

## **Report of the Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee**

Chair: Cllr Hazel Prior-Sankey

Division and Local Member: All

Lead Officer: Julian Gale – Strategic Manager – Governance and Risk

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### **1. Summary**

- 1.1** The Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee is required by the Constitution to make an annual report to the Council each year and also to provide each other meeting of the Council with a summary progress report and outcomes of scrutiny. This report covers the meetings of 6 June 2017 and 4 July 2018.
- 1.2** The Committee agreed their work programme would comprise of items considered directly at meetings plus other items considered or 'commissioned', using flexible arrangements outside of the formal committee structure.
- 1.3** Members of the Council are reminded that:
- all Members have been invited to attend meetings of the three Scrutiny Committees and to contribute freely on any agenda item;
  - any Member could propose a topic for inclusion on the Scrutiny Work Programmes;
  - any Member can be asked by the Committee to contribute information and evidence and to participate in specific scrutiny reviews.
- 1.4** The Committee has 9 elected Members.

### **2. Background**

#### **2.1 Scrutiny Work Programme**

At each meeting, the Committee considers and updates its work programme, having regard to the Cabinet's forward plan of proposed key decisions. Members appreciate the attendance of representatives and stakeholders from partner agencies.

#### **2.2 6 June 2017**

##### Maternity Services at BANES and Wiltshire

The first main item was a presentation regarding maternity services at BANES and Wiltshire. The committee were updated on the nationally lead improvement work e.g. Better Births and the Local Transformation Plan and RUH Maternity Services Redesign. We agreed to analyse the results of the consultation due to take place, at our September 2018 meeting.

### Somerset Mental Wellbeing Service

The next item was a report which provided an overview of the Somerset Mental Wellbeing Service, which is a new service commissioned by Somerset County Council (SCC) and delivered by Compass Disability Services, in conjunction with Mind Taunton and West Somerset, South Somerset Mind and Chard WATCH CIC. The service was formally launched in January 2018 and is part of a wider redesign of adult mental health social care services.

Members were informed this was a new contract and there are many changes in mental health services. This supported people to achieve their own outcomes and they had received positive feedback so far. We noted the report.

### Sheltered Housing in Somerset

We then considered a report providing a detailed overview of the current status of sheltered housing and the projected future model of sheltered housing in Somerset. We were informed this would be enhanced residential care, and the aim was to support everyone in the community, an equity of service. An update on this could be made at the end of the year giving more information and clearer figures. The Committee were in favour of the recommendations to be made by the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health at the end of June.

## **4 July 2018**

### Learning Disability Stakeholder Involvement Proposal

The first main item was a report updating on the work to strengthen the parent/carer (stakeholder) involvement in the learning disability (LD) services commissioned by the Adults and Health directorate. There was much debate about this. The Committee agreed to note the progress made by this group and to invite a representative from the stakeholder group (parent/carer) to attend the September meeting when there will be an update on the Learning Disability Contract.

### Community Safety in Somerset

We then received a report and presentation regarding Community Safety in Somerset. This was the main focus of the meeting and we welcomed representatives from Avon and Somerset Constabulary and from the Police and Crime Commissioners' Office. The Committee were given a broad overview of the community safety function, outlining key priorities, areas of work and responsibilities, and provided with a summary of what was working well, what challenges exist and plans for the future. The Committee noted Somerset County Council's duties and responsibilities in relation to community safety and acknowledged the range and depth of the work programme.

### Patient Safety and Quality Report including Cancer and Stroke Performance

Following this we welcomed representatives from Somerset CCG who introduced a number of reports covering quality assurance for each of the providers of NHS care for which Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is the lead or associate commissioner in line with the CCG's Strategic Theme 4: sustain and continually improve the quality of all services.

There were also reports and presentations focussing on Cancer Performance and Stroke Performance for Somerset patients.

The Committee agreed to note the reports and for the next Patient Safety and Quality Report to report back to 3 October meeting.

### Corporate Performance Report

Finally we received a report which gave a high-level summary of the Council's performance across the themes shown in Appendix A and Appendix A1 to the report. We were informed there would be a new format for the report in future which should provide more up to date information in a clearer way.

There was also further information about the area of concern shown as red around managing our business and concerning the authority's outturn showing an overspend of £2.180m compared to the revenue budget. One segment also showed a declining performance – working with our public. Members were informed that improvements were being made with the way calls were handled at the contact centre and they were invited to come and visit the contact centre to look at the work being done. The Committee noted the report.

### **3. Consultations Undertaken**

The Committee invites all County councillors to attend and contribute to its meetings.

### **4. Implications**

The Committee considers carefully and often asks for further information about the implications as outlined in the reports considered at its meetings.

For further details of the reports considered by the Committee, please contact the author of this report.

### **5. Background Papers**

Further information about the Committee including dates of meetings and agendas and reports from previous meetings, are available via the Council's website:

[www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers)

**Note:** For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author.