

**MINUTES of the meeting of Health and Well-Being Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee held on 14 January 2014 at 7.00pm**

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**Present:** Councillors Yash Gupta (Chair), James Halden, Charlie Key and Steve Liddiard

**Apologies:** Joyce Sweeney

**In attendance:** I. Evans (Co-opted Member)  
L. Brosnan – Contract Manager – Service Compliance and Brokerage  
C. Wilson – Service Manager – Commissioning and Service Development  
R. Harris – Director of Adults, Health and Commissioning  
M. Boulter – Democratic Services Officer

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**34. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Health and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 17 December 2013 were approved as a correct record.

**35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

a) Interests

Councillor Gupta declared a non-pecuniary interest by virtue that he was a carer for his daughter.

b) Whipping

No interests were declared.

**36. QUALITY OF DOMICILIARY AND RESIDENTIAL CARE AND NEW CQC INSPECTION REGIME**

The Council needed to be robust on the quality and performance of external care providers because they would increasingly be used for future care services. The CQC had asked councils to consult on their new proposed inspection regime, which Thurrock was undertaking at present.

Some of the major changes to inspection included the introduction of a chief inspector for adult social care services and the introduction of experts by experience; people who were carers, for example, who would attend inspection visits. There was also the use of hidden cameras and mystery

shoppers to test the quality of service. A significant change would be that the providers would be given a grading by the CQC ranging from poor to excellent. This had not been done previously. It was added that the CQC would not duplicate the work of the council's inspections.

Officers clarified that the CQC inspections would include residents receiving care in their own homes, although this was a very difficult and challenging area to monitor.

The Committee recognised the issues facing the service and discussed how carer workers were paid minimum wages but expected to have a greater degree of responsibility than they once had. Fee levels were reviewed every year and the Council was currently looking into key worker accommodation to give carer workers more benefits. The Committee felt that hidden cameras were a good source of knowledge about the constant care people received.

Service providers would be part of the consultation and the council was exploring whether to pay financial enhancements to those providers who performed the best.

**RESOLVED that the proposed changes to the CQC registration and inspection regime are noted.**

### **37. WINTERBOURNE VIEW REVIEW OF FINDINGS AND ACTION PLAN**

As an outcome of the review Thurrock Council was ensuring that the nine people who were currently in high dependency care would be moved into placements that provided individual support and that they would be monitored appropriately in that placement. At present, one of those nine had already been placed, one was pending a move and all others had arrangements in place. It was clarified that these placements were arranged and funded by the health service but that it was a multi-disciplinary care team that monitored and reviewed each person's care.

The Committee were pleased Thurrock was being pro-active. They wondered why a national body was leading what seemed to be a very local issue but it was explained that the Winterbourne abuse was partly caused by a lack of co-ordination by a range of different agencies.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted**

### **38. MARKET POSITION STATEMENT FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE SERVICES**

The Council was required to produce this statement as part of the new Care Bill. The statement outlined how the council wanted to see the market for adult social care develop in the next five years. The key elements Thurrock was focussing on included:

- More supported living
- More investment in extra care housing

- Increasing aids and adaptations to homes to allow people to stay there longer.
- Increasing dementia friendly services.

Officers explained that the statement sought to inform and build collaboration with care providers and as a result, had a slightly different purpose to that of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. One Member felt comparative data within the report would be helpful to allow officers to commission better when the report was finalised in June or July.

Members discussed the HAPPI standard for homes that allowed people to stay in their own home for longer as they were designed to support aging. They felt this was a good idea that needed to be supported across the borough.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

### **39. WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee discussed briefly the Tilbury surgery merger and agreed to ask questions on it at the next meeting when the NHS were present. The Committee also agreed that a report on an initiative to get people with impairments into sport should also be scheduled.

**RESOLVED that the work programme be noted.**

**The meeting finished at 8.15pm.**

Approved as a true and correct record

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATE**

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
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