

ADULT AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

19 DECEMBER 2019

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

Present:

Councillor: Sue Little (In the Chair)

Councillors: Amy Prince, Carl Richardson, Stephen Thomas and Barbara Ward.

Also present: Ann Baxter, Independent Chair of the Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board
Frank Harrison, National Pensioners Convention

Officers: Jill Harrison, Director of Adult and Community Based Services
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

36. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor James Brewer and Mike Young.

37. Declarations of Interest

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

38. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2019

Received.

39. Teesside Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2018/19 and Strategic Business Plan 2019/20 *(Director of Adult and Community Based Services and Independent Chair of Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board)*

Type of decision

Non-key Decision.

Purpose of report

To present to the Adult and Community Based Services Committee the Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2018/19 and Strategic Business Plan 2019/20.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Independent Chair of the Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB) submitted the Board's annual report for 2018/19 and the Strategic Business Plan 2019/20. The annual report set out the Board's performance over the year and Director reminded Members that there were reports on the performance specifically for Hartlepool submitted to Committee regularly.

The Independent Chair of TSAB outlined the main issues from the annual report, the structure of the Board and its sub groups, one of which, the Safeguarding Adult Review sub group was chaired by Jill Harrison.

The Independent Chair of TSAB reported that activity across the Tees Valley was up and highlighted the numbers of concerns and Section 42 enquiries that had been dealt with. S42 enquiries had increased by 10% though it was considered that much of this was due to better reporting. Medication incidents had reduced by 20%.

The Independent Chair also highlighted some of the key achievements over the year; drawing Members attention to the 'What we said we would do and what we did' section and also the Safe Place Scheme where there were now 102 locations across Teesside, 25 of which were in Hartlepool.

The Independent Chair of TSAB also referred to the Serious Case Reviews that the Board was involved in which had included that following the murder of a vulnerable adult by two teenagers in Hartlepool. There was a brief discussion on what lessons had been learned around this case. The Independent Chair of TSAB stated that much was down to communication and agencies sharing information readily.

Questions were also raised around the increased numbers of S42 Enquiries and the Independent Chair of TSAB indicated that there was an increase nationally in activity around Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) and the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and there was an increasing view that the processes around DoLS and the Act had become very process driven. There were also different working practices between local authorities with some investigation all enquiries and then determining whether they were S42 safeguarding issues (as in Hartlepool) and others that investigated every enquiry as a S42 safeguarding matter deciding at the end of the process whether it was a S42 matter or not.

In discussing the Safe Places Scheme Members were informed that there had been some refresher information sent out to the places registered

under the scheme and there would be some visits to undertake some audits of the Hartlepool venues.

On medication safety incidents Members were informed that there was continued training of care home staff on this issue and the Council through the Better Care Fund, funded a pharmacy technician who visited homes to provide guidance and advice.

Members welcomed the report and particularly the greater confidence that there appeared to be among the public to initiate concerns. A Member asked if some comparator statistics on the relative numbers of referrals between local authority areas could be provided in future.

Decision

That the Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2018/19 and Strategic Business Plan 2019/20 be noted and endorsed.

40. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

The Chairman ruled that the following items of business should be considered by the Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(B) (4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 in order that the matter could be dealt with without delay: -

Update Report on Care Home Inspections

41. Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation Order) 2006

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved 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 42 – Update Report on Care Home Inspections – This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 namely (para 3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

- 42. Update Report on Care Home Inspections** (*Director of Adult and Community Based Services*) This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 namely (para 3)

Type of decision

For information.

Purpose of report

To update Members on the results of recent Care Quality Commission inspection outcomes.

Issue(s) for consideration

Details are set out in the exempt section of the minutes.

Decision

That the report be noted.

The meeting concluded at 10.50 am

H MARTIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 24 DECEMBER 2019