responsibility and the budget for services for young people to the Children's Services Department. This would represent a total saving to Adult Services of £774,235, and includes the savings from ending the contracts listed in Appendix A in the report.
- For the current services listed in Appendix B in the report to continue to operate within their current contractual arrangements during the period of the review and until 31 March 2016.
- For contracts for generic support services and services for ex-offenders listed in Appendix E in the report to be extended for one year to the end of March 2016.
- For the County Council to adopt a partnership approach to managing these services in the future.

Details of the engagement activities undertaken by the department were highlighted, and members were informed that feedback had moderated the recommendations put forward to the Executive Member for decision. Members were referred to the Impact Assessment and Equalities Impact Assessment at Appendices I and J in the report.

In response to questions, members heard:

- That Supporting People services were first introduced in 2003 and have evolved since this time to the range of services offered in 2014. Some services are underutilised or do not meet the needs of the individuals they are provided for, and for this reason a review is timely in addition to the Council's need to make efficiencies.
- Some contracts are due to come to a natural end in March 2015 and March 2016, enabling the Council to provide suitable notice and support the run-down of existing services. Other services have clauses in the contract that would enable the Council to end the contract prematurely. It was envisaged that fewer contracts would be offered in future, and these would be awarded following usual procurement practices.
- Recommendations to the Executive Member were aimed to reduce low-impact services whilst protecting those with high-impact. The

proposals would see more of a focus on outcome-based services that meet individual needs.

- That the department were confident that changes to Supporting People services would not impact in future on the number of people presenting with critical eligible care needs. After reductions in service it was still expected that the Supporting People service in Hampshire would be one of the largest in the country.
- That Hampshire County Council continues to be committed to services for veterans, and is seeking funding from other sectors, such as the charity and voluntary sector, to continue to provide the same level of accommodation services in future.

During debate, Members discussed their views on the evidence presented the 'socially excluded' section of the report from officers and within the papers and their appendices. Debate was heard on satisfaction with the decision to undertake more detailed reviews on the areas highlighted above.

The Chairman moved to vote on the recommendations. A vote took place on the endorsement of recommendations 31.2 – 31.5 in the report and they were agreed without a recorded vote.

#### Older People's Sector

The current service offering and review of the service in preparation for the report was summarised to members. It was highlighted that Supporting People services were a small proportion of the overall services offered to older people through adult services. It was proposed under this sector:

- That the contracts listed in Appendix F in the report will expire in March 2015 and that these are not renewed or retendered.
- That the £2.512m of savings required by 31 March 2015 and total savings of £3,505,906 by 31 March 2016 figures are reviewed in light of the decision to slow down the savings plan for 2014/15.
- That community alarm services end on 30 September 2014, with individuals meeting social care eligibility criteria being referred to the 'telecare' service. Those who do not meet the criteria would be offered a self-funded option.
- A new Supporting People model for older people consisting of two key elements be introduced, which includes:
  - A community-based, grant-funded, support scheme, which would be further developed based on current pilot schemes.
  - An intensive support service to meet the short-term needs of older people who do not meet eligibility criteria, which would work in conjunction with the Council's Community Independence Teams.

Details of the engagement activities undertaken by the department were highlighted. Members were referred to the Impact Assessment and Equalities Impact Assessment at Appendices K and L in the report.

In response to questions, members heard:

- That the quality of services and outcomes achieved by the voluntary sector are monitored, and the Council works closely with this sector to

pilot different approaches and explore what services voluntary organisations can provide.

- Individuals would still be able to self-fund handyman and gardening services if they do not meet eligibility criteria. The Council's trading standards department can signpost the public to accredited services.
- The cost of funding community alarms varies significantly based on whether individuals already have kit installed in their homes, and what level of response is required should the alarm be pulled. Services generally start from 30-50p per week for kit which is already installed and notifies a relative or friend as a first port of call. Services which cost up to £5 per week are for newer technology and functionality greater than purely an alarm button.
- Community alarm providers have previously not always forwarded data on to the Council on falls and reasons for calling alarms, so it is difficult to estimate their usage. It is thought that the use of alarms is generally low, and there are other mechanisms in place to deal with falls awareness and prevention.

During debate, Members discussed their views on the evidence presented on the 'older people's' section of the report from officers and within the papers and their appendices. Debate was heard on concerns regarding the detail of the services to be re-commissioned to meet those older people's needs who have a requirement for some form of support, but not eligible care needs. Concerns were also expressed relating to increased pressure on carers and the voluntary sector, and additional information was heard on a corporate review aimed to look at how the Council works with the voluntary sector. The need to remove services to fit with a reduced budget was highlighted by some members, as well as the realistic approach required to ensure that funding is available to meet critical care needs. Members agreed that the Committee would need to robustly monitor and audit these changes in order to ensure that these do not impact upon need elsewhere in the system.

