

**MINUTES of the meeting of the Health and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11 June 2013 at 7.00pm**

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**Present:** Councillors Yash Gupta (Chair), Sue Gray, Mike Stone, Mark Coxshall, Steve Liddiard and Charlie Key

Kim James and Ian Evans

**In attendance:** R. Harris – Acting Director of Adults, Health and Commissioning  
C. Armstrong – Strategy Officer  
L. Billingham – Head of Adult Services  
M. Boulter – Principal Democratic Services Officer

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**1. MINUTES**

The minutes of the Health and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 16 April 2013 were approved as a correct record.

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

a) Interests

Councillor Gupta declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to item 7 by virtue that he was a carer.

b) Whipping

No interests were declared.

**3. HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT**

Officers outlined ways in which the Committee could undertake a number of events and actions to increase its knowledge and effectiveness. These included question and answer sessions with the portfolio holder and briefing sessions before each meeting for those Members that wished to discuss topics in more detail.

Councillor Coxshall felt the recommendations were inappropriate and should have been discussed by the Committee, through the Chair, rather than as a report. Members agreed that any extra briefings or training could not be made compulsory.

**RESOLVED that the report is noted.**

**4. BUILDING POSITIVE FUTURES PROGRESS REPORT**

The project was well advanced with a considerable amount of the programme having been implemented. The structure was in place to deliver the remaining parts of the project.

There was a discussion about how the Council could ensure that all people were identified and catered for now that local housing offices had been removed. It was responded that the introduction of Local Area Co-ordination and a new system of working known as Asset Based Community Development, meant that there was much more opportunity for the community to identify those people in need of help and intervention to be made before someone reached crisis. Outcomes were proven to be far better in this model.

It was explained that the Council could not guarantee that all people would be reached before they met crisis but they were in a much better position to provide the right level of support.

The Committee noted that community hubs were due to be rolled out across the borough if the pilot project was successful. A number of Members stated that the hub in Ockendon had proved beneficial to the community in a variety of ways.

In relation to Local Area Co-ordination, the four areas had been chosen on the basis of existing community networks and also, in the case of Ockendon, the presence of the community hub. The Council was progressing with the recruitment of the co-ordinators for each area.

The Committee noted that there were financial implications and that the project was running within existing budgets.

A brief discussion took place on the governance of the project and officers stressed that although the governance arrangements were robust they were there to ensure the right level of governance was in place to deliver the services.

**RESOLVED: That the committee note the progress made by the Building Positive Futures Programme since its launch and support strengthened leadership and governance arrangements, particularly in relation to Member involvement and the engagement of Health and other partners.**

## **5. ADULT SOCIAL CARE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT 2012/13**

Officers outlined that there were seventeen national indicators, four of which were reported to Cabinet/Directors Board on a monthly basis. In relation to these four the Council had achieved its target on two (The number of service users taking up self-directed support and those users achieving independence through intermediate care). It had not met targets for reducing permanent admissions to residential care and data on the fourth, percentage of clients who feel safe, had yet to be collated.

In the Annual Carer's Survey, Thurrock had come out best in three out of the four categories across the Eastern Region and well above average on the fourth. Officers confirmed this data was reliable as it was directly from the carers and focussed on their experiences rather than just activity from the service.

A discussion took place on the number of complaints and compliments. The Committee noted that the service had encouraged compliments but this had not led to an increased number of them. The Committee felt that HealthWatch should look at the number of complaints the commissioned providers were receiving from service users. Officers added that they rigorously checked the quality of provider services.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

## **6 WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee discussed in detail the work programme. The following issues were suggested for addition:

- The Progress of CCGs
- Meals on Wheels
- GP Provision
- Health and Well-being Strategy Review
- Pathology

Councillor Gupta suggested that there may also be a need to look at other services such as physiotherapy and chiropody.

**RESOLVED That July's meeting be composed of vascular services, Draft Primary Care Strategy, Fairer Charging Consultation and Dementia- Early Adopter.**

**The meeting was finished at 8.46pm.**

Approved as a true and correct record

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATE**

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact**

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