

# **ADULT AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES COMMITTEE**

## **MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

23 JUNE 2022

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

### **Present:**

Councillor: Bob Buchan (In the Chair)

Councillors: Gary Allen, Ben Clayton, Angela Falconer, Ged Hall, Sue Little, and Mike Young.

Also present: Evelyn Leck and Tony Richardson.

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, Democratic Services Team

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

None.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **3. Minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2021**

Received.

### **4. The Role and Remit of the Adult and Community Based Services Committee** *(Director of Adult and Community Based Services)*

#### **Type of decision**

For information.

### **Purpose of report**

To provide background on the Committee's role and remit to Committee Members.

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

The Director of Adult and Community Based Services, together with the Assistant Director, Preventative and Community Based Services and the Assistant Director, Joint Commissioning gave a presentation to the Committee outlining the role and remit of the Adult and Community Based Services Committee as set out in the Council Constitution and the service areas that fell under its management. The presentation also included a brief overview of the Council's current budget position. There was also an update on the preparations for the Tall Ships Race in 2023.

The presentation outlined Members' role and the specific service issues for Adult Social Care, Preventative and Community Based Services, and Commissioned Services and the challenges and priorities the services faced in the immediate future.

A question was raised in relation to the number of staff working on the Tall Ships event. The Director stated that there were 4 additional staff on fixed term contracts working on the event.

A Member asked if there would be a stall or similar at some of the events the Council was involved in organising (Waterfront Festival, Big Lime Triathlon etc.) showcasing the advice and support services available from the Council or other groups through the Community Hubs. The Member particularly highlighted the support for men's mental health issues. The Assistant Director, Preventative and Community Based Services indicated she would refer the suggestion to the Mental Health Forum.

A Member asked about day services for older people. The Director commented that a wide range of services were available through Community Hubs and the voluntary sector which had largely replaced the previous building based day service located at Hartfields. The building based day service was unable to operate during COVID and the contract was not renewed. People who previously accessed the day service were now being supported in the community through activities including lunch clubs, reading groups and exercise classes, and were also being supported to access services digitally. The Director stated that the department would not be looking to re-provide 'venue' based services in the future but would continue to identify any gaps in service and to consider how best these could be filled.

The move of allotment holders from the Stranton site was raised. The Assistant Director stated that all moves would be undertaken in consultation with allotment holders and in line with guidance.

A Member raised a question around the information available for those who wished to do some volunteering. The Assistant Director, Preventative and Community Based Services stated that there was a volunteering website ([volunteerhartlepool.org.uk](http://volunteerhartlepool.org.uk)) which provided a lot of advice and links to organisations. Information was also available for those without the internet and there was also free internet access at the Community Hubs. There would be a lot of volunteer opportunities around the Tall Ships event and these would be widely advertised.

A Member asked if the social care Personal Budget provision was over-subscribed. The Director commented that while there were significant pressures within the Adult Social Care budget, all people with an assessed need were provided with a personal budget, with the option of using a Direct Payment to organise some or all of their own care. There were also some individuals with health needs who had Personal Health Budgets or support that was jointly funded with the NHS.

Concern was expressed at the forthcoming changes to telephone lines in Hartlepool and the effects this may have on people using tele-care equipment. The Director commented that solutions were available to address this and no issues had been raised locally, although this would be monitored.

#### **Decision**

That the presentation and discussions be noted.

### **5. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent**

None.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Thursday 28 July 2022 at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

The meeting concluded at 11.10 am

**H MARTIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

**PUBLICATION DATE: 1 JULY 2022**