The Chairman moved to vote on the recommendations. A recorded vote took place on the endorsement of recommendation 31.6 in the report to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health as set out below.

*'That the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health notes that the current older peoples' support services contracts, listed in Appendix F will expire on their contract end date in March 2015 and permission to renew or retender them will not be sought.'*

For: Cllr Chris Carter, Cllr Charles Choudhary, Cllr Jacqui England, Cllr Keith Evans, Cllr Marge Harvey, Cllr Roger Huxstep, Cllr Chris Lagdon, Cllr Martin Lyon, Cllr Fiona Mather, Cllr George Ringrow, Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine, Cllr Tim Rolt, Cllr Frank Rust, Cllr Patricia Stallard

Against: Cllr Alan Dowden, Cllr David Harrison, Cllr Bruce Tennent, Cllr Martin Tod

Abstained: None

A recorded vote took place on the endorsement of recommendation 31.7 in the report to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health as set out below.

*'That the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health notes the termination of the contracts for the community alarm services, listed in Appendix G, with effect from 30 September 2014.'*

For: Cllr Chris Carter, Cllr Charles Choudhary, Cllr Keith Evans, Cllr Marge Harvey, Cllr Roger Huxstep, Cllr Chris Lagdon, Cllr Fiona Mather, Cllr George Ringrow, Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine, Cllr Tim Rolt, Cllr Frank Rust, Cllr Patricia Stallard  
Against: Cllr Alan Dowden, Cllr Jacqui England, Cllr David Harrison, Cllr Martin Lyon, Cllr Bruce Tennent, Cllr Martin Tod  
Abstained: None

A recorded vote took place on the endorsement of recommendation 31.8 in the report to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health as set out below.

*'That permission is sought from the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health to tender for alternative short-term intensive support service for older people and to award the contracts based on the outcome of the tender exercise. The maximum value of these contracts will be £4.5m million over six years. Contracts will be awarded for an initial three years with the option to extend by up to three further years.'*

For: Cllr Chris Carter, Cllr Charles Choudhary, Cllr Jacqui England, Cllr Keith Evans, Cllr Marge Harvey, Cllr Roger Huxstep, Cllr Chris Lagdon, Cllr Martin Lyon, Cllr Fiona Mather, Cllr George Ringrow, Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine, Cllr Tim Rolt, Cllr Frank Rust, Cllr Patricia Stallard  
Against: Cllr Alan Dowden, Cllr David Harrison, Cllr Bruce Tennent, Cllr Martin Tod  
Abstained: None

A recorded vote took place on the endorsement of recommendation 31.9 in the report to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health as set out below.

*'That the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health approves in principle the decision to ensure provision of a community-based support service for older people through a grants-based programme which will be subject to a future Executive Member decision.'*

For: Cllr Chris Carter, Cllr Charles Choudhary, Cllr Alan Dowden, Cllr Jacqui England, Cllr Keith Evans, Cllr David Harrison, Cllr Marge Harvey, Cllr Roger Huxstep, Cllr Chris Lagdon, Cllr Fiona Mather, Cllr George Ringrow, Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine, Cllr Tim Rolt, Cllr Frank Rust, Cllr Patricia Stallard, Cllr Bruce Tennent, Cllr Martin Tod

Against: None

Abstained: Councillor Martin Lyon

### Disabilities Sector

The current service offering and review of the service in preparation for the report was summarised to members Savings of circa £860k had already been achieved through the reduction of under-used contracts and the maximum hours of support from fifteen to seven. All individuals under this sector would be offered an assessment prior to any changes to the service they currently receive. It was proposed under this sector:

- That further savings be made by managing demand, further reducing hours of support in line with individual assessments and sign posting people to alternative support.
- That current contracts for people with disabilities listed in Appendix H in the report end by their scheduled end date of 31 March 2015.
- Total minimum savings of £1.6m be realised for this sector by 31 March 2015.
- All remaining net budgets be transferred to the learning disability mainstream commissioning arrangements from April 2015.

Details of the engagement activities undertaken by the department were highlighted. Members were referred to the Impact Assessment and Equalities Impact Assessment at Appendices M and N in the report.

In response to questions, members heard:

- That contracts would be monitored closely to ensure that services for people with disabilities were not being duplicated elsewhere in the department.

During debate, Members discussed their views on the evidence presented the 'disabilities' section of the report from officers and within the papers and their appendices.

The Chairman moved to vote on the recommendations. A vote took place on the endorsement of recommendations 31.10 in the report and it was agreed without a recorded vote.

### Summary

A recorded vote took place on the endorsement of recommendation 31.1 in the report to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health as set out below.

