

ADULT AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

26 August 2008

The meeting commenced at 9.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Gerard Hall (Adult and Public Health Services Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Jill Harrison, Assistant Director (Adults' Commissioning)
Sylvia Pinkney, Consumer Services Manager
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

13. Consultation on the Future of Tobacco Control (Consumer Services Manager)

Type of Decision

Non key.

Purpose of report

The report was presented to seek the Portfolio Holder's approval of the consultation response in relation to the Department of Health's consultation on the future of tobacco control.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Government had announced a commitment to develop a new national tobacco control strategy and to enable stakeholders to play a key role it had made available a consultation document to outline progress over the past decade in tobacco control and to set out challenges for the future.

The consultation was the first step in developing a new control strategy and covered four main areas:-

- ❖ Reducing smoking rates and health inequalities caused by smoking.
- ❖ Protecting children and young people from smoking
- ❖ Support smokers to quit
- ❖ Helping those who cannot quit

Together, Fresh and the Association of North East Councils actively encouraged local authorities to respond to the consultation. To assist stakeholders in this process, Fresh had circulated customised postcards to

be used to confirm support for a tobacco free future for children and a large number had been received by the Public Protection Department.

The consultation was open for 12 weeks and a response was due to be returned by 8 September 2008.

A response had been drafted and this had been circulated as Appendix 2. The Authority supported proposals in the consultation document to:-

- ❖ end all displays of tobacco products at the point of sale
- ❖ end the sale of tobacco products from vending machines
- ❖ introduce plain packaging

The Consumer Services Manager stated that the Authority would have some involvement in tackling the supply of cheap illegal tobacco in our community and the protection of children and prevention of young people smoking by following the ban on advertising smoking and carrying out test purchase operations. The supporting of people attempting to quit was more likely to be done by the Primary Care Trust (PCT).

The Portfolio Holder expressed his support for the response to the consultation document saying that anything that discouraged smokers was positive. He queried how plain packaging would work and was informed that the Government appeared to be picking up on ideas which have worked elsewhere and a plain packet without branding logo although carrying a health warning, had been suggested. The Portfolio Holder said that it may be more harmful than the recognised branding used at present. The ending of displays of tobacco products at the point of sale and ending of the sale of tobacco products from vending machines proposals were aimed at young people and those who do not yet smoke and the Portfolio Holder said that he did not consider that this was the Authority supporting a 'Nanny State' more of a 'Caring State'. He fully supported the measures suggested in the consultation document and suggested that the cheap importing of cigarettes be monitored as this had taxation and revenue implications for the Government. The Portfolio Holder asked whether there was to be any PCT involvement in the consultation and was informed that there were various initiatives throughout the North East with Fresh and there was currently a bid for funding joint work regarding young people smoking although the outcome of this bid was not yet known. The PCT and the Authority regularly shared information regarding cheap and illicit tobacco sales.

The Portfolio Holder referred to the level of polonium in cigarettes and that the pro-smoking lobby stated in an analysis of polonium levels among smokers, 78% of this was from food rather than tobacco products. He also stated that the effects of passive smoking were now recognised by most.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder approved the response to the Department of Health's

consultation on the future of tobacco control and agreed that this should be sent out in his name.

14. Extra Care Housing Development at Bamburgh Court *(Assistant Director – Adults' Commissioning)*

Type of decision

Non key.

Purpose of report

The report was submitted in order to outline proposals for the re-modelling of Bamburgh Court Sheltered Housing Scheme in order to develop it into an 'extra care' facility.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Older Person's Housing, Care and Support Strategy had identified the need for 150 units of extra care housing in addition to the accommodation which will be available at the Hartfields Retirement Village. This shortfall will be partially met by the recently announced Orwell Walk Extra Care Housing scheme but additional services are still required to meet identified need and to provide choice to people accessing services. Bamburgh Court is an existing sheltered housing scheme owned by Housing Hartlepool and it is proposed that a partnership involving Housing Hartlepool as accommodation provider, the Authority's Adult and Community Services Department as commissioner of personal care and supporting people services and an, as yet to be recruited social care provider develop extra care provision within the existing scheme.

Upgrades to catering, bathing and laundry facilities will be required to support the proposed changes but major works will not be required. The scheme will also have multi purpose rooms available which could be used to provide health promotion and social activities in the future dependent upon identified need. It was not proposed initially to develop Bamburgh Court as a community 'hub' like the Orwell Walk facility, although this may develop over time. Work was currently ongoing to agree a model for the operation of the scheme and to identify contractual issues, and to agree outline governance arrangements as well as future proofing of the plans for the scheme. It was intended to undertake detailed consultation for the scheme from October 2008 and to implement the necessary changes from December 2008.

The unit currently accommodates 103 people residing in 71 units. 19 of these are currently aged 85 or over with the rest mostly aged between 74 and 84 years. Work is ongoing to identify the level of need for support for existing residents but would also utilise modelling based on the mix of levels of dependence and need for support developed for existing extra

care schemes.

