

# **ADULT AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD**

26 March 2012

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

**Present:**

Councillor: Hillary Thompson, Adult and Public Health Services Portfolio Holder

**Also Present:**

Councillor: Jane Shaw, Chair of Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum

Officers: Jill Harrison, Assistant Director, Adult Social Care  
Neil Harrison, Head of Service, Adult Social Care  
Chris Hart, Drug and Alcohol Manager  
Vicky Bosley, Democratic Services Officer

## **29. Working Together for Change – A Review of Day Opportunities** (Director of Child and Adult Services)

**Type of decision**

Non Key

**Purpose of report**

To update the Portfolio Holder for Adult and Public Health Services on the review of day opportunities using the Working Together for Change (WTfC) approach.

**Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Head of Service, Adult Social Care provided an update on progress made against recommendations since the Adult & Public Health Services Portfolio Report, 14 November 2011 and included:

- Working Together for Change (WTfC) Review - April - July 2011

- Telephone Consultation with parents and carers - January 2012.
- Staff Planning Day - 23 December 2011
- Themed Learning Disability Partnership Board - 13 January 2012

Approval was required to continue engagement with key stakeholders to develop alternatives to traditional day services for people with learning or physical disabilities.

The Head of Service, Adult Social Care reported that WTfC was a tried and tested approach to co-producing change with local people and harnessing the energy and intelligence from that process to drive commissioning and service development activity. WTfC used person-centered information such as individual reviews and support plans which highlighted the pros, cons and requirements for the future. During April and July 2011 partners and service users worked together to analyse and understand the results of 156 person-centred reviews. In addition day service staff undertook a telephone consultation with 156 parents / carers who provided support to people currently accessing day opportunities provision. The culmination of the WTfC event was presented to the Learning Disability Partnership Board on 13 January 2012. Discussions had taken place at the Partnership Board regarding potential future funding cuts and representatives were asked to provide feedback.

The WTfC methodology extracted data from 156 person centered reviews and included:

- Things that were working well for people
- Things that were not working well for people
- Things that were most important for the future

It was reported that staff from Hartlepool day services had made 152 telephone calls to parents and carers in January 2012. The purpose of the consultation was to facilitate discussions, which covered a number of issues. Telephone calls to all parents and carers had been made as an alternative to holding meetings which ensured the majority of people had an opportunity to contribute. The telephone consultation yielded a 94.7% return rate. Various issues had been identified from the telephone calls and were detailed in Appendix 1, attached to the main report.

A planning day was held on 23 December 2011 and 33 day service staff attended. Staff had been encouraged to think about how good quality, personalised services could be provided / maintained against a number of challenges including the current financial climate. As a result, a number of key themed working groups emerged including Information and Engagement, Workforce Development, Arts Provision and Innovation and Creativity. It was agreed for working group progress to be reported to the Learning Disability Partnership Board in July 2012.

Information from the WTfC process and the telephone consultation was discussed at the Learning Disability Partnership Board Carers Themed

Meeting on 13 January. A number of issues were raised and addressed by Officers from the Council during the meeting. During the Learning Disability Partnership Board meeting eight facilitators had provided feedback on a range of issues which had been addresses and detailed in Appendix 2, attached to the main report. The themes that followed the Learning Disability Partnership Board event identified similar concerns which had been raised during the telephone consultation and were summarised in the report. The Head of Service, Adult Social Care reported that an impact assessment had been completed and was detailed in Appendix 3, attached to the main report. It was confirmed that in order to address the issues and concerns which were raised through the consultations, a number of small groups would be established and reported back to the Learning Disability Partnership Board.

It was recommended that the Portfolio Holder noted the report and agreed the next steps and actions, which included continued engagement with key representatives to shape and reform day opportunities by exploring alternatives to traditional day service provision.

The Portfolio Holder commented on the high percentage of telephone questionnaires completed and the Head of Service, Adult Social Care confirmed that there had been some difficulties engaging people through meetings and letters in the past and thought a personal touch would be better suited and would allow further opportunities for engagement.

### **Decision**

That the Portfolio Holder noted the update and approved continued engagement with key stakeholders on the potential future delivery options for day opportunities.