*'That permission is sought from the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health to approve the proposals outlined within this report that will reduce overall expenditure by £7.66 million and which include the ending of the contracts listed in Appendices A, F and G, and align the remaining £17.4m expenditure with the department's strategy for delivering care and support..'*

For: Cllr Chris Carter, Cllr Charles Choudhary, Cllr Jacqui England, Cllr Keith Evans, Cllr Marge Harvey, Cllr Roger Huxstep, Cllr Chris Lagdon, Cllr Martin Lyon, Cllr Fiona Mather, Cllr George Ringrow, Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine, Cllr Tim Rolt, Cllr Frank Rust, Cllr Patricia Stallard

Against: Cllr Alan Dowden, Cllr David Harrison, Cllr Bruce Tennent, Cllr Martin Tod

Abstained: None

## RESOLVED

That the recommendations in the report under section 31 (paragraphs 31.1 – 31.10) are endorsed to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health for decision.

In addition, that:

1. The HASC monitor any changes to 'Supporting People' services, and receives in future an item which measures the impact of decisions taken on the future of these services.
2. The topic of 'Young People's Supporting People services' is forwarded to the Children and Young People Select Committee for future review.
3. The Supporting People reviews for services relating to crisis and prevention, ex-offenders, mental health, and veterans, are added to the work programme for future pre-decision scrutiny by the HASC.

## 7. **PUBLIC HEALTH: SCHOOL NURSING**

The Director of Public Health presented a report on school nursing re-procurement (see report and presentation, Item 7 in the Minute Book).

The Director gave an overview of the history of the school nursing service, which included a summary of the responsibilities the County Council has in relation to public health for children aged between 5 and 19 years.

Members heard that school nurses aimed to advance the well being, academic success and lifelong achievement of school-aged children and young people through a multitude of evidence-based interventions and services. School nurses are qualified nurses who have additional public health qualifications to become Registered School Nurses, regulated by the Nursing and Midwifery Council

Contracts for the commissioning of school nursing, provided by two organisations, were transferred to the Council alongside Public Health responsibilities in April 2013. A service-wide review had taken place since this time which showed that different levels of school nursing services were

being delivered across the County by a mix of qualified staff, and not all services had the same focus on public health issues for school-age children and young people. It was therefore agreed that an assessment of the needs of school-age children and young people take place, and a new service procured to meet this need equitably across Hampshire.

The timescale for the school nursing contract is such that a new service needs to be in place as of the start of August 2015 to meet NHS constitution (public health) requirements of continuity of service. The tendering documents for the school nursing contracts would invite bidding organisations to innovate whilst better aligning with other children's services. The new service would not focus on tasks but instead on outcomes for children, young people and their families. The department plans to objectively performance manage the new service against clear specifications and quality criteria. It was expected that the service would go out to procurement in October through to December 2014, with the new service beginning August 2015.

In response to questions, members heard:

- Contracts would be awarded for three years, with an opportunity to extend by a further one to two years.
- That new guidance had been issued to school governors on their responsibilities to support children with long-term health conditions. The department would be offering professional support to teachers and schools to implement and follow this guidance.
- The Public Health teams have been working in a long-standing partnership with Children's Services to increase awareness of healthy living in the younger population and their families.
- Issues with child obesity won't be purely achieved by public health interventions, but school nurses would be able to assist with helping young people and their families to make the right choices on food, drink, and exercise.
- Most children would benefit from a 'light-touch' approach from school nursing, but others required more detailed interventions. All school nursing contact would be driven by the needs of the child or young person.

*Councillors Charles Choudhary and Martin Lyon left the meeting at this point in proceedings.*

#### 8. **HEALTH: ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SECTION 136 WORKING GROUP**

The HASC received the final draft report of the Adult Mental Health working group on 'the Use of Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 in Hampshire' (see Item 8 in the Minute Book).

Councillor David Harrison, a member of the working group, provided context to the report and an overview of the working group's activities on behalf of Councillor David Keast, who chaired the group.

Further information was requested on the service offered to the population of North East Hampshire who required detention under Section 136, and it was

agreed that this would be sought from Hampshire Police and the relevant mental health provider.

Members agreed that the final report should be sent to the Minister of State for Care and Support, the Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP, whose responsibilities included mental health services.

Councillor Harrison and present members of the working group thanked the officers, Katie Benton and Jackie Taylor, for their guidance and support to members, and the witnesses who contributed to the review; these sentiments were echoed by the Committee. Gratitude was expressed to the working group by the Chairman on behalf of the HASC for a high-quality piece of work which met the aims of the review.

#### RESOLVED

That:

1. The report, and its recommendations under paragraph 3.1, are noted and agreed.
2. The recommendations and final report are forwarded to witnesses and stakeholders for comment.
3. That the HASC monitor the responses to these recommendations and adds this to its work-programme for 2014/15.
4. That the Adult Mental Health working group, as per the review Terms of Reference, is disbanded.

#### 9. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Director of Policy and Governance presented the Committee's work programme (see Item 9 in the Minute Book).

The Chairman requested that all suggestions for the HASC work programme be forwarded to either herself or the scrutiny officer for consideration at her next agenda planning session.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee's work programme be approved.

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Chairman, 16 September 2014