This proposal is for rented accommodation only and would be based, in the longer term, on a model of a third of residents requiring no personal care but some housing related support, a third needing a small amount of personal support and a third requiring intensive or large amounts of personal care and support. All residents would be offered the opportunity to maximise their income by being provided with support to apply for pension credits, attendance allowance etc, to ensure affordability of the scheme. It was planned that the scheme would have an integrated Telecare capability and was anticipated that the social care support would be funded from the existing social care budget.

The Portfolio Holder queried whether the building would require much adaptation and was informed that there would need to be some minor internal adaptation of catering, bathing and laundry facilities. There were a number of multi purpose rooms which were not being fully utilised currently which could be used for healthy activities for residents.

The Portfolio Holder asked about an external care service provider and was informed that this arrangement would give residents the option to utilise the service if required.

The Portfolio Holder asked what type of consultation was envisaged and was informed that current residents and potential service users and providers would be asked for their opinion. The Portfolio Holder asked whether planning permission would be required and the Assistant Director stated that she did not envisage the necessity as any alterations would be internal. It was established that there should be no displacement of current residents on whose current and future needs the changes had been based. This development would enable current residents to remain in their homes and be supported there and the Portfolio Holder said that this should be promoted during the consultation period. It was understood that most of the current residents were in the first two levels of care i.e. not receiving a large amount of personal care, but as their age increased, this may change. The Portfolio Holder observed that the publicity for Hartfields had encouraged younger people to apply for homes there as this would promote a sense of community. He was informed that it was hoped that there would be a similar mix at the Bamburgh Court development.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder noted the target for consultation with current residents, potential service users and new partners as being tentatively set for October 2008 and the report submitted as an integral part of gaining his support.

The Portfolio Holder approved the recommendations outlined in the report and agreed to receive further progress reports on the Bamburgh Court extra care housing development.

15. Older People's Mental Health Strategy *(Assistant Director - Adults' Commissioning)*

Type of Decision

Non key.

Purpose of report

The report was presented to seek approval for the Older People's Mental Health Strategy as attached to the report and to seek agreement that this Strategy then formed the basis of decisions for development and commissioning mental health services for Older People.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Hartlepool Older People's National Service Framework (OPNSF) Local Implementation Team requested the development of an integrated Hartlepool Health and Social Care Strategy for older people with mental health needs. The purpose of this strategy was to guide the development and modernisation of services with older people with mental health needs and their carers. This linked to the Older People Strategy and action plan which was based on a whole system community based approach underpinned by the principle of citizenship.

Many older people experience common or enduring mental health needs, often associated with dementia, depression and anxiety, although they could also be affected by other mental health problems. These could threaten the independence and community presence of older people at the time when keeping their independence at home and in the community were increasingly difficult. The strategy and service model were underpinned by nine core standards outlined in the report, seven of which were national standards and two that had been identified locally. Other factors which had been taken into account include Local Strategic Partnership aims, Hartlepool Older People Strategy, Hartlepool Vision for Care and the Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust strategy. There had been widespread discussion and consultation with users, carers and key stakeholders regarding the final content of the strategy.

The strategy would steer decisions relating to the commissioning of future services and support but did not have financial implications in itself. It would assist with the reshaping of existing resources.

The appendix of the report had demographic projections for the population of Hartlepool which were expecting a growth in the 65+ age range and therefore it was expected that there would be a higher need over the next twenty years. The Portfolio Holder asked how people would be identified or referred as there was often a stigma attached to seeking support and the

Assistant Director stated that as many people as possible who older people come into contact with, needed to have an awareness of the mental health needs of older people. The Portfolio Holder suggested that Improvement and Development Agency for local government (IDeA) could hold similar courses to those recently held on physical health for health professionals and voluntary staff. The Assistant Director agreed that this would be a positive move for home care and care home staff.

The Portfolio Holder highlighted the importance of carer support as there was a lot of unpaid care in this age group and sometimes carers felt guilty asking for support as if they were letting their loved ones down.

The Portfolio Holder asked as the Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS trust covered such a wide area whether patients would have to travel in order to receive care and was informed that while there are a range of services available locally those with complex needs requiring very specialist services, may still need to travel. The necessity for local care should be factored into the Momentum consultations currently ongoing.

The Portfolio Holder said that he was pleased by the inclusion of leisure and community activities in the strategy.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder agreed the Older People's Mental Health Strategy as key for the development of support services for Older People who have mental health needs.

The Portfolio Holder agreed to accept reports outlining the progress of the implementation of the action plan.

16. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006

Minute 17 – National Day Nursery Association (NDNA) Nursery, Masefield Road, Hartlepool and the Sale of Swinburne House, Marlowe Road – *Assistant Director* (Para 3) This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972, namely information relating to the financial and business affairs of a particular person (including the authority holding the information).

17. NDNA Nursery, Masefield Road, Hartlepool and the Sale of Swinburne House, Marlowe Road – Assistant

Director – Adults' Commissioning

Type of Decision

Non key.

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report was set out in the exempt section of the minutes.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The issues were recorded within the exempt section of the minutes.

Decision

Details were included within the exempt section of the minutes.

The meeting concluded at 9.55 am.

PETER DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 29 August 2008