## **30. Social Care Contract – Exception to Contract Procedure Rules** (Director of Child and Adult Services)

### **Type of decision**

Non Key

### **Purpose of report**

To seek the Portfolio Holder's approval to make an exception to Contract Procedure Rules in respect of a social care contract.

### **Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Assistant Director, Adult Social Care provided information on the contract, the financial impact and the justifications for making an exception to the Rules. Approval from the Portfolio Holder was required to make an exception to Contract Procedure Rules in relation to the contract for rehabilitation and transitional care with West View Lodge Care Home. It was reported that since June 2008 the Council had contractual arrangements in place with Four Seasons Healthcare, for a service that was jointly funded by the Council and Hartlepool PCT and supported people on discharge from hospital. It provided a period of rehabilitation and facilitated transition, supported people to return home, move to extra care provision or to residential care, with a focus on enabling people to retain the maximum level of independence possible. The current contract was due to end on 31 May 2012. The rehabilitation and transitional care service was provided in the twenty bed Jubilee Unit in West View Lodge Residential Care Home with twelve transitional care beds and eight beds for rehabilitation. Rehabilitation beds were used for people who required a programme of physical therapy to maximise their functional ability whereas the transitional beds supported timely discharge from hospital and prevented premature entry into long term residential care.

The service had established various links to provide activities appropriate to each individual's rehabilitation and transitional care needs and provided 24 hour support. Recorded outcomes showed that almost 60% of those who received rehabilitation at West View Lodge return home compared to 30% who received therapy services in other care homes. Individuals who received transitional care in the dedicated unit at West View Lodge were less likely to be permanently placed into a care home, than those who received their care elsewhere. It was highlighted that access to gym equipment was important in effective rehabilitation especially in the early stages of recovery and having access to an on-site gym in West View Lodge enabled more effective therapy. 90% of people who had undertaken a therapy programme in West View Lodge had demonstrated significant improvement in their functional mobility.

The future commissioning of rehabilitation and transitional care was linked to work that was currently underway with Hartlepool PCT and the shadow CCGs. Plans were not yet finalised and further work was required to understand the requirements of the PCT/CCG and the subsequent funding. As a result, the Department was not in a position to undertake a full tender process at this time, however expect to undertake a full procurement exercise in late autumn 2012 with a view to awarding a contract to commence in June 2013. The Assistant Director, Adult Social Care requested an exception to the contract procedure rules in order to allow the Council to enter into a new jointly funded agreement with Four Seasons Healthcare, for 12 months from 1 June 2012 to allow the continued delivery of the service in its current form and if granted, a report would go to Contract Scrutiny Committee for information.

It was recommended that the Portfolio Holder agreed to make an exception to the Contract Procedure Rules for the reasons set out above and to grant

permission to enter into a new twelve month agreement with the current provider.

The valuable service and the high success rate was noted by the Portfolio Holder. The Chair of Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum raised concerns regarding the requirement for a private garden area with seating for residents and their family and friends, overgrown bushes that covered the access sign and broken pots situated within the garden area. The Assistant Director, Adult Social Care confirmed that the issues would be raised with the provider. The Portfolio Holder suggested that schools within the community could get involved to assist in addressing the concerns raised.

### **Decision**

That the Portfolio Holder agreed to make an exception to Contract Procedure Rules for the reasons set out in section three of the report and granted permission to enter into a new twelve month agreement with the current provider.

## **31. Commissioned Services Update** (Director of Child and Adult Services)

### **Type of decision**

Non Key

### **Purpose of report**

To update the Portfolio Holder on current issues within adult social care commissioned services and future priorities.

### **Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Assistant Director, Adult Social Care provided a quarterly update to the Portfolio Holder on the care home status, occupancy levels and work being undertaken during 2011-2012 by the Commissioned Services Team. It was reported that there were 21 older people homes in Hartlepool and information from the latest occupancy survey which was completed in December 2011 was detailed in Appendix 1, attached to the main report. The occupancy levels of homes which provided care for people with mental health needs had been increasing over the last year, particularly in nursing homes and a breakdown was included within the report. The Assistant Director, Adult Social Care confirmed that a moratorium on new placements to Lindisfarne Care Home was currently in place, due to a number of minor issues that the Council and the care home proprietors were working together to resolve.

