

ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

27 July 2017

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

Present:

Councillor: Stephen Thomas (In the Chair)

Councillors: Paul Beck, Brenda Loynes, Mike McLaughlin and Carl Richardson

Officers: Jill Harrison, Assistant Director, Adult Services
Jeanette Willis, Head of Strategic Commissioning
Garry Hutchison, Building Control Manager
Angela Armstrong, Principal Democratic Services Officer

The Chair welcomed Councillor Mike McLaughlin to the Adult Services Committee.

10. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lesley Hamilton.

11. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Stephen Thomas declared a personal interest as an employee of Healthwatch.

12. Minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2017

Received.

13. Fire Safety in Residential Care Homes (*Director of Child and Adult Services*)

Type of decision

For information.

Purpose of report

To provide information regarding the safety regulation within care homes in Hartlepool following the Grenfell Tower disaster in London.

Issue(s) for consideration

The report included a summary of the fire safety requirements within residential care homes as provided by the Council's Health and Safety Team. It was highlighted that the Care Quality Commission (CQC) were the regulator of care homes and would identify any risks to residents and take appropriate action which may be in the form of advice and guidance or enforcement action if there was potential immediate danger to residents of a home. In addition to this, the Council's Quality Standards Framework (QSF) included an assessment of Health and Safety which again encompasses fire safety. Cleveland Fire Brigade also undertake regular checks at each establishment and provide feedback on these checks but do not provide Fire Risk Assessments; this was for the provider to obtain independently as the legal responsibility for all Health and Safety measures rests with the provider of care under the CQC regulatory framework.

It was noted that in addition to fire safety checks carried out by the regulator, the Fire Service and the Council, each home also operated a system of 'Personal Evacuation Plans' (PEEPs) which were individual to each resident and identify how each resident was supported in the event of a fire. Where residents require additional support, appropriate equipment was provided in order to facilitate their safe evacuation.

In response to a question from a Member, the Head of Strategic Commissioning confirmed that PEEPs would identify any additional equipment or assistive technology required for an individual's evacuation. A Member sought clarification on the reference to a competent person undertaking a suitable and sufficient fire risk assessment. The Head of Strategic Commissioning provided more detail around PEEPs which were developed around individuals' needs and the Chair requested further information be circulated to Members on the staffing levels, induction of staff and training in place in relation to PEEPs (including the provision of specialist equipment), training in relation to the undertaking of fire risk assessments and the measures in place to ensure all evacuation procedures were robust. A Member highlighted the need for additional training around events that were held within residential care homes that were outside the day to day operation of the home.

The Assistant Director, Adult Services reassured Members that the CQC take an extremely robust approach to managing any concerns in relation to health and safety and fire and as part of their regulatory work would request to see that appropriate policies and procedures were in place, appropriate staff training was undertaken on a regular basis and that all evacuation procedures were effective.

A Member questioned why buildings do not appear to have external fire escapes any more. The Building Control Manager commented that the Building Regulations always look at whether buildings had adequate stair cases for means of escape, travel distances to that means of escape and

the number of people likely to be in a building and the majority of buildings now were constructed with internal means of escape.

Decision

- (1) The report was noted.
- (2) That further information on the staffing levels, induction and training of staff in relation to PEEPs (including the provision of specialist equipment), frequency of fire drills, training in relation to the undertaking of fire risk assessments and the measures in place to ensure all evacuation procedures were robust be circulated to Members before the next meeting of the Committee.

14. Care Quality Commission State of Care Report and Consultation: Next Phase of Regulation (*Director of Child and Adult Services*)

Type of decision

Non key.

Purpose of report

To provide the Adult Services Committee with information regarding the Care Quality Commission's consultation on the next phase of regulation and to give the Committee an opportunity to inform the Council's response to this consultation which was attached at Appendix 1.

Issue(s) for consideration

The background to the publication of the Care Quality Commission's Strategy for 2016 to 2021: Shaping the Future was provided in the report. An outline of the response to the first round of consultation was included in the report with the full response being available on www.cqc.org.uk/nextphase1. In addition to this, the CQC had published a report which was attached at Appendix 2.

Alongside this report, a second stage of consultation was launched on 12 June 2017 which will run until 8 August 2017 and the consultation document was attached at Appendix 3. An element of the consultation related specifically to adult social care services and the CQC had found the quality of care in adult social care services to be variable. The CQC proposed a targeted approach to regulate adult social care services and these proposals were detailed in the report. Members' views were sought on the draft response to the consultation which was attached at Appendix 1. Members were informed that the consultation had also been shared with the Audit and Governance Committee in relation to the regulation of health services. In addition, questions 6-10 relate to the regulation of primary medical services and were therefore not included in the draft response in respect of adult services.

Members were supportive of the draft response attached at Appendix 1

and pleased to see that this type of review was undertaken regularly as social care changes on a frequent basis, particularly in view of the transforming care agenda and the importance of local authority input into these reviews was emphasised.

The Chair requested that once the outcome of the consultation was known, a representative from the Northern Regional Care Quality Commission be invited to a meeting of the Adult Services Committee to present the outcomes and how they would be incorporated into the future inspection regime.

Decision

- (1) The draft response attached at Appendix 1 was approved for submission as the final response on behalf of Hartlepool Borough Council to the Care Quality Commission.
- (2) That once the outcome of the consultation was available, a representative of the Northern Regional Care Quality Commission be invited to a meeting of the Adult Services Committee to present the outcomes and how they would be incorporated into the future CQC inspection regime.

