

ADULT AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES PORTFOLIO

DECISION RECORD
Wednesday 25 April 2012

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

Present:

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

Officers: Neil Harrison, Head of Service, Adult Social Care
Sylvia Pinkney, Public Protection Manager
Vicky Bosley, Democratic Services Officer

33. Hartlepool Hospice (Director of Child and Adult Services)

Type of decision

Non key

Purpose of report

To provide the Portfolio Holder with information in relation to 'piloting' a more co-ordinated and comprehensive assessment and care management system for people and families affected by life limiting and terminal illness and to seek approval for allocating some 'set up' funds from non-recurrent funding.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Head of Service, Adult Social Care reported that Hartlepool Hospice was committed to promoting the personalisation agenda by offering greater choice, quality and control for patients and families who live with life limiting and terminal illnesses, in partnership with Hartlepool Borough Council. Background information was detailed within the report and the pilot proposals were:

- New patients without existing services would be jointly assessed by hospice staff and social workers whilst accessing direct services in the hospice and / or at home. Once the level

of need was determined the patient and their family carer would be supported to access a Personal Budget, Personal Health Budget, joint package of care or Continuing NHS Health Care.

- Existing hospice patients and their family carers would be systematically re-assessed and all would be supported to access a Personal Budget, Personal Health Budget, joint package of care or Continuing NHS Health Care.
- The 'patients' would have a resource allocation and they would have complete freedom to choose how they get their assessed needs met.
- Going forward irrespective of who provided the direct care and support, an on-going care management arrangement would be agreed to ensure that changing circumstances were monitored by hospice and social work professionals.
- The patients and the family carers in the 'pilot' would be tracked to manage the risk and any further assessments would be progressed in a timely and more integrated manner.
- The professionals involved would support the patient and family carers to 'challenge' organisations such as the Primary Care Trust regarding funding responsibilities via facilitating access to advocacy services.

Work demonstrated that in the short-term the operational capacity would not meet demand. To address this challenge the hospice day respite facility would need to expand from a three day to a five day week. To enable this expansion there are significant costs involved, most of which the Hospice would meet, but some of which the Hospice was requesting from Child and Adult Services Department as 'set up' costs from non-recurrent funding. The Hospice had agreed to fund a Social Work Practitioner, Senior Health Care Assistants and Health Care Assistants at a cost of £133,000 per annum. However in order to ensure significant progress was made in a timely manner, a Project Manager was required to carry out duties detailed within the main report. It was anticipated that after the first year the post would be funded by the Hospice through revenue generation. The 'set up' cost included supporting the Hospice to employ a Project Manager for one year at £28,500, which would be funded on a non-recurrent basis.

It was recommended by the Head of Service, Adult Social Care that approval be granted for the allocation of non-recurrent funding. The department had received significant funding in the latter part of financial year 2011/12 which had been agreed to be carried forward into 12/13. The purpose of the funding was varied with the overarching requirements to support vulnerable people in their own homes. It was highlighted that the exciting development would improve assessment and care management arrangements for people and family members affected by life limiting and terminal illness.

Decision

That the Portfolio Holder approved the allocation of 'set up' costs from non-recurrent funding.

34. Launch of National Food Hygiene Award Scheme (Assistant Director, Regeneration and Planning)

Type of decision

For information only

Purpose of report

To update the Portfolio Holder in respect of the Council's migration from the local 'Tees Valley Food Hygiene Award Scheme' to the new national 'Food Hygiene Rating Scheme' (FHRS) and the subsequent launch of the scheme on 1st April 2012.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Public Protection Manager reported that since 1st April 2007 the Authority had operated a food hygiene rating scheme known as the 'Tees Valley Food Hygiene Award Scheme'. The scheme was operated in conjunction with the four other Tees Valley Local Authorities (Middlesbrough, Stockton, Redcar & Cleveland and Darlington Borough Councils). In November 2010 the FSA launched the 'Food Hygiene Rating Scheme' (FHRS), as a FSA/local authority partnership initiative to help consumers choose where to eat out, or shop for food. It was developed with the aim that it would become the single national scheme for England, Wales and Northern Ireland in time for the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics.