A programme of unannounced visits had been previously reported to the Portfolio Holder in January 2012 and had now been completed, for all older people's residential services. The visits were focused on issues detailed within the report and the Portfolio Holder was informed of the key messages from the visits.

It was reported that the Quality Standards Framework verification visits were in progress and were due for completion April 2012 and the findings would be used to determine the gradings and fee rates for 2012. No issues had been raised in regards to learning disability care homes, mental health care homes or domiciliary care homes.

The Portfolio Holder was asked to note the report and to receive further updates on a quarterly basis.

The Portfolio Holder questioned how often the visits took place, how involved the homes were and what issues had been observed, which the Assistant Director, Adult Social Care answered. The Chair of Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum highlighted that elderly residents may not wish to raise issues themselves due to fear of reprisals and that relationships need to be built in order to build confidence. The Portfolio Holder noted the importance of the service.

The Portfolio Holder highlighted the high occupancies for people who suffered with dementia. The Assistant Director, Adult Social Care confirmed that while some people were accessing alternatives such as support at home and extra care housing, these services were not always considered suitable for people with dementia. Further work was to be undertaken to ensure that reablement services were accessible for people with dementia, recognising that working with this client group could be more time consuming and required different skills. The Portfolio Holder commented on the importance of sustaining a good quality of life.

### **Decision**

- (i) That the Portfolio Holder noted the report
- (ii) That further updates would be provided on a quarterly basis

## **32. Substance Misuse Procurement Update** (Director of Child and Adult Services)

### **Type of decision**

Non Key

## **Purpose of report**

The report details the arrangements for commissioning the substance misuse services, from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 in line with Internal Audit recommendations and the activity illustrated in the Adult Treatment Plan 2011/12.

## **Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Drug and Alcohol Manager provided an overview of the responsibilities that Safer Hartlepool Partnership had with the National Treatment Agency and government departments in implementing the national drug and alcohol strategy. Information on the progress made in commissioning the drug and alcohol services as from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 was also provided. In addition there was an indication of the future financial partnership that was required for continued service provision following the NHS changes.

NHS Hartlepool fund and commission the clinical treatment service and with the annual grant allocation Hartlepool Borough Council would commission 5 additional 'wraparound support' services as defined in the Drug Strategy, Models of Care and National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidance, including:

- (i) Psychosocial Counselling, Aftercare and Relapse prevention
- (ii) Harm Reduction and Needle Exchange
- (iii) Recovery and Reintegration
- (iv) Education, Training and Employment
- (v) Family and Service User Support

Over twenty organisations had submitted tender documentation and two organisations had been successful and were currently involved in TUPE negotiations and the transition of services ready to begin delivery from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012.

The Drug and Alcohol Manager reported that the total expenditure on drug and alcohol treatment in 2011/12 was expected to be £2,521,008 and would be provided through the government drug grant, i.e. the Pooled Treatment Budget; Drug Intervention Grant; and NHS Hartlepool mainstream funding Tackling Drugs. The funding allocation that would be related to the contracts was the Pooled Treatment Budget which as previously stated was advised on an annual basis. The 2012/13 allocation had been confirmed as £1,308,171, which was a reduction against the 2011/12 allocation of £1,402,901 however there was sufficient funding to cover the 2012/13 contract envelope of £1,237,700. The contract offered to the successful providers would be for two years with an opportunity for a further two years extension if performance was good. However as funding was only confirmed on an annual basis all documentation and the contract would include a caveat which related to funding being available. Within the

NHS restructuring there had been a number of proposed changes to current strategic responsibilities and allocation of resources but without the detail it was difficult to forecast and plan. There had been an expectation that in the future the drug funding would be included in the overall Public Health allocation for Hartlepool, whether ring fenced or not. The awarding of the substance misuse contracts for the period after April 2013 would need to be committed from that allocation.

### **Decision**

That the Portfolio Holder noted the commissioning arrangements for drug and alcohol treatment and support for 2012 – 2014.

The meeting concluded at 11.05 am

**P J DEVLIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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