

# **ADULT AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES COMMITTEE**

## **MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

18 JULY 2019

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

### **Present:**

Councillor: Sue Little (In the Chair)

Councillors: Stephen Thomas, Barbara Ward, and Mike Young.

Also present: Councillor Carl Richardson as substitute for Councillor Amy Prince in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4 (ii).

Frank Harrison, Evelyn Leck and Gordon and Stella Johnson.

Officers: Jill Harrison, Director of Adult and Community Based Services  
Gemma Ptak, Assistant Director, Preventative and Community Based Services  
Danielle Swainston, Assistant Director, Joint Commissioning  
David Cosgrove and Alexandra Keay-Bolton, Democratic Services Team

### **7. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Amy Prince.

### **8. Declarations of Interest**

At the commencement of the meeting: -  
Councillor Thomas declared a personal interest as an employee of Hartlepool Healthwatch.  
Councillor Ward declared a personal interest as a Director of Bringing Communities Together.

Prior to the commencement of consideration of Minute No. 12, Councillor C Richardson declared a personal interest.

### **9. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2019**

Received.

## **10. Hartlepool Playing Pitch and Indoor Facilities Strategy 2019-2024** *(Director of Adult and Community Based Services)*

### **Type of decision**

Key decision number ACBS 084/19, test type (ii).

### **Purpose of report**

To present the Playing Pitch and Indoor Facilities Strategy 2019 – 2024 and associated action plan for approval and adoption.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Assistant Director, Preventative and Community Based Services reported that in January 2017, Hartlepool Borough Council commissioned Neil Allen Associates to produce a combined Indoor Facilities Strategy (IFS) and Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS). The combined strategy provides an updated evidence base to support investment and the delivery of sport and physical activity across the borough. The combined strategy updates the Playing Pitch Strategy and Facility Strategy from 2013.

The final strategy and action plan (submitted as an Appendix to the report) would support future decision making in relation to sport, physical activity and leisure facilities in the borough. The Playing Pitch Strategy assesses facilities for the provision of football, rugby, cricket, tennis, bowls, golf and hockey. The Indoor Facility Strategy assesses facilities for the provision of swimming pools, sports halls and other indoor facilities. Each section considered key assessment finding, issues and options. This detail was then used to shape the associated action plans.

The Assistant Director referred to the report to be considered by the Finance and Policy Committee on 22 July 2019 which set out options for the funding of a feasibility programme for the development of a new leisure offer.

Members discussed in some detail some of the issues around the future of the Mill House Leisure Centre and in particular the swimming pool. The Assistant Director assured Members that the provision was safe but that the closure of some school pools in the town had put further pressure on the facility, which was now nearing the end of its useful life.

Members were concerned that any future development issues needed to look to the long-term. The Mill House Leisure Centre had been open nearly 50 years and any replacement facility had to look that far ahead. Leisure facilities for the future would need to look to accommodate a wide range of equality and diversity issues as well as being prepared to meet the needs of an aging society. Young people's demands for leisure facilities were changing and that had to be reflected in the assessment of future needs. Members also commented that this was not a 'Final' document and would continue to evolve.

The Assistant Director commented that this process would look at whole system development for the future and this was only the very start of that long process. Members sought assurance that as wide an involvement of Elected Members as possible would be facilitated during the whole process and the Assistant Director stated that this would be the case.

Reference was made to one of the options set out in the strategy and action plan relating to the One Public Estate government funding looking at the Council HQ, Courts and Police Station site. The Assistant Director stated that this project had been estimated to cost £90m and was unlikely to proceed due to costs; though one option was not been considered above any other at this time.

### **Decision**

1. That the Hartlepool Playing Pitch and Indoor Facility Strategy reflect more specifically the range of equality and diversity issues and the needs of an aging society that would impact on all future leisure provision.
2. That, subject to 1 above, the Hartlepool Playing Pitch and Indoor Facility Strategy and associated action plan be approved and adopted, acknowledging that this would be a live document that would continue to evolve; and
2. That further updates regarding progress and key developments be submitted to Committee as appropriate.

## **11. Carers Strategy** (*Director of Adult and Community Based Services*)

### **Type of decision**

Non-key decision.

### **Purpose of report**

To share the draft Carers Strategy with members for them to make recommendations to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Assistant Director, Joint Commissioning reported that the Care Act 2014 and Children and Families Act 2014 gave local authorities in England a legal responsibility to assess the needs of carers, support their eligible needs and promote their wellbeing.

Recent consultation has taken place with young carers and carers which had been the basis of the strategy. Discussion took place at a Joint Committee of Children and Joint Commissioning Services and Adults and Community Based Services on 5th February 2019 on the needs of carers and the recommendations from this meeting were also taken into account in the development of the strategy. A discussion also took place at the

Health and Wellbeing Board on 4th March 2019 and recommendations made by the board have been included within the strategy. The proposed Hartlepool Carers Strategy 2019 -2024 was appended to the report for Members approval.

Members discussed the true number of carers in the town as they were concerned that this was much greater than that set out in the strategy document. The Assistant Director acknowledged the issue. The 2011 census had identified 1 in 10 as carers, Carers UK thought the figure was nearer 1 in 8. The Assistant Director considered that it was unlikely the true number would ever be known but advised that the focus had to be on how to support carers rather than focusing energy on quantifying numbers. Members considered that carers had to be shown a great debt of gratitude for the service they provided, which some consider to be essentially a second NHS. Members also spoke in tribute to the excellent service provided by Hartlepool Carers.

Members requested that the issue of respite (or short breaks) be incorporated in the strategy, building on information shared with this Committee previously. The Assistant Director confirmed that this would be reflected in the final version of the strategy.

### **Decision**

1. That the Carers Strategy 2019 – 2024 be approved for submission to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 23rd September 2019 for final approval.
2. That the issue of respite care / short breaks be incorporated in the final strategy document.

Prior to the commencement of the following item Councillor C Richardson declared a personal interest.

## **12. Care Homes for Older People** (*Director of Adult and Community Based Services*)

### **Type of decision**

For information.

### **Purpose of report**

To provide the Adult and Community Based Services Committee with an update in relation to care home provision for older people.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Assistant Director, Joint Commissioning reported developments in regards to the care homes provision for older people since the last Committee update in March. There had been no changes in CQC (Care Quality Commission) ratings with 12 homes rated 'good' (75%) and 4 rated as 'requires improvement' (25%). The Assistant Director provided an update for Members relating to Support provided to the Care Home

Market; Delivering Outstanding Care; Quality Standards Framework (QSF); and Fee Increases.

Members questioned the frequency of CQC inspections and specifically the re-inspection of those homes that had been assessed as 'requiring improvement'. The Director of Adult and Community Based Services indicated that the timing of CQC inspections was outside of the Council's control and gave indicative timescales which were used by CQC dependent upon current ratings. As Members had been advised previously, homes rated as 'Requires Improvement' or 'Inadequate' are inspected more frequently than those rated 'Good' or 'Outstanding'. Members also discussed issues around staffing, training and retention of staff within care homes.

**Decision**

That the report be noted and a further update be provided in six months.

**13. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent**

None.

The Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 26 September, 2019 at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

The meeting concluded at 11.35 am

**H MARTIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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