An application was submitted to the FSA for grant funding to cover the cost of preparatory activities prior to launch. The bid requested funding to cover activities detailed within the main report. In response to the application for grant funding the Authority received an offer of £17,656.95 (ex VAT) for 'start up' and 'pre-launch' activities for implementation of the national FHRS, which was accepted. The Public Protection Manager highlighted the work that had been completed in preparation for migration, the detail was contained within the main report.

The Public Protection Manager reported that FHRS was launched in Hartlepool on 1st April 2012 and at the time of the launch the profile of premises were as follows:

- 413 premises received a rating of 5 ('Very Good')
- 140 premises received a rating of 4 ('Good')
- 87 premises received a rating of 3 ('Generally Satisfactory')
- 28 premises received a rating of 2 ('Improvement Necessary')
- 9 premises received a rating of 1 ('Major Improvement Necessary')
- 1 premises received a rating of 0 ('Urgent Improvement Necessary')
- 17 premises were 'Awaiting Inspection'
- 47 premises were exempt
- 7 premises were excluded from the scope of the scheme.

The Public Protection Manager provided detail on the profile and explained that exempt and excluded businesses were currently included in the Tees Valley Food Hygiene Award Scheme but would not receive a certificate and sticker under the FHRS. Under the FHRS exempt businesses could elect to 'opt in' to the scheme if the food business operator considered that consumers perceived their establishment to be a food business. This option was not available to excluded businesses. The FSA had recently indicated its intention to consult on extending the scope of the scheme to include such businesses. In the meantime affected businesses had been advised, at their request confirmation of what their rating would be, if they were included in the scheme could be provided.

The Public Protection Manager confirmed that all work was completed on time to meet the proposed launch date of 1st April 2012. The work was managed successfully to ensure that the transition process was as seamless as possible and that no business in Hartlepool suffered a detriment as a direct consequence of the migration. It was recommended that the Portfolio Holder noted the report.

The Portfolio Holder commented on how easily accessible the website and ratings were for public viewing.

Decision

That the Portfolio Holder noted the report.

35. Adult Social Care: Short Break Capital Funding (Director of Child and Adult Services)

Type of decision

For information only

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder for Adult and Public Health Services of the award of short break capital funding.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Head of Service, Adult Social Care reported that Hartlepool Borough Council had received a capital contribution of £80,000 from NHS Hartlepool to support short break provision. In addition a capital contribution of £64,970 from the Aiming High for Disabled Children grant was allocated to improving short break provision, giving a total of £144,970. In March 2012 panel members allocated funding based on a two stage panel process, the information was contained in appendix 1, attached to the main report. The panel approved applications from a range of providers, the successful organisations and amounts allocated were as follows:

1. Summerhill £19,066.50 - purchase and installation of specialised play equipment and associated works for individuals with varying difficulties.
2. Hartlepool United Disabled Supporters Association £40,000 - purchase of a caravan with wheelchair access and adaptations for people with disabilities.
3. Hartlepool Special Needs Support Group £5,000 - upgrading the facilities, central heating system and repairing décor.
4. Friends of Seaton Park £5,000 - development of a sensory community garden.
5. OSCARS- Out of School Care Service £2,000 - provision of mobile sensory equipment.
6. Hartlepool Families First £4,988.40 - purchase of a mobile hoist, solar 250 projector and accessories and completion of the refurbishment of sensory room.
7. Carlton Outdoor Education centre £17,240.50 - purchase of equipment for use by adults and children with the construction of an accessible toilet.

The capital allocated to date was £93,295.40 from a combined total of £144,970. The Hartlepool Learning Disability Partnership Board was expected to consider further applications throughout the year giving particular consideration to bids that met the capital short break criteria. The Head of Service, Adult Social Care reported that Capital grant was received to support children and adults with a disability and in particular support parents and carers to continue in their caring role. The panel considered applications that would enhance the lives of those people often socially excluded in today's society. It was recommended that the Portfolio Holder noted the contents of the report.

The Portfolio Holder commented that she fully supported these awards as the providers add to the quality of life and assist in the social model of disability rather than focusing only on the medical model.

Decision

That the Portfolio Holder noted the outcome of the application process and the award of grants to successful applicants.

The meeting concluded at: 10.20

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: Monday 30 April 2012