

## **SCRUTINY FOR POLICIES, ADULTS AND HEALTH COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee held in the Luttrell Room - County Hall, Taunton, on Wednesday 7 March 2018 at 10.00 am

**Present:** Cllr H Prior-Sankey (Chair), Cllr R Williams (Vice-Chair), Cllr P Burridge-Clayton, Cllr M Caswell, Cllr M Chilcott, Cllr A Govier, Cllr B Revans and Cllr N Taylor

**Other Members present:** Cllrs G Fraschini, D Huxtable, C Lawrence, L Leyshon, J Lock, and T Munt

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr M Keating

### **73 Declarations of Interest - Agenda Item 2**

None declared.

The Chair took the opportunity to advise that the report of the Learning Disability Task and Finish Group had been deferred.

### **74 Minutes from the previous meeting held on 24 January 2018 – Agenda Item 3**

Following the agreement of the amending of wording on the last sentence of minute 68 to delete the words 'but hoped' for 'and', the minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2018 were accepted as being accurate and were signed by the Chair.

### **75 Public Question Time - Agenda Item 4**

There were no public questions.

### **76 Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board Draft Strategic Plan 2018\_19 - Agenda Item 5**

The Committee received a report regarding the draft Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) Strategic Plan for 2018-19. The purpose of the report was to consult with the Committee in relation to the SSAB's refreshed plan for 2018/19. The SSAB is required by The Care Act 2014 to produce and publish a strategic plan for each financial year. It must set out what the Board intends to do over the next year to help and protect adults at risk of abuse and neglect in Somerset during that timeframe. The Board had chosen, in line with other Safeguarding Annual Boards, to develop a three-year plan that is refreshed annually.

The report gave information about the overarching priorities which remained of prevention, making safeguarding personal, think family, and board effectiveness. Members were also informed that assurance would be a main focus for the year.

Further discussion included:

- Preparations being made for the next 3 year plan and members were informed that during the summer there would be further consultation with partner organisations about the plan
- Lessons learned which had largely come from Safeguarding Adult Reviews both in Somerset and other areas of the country.
- Disappointment at the lack of response from the public to an online questionnaire organised by the SSAB.
- It was felt that the public had a lack of understanding about adult safeguarding and efforts were being made to further address this
- It was agreed the 'Think Family' approach was essential.
- It was felt that support for carers should be added to the prevention section of the action plan
- Risk assessments and how failure was recognised and remedied
- The intention for the Board to improve at self-audit
- Concern about vulnerable adults being placed in other county areas and reviews not being carried out
- Somerset had a robust process in place and informed other authorities if people were put in placements out of county

The Chair thanked the SSAB independent Chair and officers for the report and draft plan.

#### **The Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee:**

- 1. Noted the contents of this paper alongside the draft 2018/19 Strategic Plan**
- 2. Considered and commented on the proposed strategic priorities for 2018/19**
- 3. Agreed to continue to promote adult safeguarding across the County Council and in commissioned services**

**It was also agreed that Somerset would take a lead at all levels to inform host lead authorities when we place out of county and ensure quality reviews are carried out.**

#### **77 Corporate Performance Report Q3 2017-18 - Agenda Item 6**

The Committee received a report which gave a high-level summary of the Council's performance across the themes shown in Appendix A to the report.

There was further information about the areas of concern shown as red segments and one segment with declining performance and the accompanying reasons for this. One of the red segments was - P3 Safer Children and Better Care. However the Children's Trust Executive was pleased with progress against the seven improvement programmes although it recognised there was still much to do. The Ofsted visit had taken place since the data had been put together so it was likely there would be a change in performance in this segment as a result of this.

Further discussion on this included:

- The aim was to provide more up to date information in future.
- Concern was expressed about the lack of detail about individual service performances and that the information was too general so it was difficult to ask questions
- A new reporting framework was being looked at.
- How much money was being spent on each segment? This was difficult to quantify as there was a lot of overlapping and resources and performance did not always directly relate.

**The Committee noted the report but asked if further details could be given in future reports to show specific areas of concern.**

78 **Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee Work Programme - Agenda Item 7**

The Committee agreed to update the work programme for the next meeting to add items about progress with budget issues, Community Connect to include an update on GP work in Frome, update on progress with stroke patients and supporting people with Dementia.

The Committee also took the opportunity to formally thank all the NHS workers and people who helped others in the community during the recent bad weather.

79 **Any other urgent items of business - Agenda Item 8**

There were no other items of business.

**(The meeting ended at 11.55 am)**

**CHAIRMAN**