15. Transport for People with a Disability – Action Plan Update *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non key.

Purpose of report

To provide an update on the Action Plan that was developed in response to the recommendations of the Audit and Governance Committee investigation into Access to Transport for People with a Disability.

Issue(s) for consideration

Members were asked to review the updated action plan which was attached at Appendix 1 and note the additional information from Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group (HaST CCG) regarding Patient Transport Services attached at Appendix 2.

The Assistant Director, Adult Services confirmed that there had been a positive development with the establishment of a new Dial-a-Ride service. In addition to this, the transport arrangements for people with a disability had recently been reviewed and consolidated in view of the facilities available at the new Centre for Independent Living in Burbank Street. It was noted that whilst the recent bid for lottery funding for the provision of transport for people with a disability was not successful, there had been positive development with the recruitment of volunteer drivers. Appendix 2 summarised the provision available via the CCG to assist people attending health appointments.

The private provider of the new Dial-a-Ride service was in attendance and gave a brief overview of the service provided and the associated costs for the users.

At this point in the meeting, Councillor Paul Beck declared a non-prejudicial interest in this item.

During the discussion that followed Members were pleased to see the development of the new Dial-a-Ride service and suggested for publicity be undertaken on this service provision to raise awareness potentially in the Council's quarterly publication *Hartbeat*.

The Chair referred to the ongoing work in relation to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy which included transport issues and suggested that the action plan attached at Appendix 1 be forwarded to the Interim Director of Public Health to inform the development of the Strategy as well as being used to inform the ongoing work in relation to social isolation. It was highlighted that access to transport continued to be an issue for certain communities across the Town particularly in the Burbank area and it was suggested that pressure be placed on transport providers to explore the potential of operating a bus service through this area. It was suggested that the Passenger Transport Services Team Leader who was the co-ordinator of the Council's Transport Forum be invited to a future meeting of the Committee to discuss the issues around social isolation.

The Chair requested that a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee examining the needs of older people, people with disabilities including learning disabilities and how the ongoing workstreams about transport support these needs and identify and shortfalls that may exist and proposals to deal with those shortfalls.

Decision

- (1) The progress made on the Action Plan over the last six months was noted.
- (2) That the Action Plan be forwarded to the Interim Director of Public Health to inform the development of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- (3) That the Passenger Transport Services Team Leader be invited to a future meeting of the Committee and the Action Plan be revisited as part of the ongoing work in relation to social isolation.
- (4) That the Committee continue to be updated on the development of the action plan, in particular in relation to examining the needs of older people, people with disabilities including learning disabilities and how the ongoing workstreams about transport support these needs and identify any shortfalls that may exist and proposals to deal with those shortfalls.

16. Commissioning Award for Integrated Approach to Hospital Discharge *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

For information.

Purpose of report

To notify the Committee that the work that has been done locally to improve the hospital discharge process has been recognised in the North East, Cumbria, Yorkshire and Humber Commissioning Awards, winning the award for the Best Innovation Project.

Issue(s) for consideration

As reported previously to Committee, a significant amount of work had been undertaken locally to improve the experience of people who were being discharged from hospital and a number of factors that contributed to this improvement in performance were noted in the report. The report provided a detailed update on the current position in relation to work that had been undertaken to develop an Integrated Approach to Discharge from Hospital. Staff representing the partner organisations attended an award ceremony in Newcastle and were delighted to accept the award on behalf of all involved in the development of this approach. Everyone involved in the successful implementation of this integrated approach to hospital discharges was congratulated on all their hard work and determination to ensure it was a success.

In response to a question from the Chair, the Assistant Director, Adult Services confirmed that the Integrated Discharge Team worked across the North Tees and Hartlepool Trust area and work was ongoing with the authorities across the South Tees area to look at improving the service at James Cook University Hospital.

Decision

- (1) It was noted that the hard work and commitment to improve hospital discharge had been recognised through this Award.
- (2) The Committee continued to support initiatives that reduce delayed transfers of care and improve outcomes for people using services.

17. Care Quality Commission: Appreciate Review Programme *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

For information.

Purpose of report

To provide information regarding the Care Quality Commission's programme of appreciative reviews in 2017/18 and Hartlepool Borough Council's involvement in the programme.

Issue(s) for consideration

The background to the announcement of additional funding for social care and the work undertaken nationally to develop performance measures associated with this allocation was provided in the report. A notification was received on 4 July 2017 advising that Hartlepool Borough Council had been identified as one of the first twelve Councils to be reviewed. It was anticipated that the reviews would take place between August and November 2017 with a six week preparation phase included. During the site visit, inspectors will meet with a range of people including commissioners, providers, frontline staff, people who use services and carers, local Healthwatch organisations and third sector organisations. In addition, they will review some cases and meet with senior leaders from across health and social care organisations within the locality. It was expected that following completion of the site visit, a summit with key partners will be held with feedback to be provided in writing to the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board with a report published nationally upon the completion of all the reviews.

The Assistant Director, Adult Services indicated that further updates would be brought to Committee as and when they were available. The Chair suggested that any update available before the next meeting of the Committee be forwarded to Members direct.

Decision

It was noted that the CQC will be undertaking a programme of appreciative reviews in 2017/18 and that Hartlepool Borough Council had been identified as one of the first twelve Councils to be reviewed. The outcome will be reported to the Adult Services Committee at the earliest opportunity following completion of the review.

18. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None.

The meeting concluded at 11.15 am

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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