

Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19 January 2016 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

Present: Councillors D'Arcy, Edgington, Parkins and Mrs Redford

Also Present: Councillor Mrs Knight.

8. **Apologies and Substitutes**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Falp and Quinney. There were no substitutes.

9. **Appointment of Chair**

Resolved that Councillor Parkins be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the 2015/16 municipal year.

10. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

11. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2015 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

12. **Dementia Action Alliance**

The Sub-Committee was introduced to Ms Le Tellier, Operations Manager at the Alzheimer's Society office based in Wise Street, Royal Leamington Spa. She had been asked to speak to the Sub-Committee to explain work being done in conjunction with a county-wide initiative called the Dementia Action Alliance, to transform the lives of people living with dementia; an initiative the District Council was seeking to join.

Ms Le Tellier explained that to become a member of this Alliance, it was necessary to sign a declaration to confirm commitment to improving the lives of people with dementia. The next stage necessitated agreeing an action plan. This was mainly about improving the lives of those people living with the condition, and their carers. This was done through supporting people with dementia to remain being independent and improving their community inclusion and quality of life through raising public awareness and understanding.

Training was provided for people who wished to become Dementia Friends and this training would help them understand the needs of people with dementia.

Members were informed that the Health & Wellbeing Lead was now a Dementia Champion and had delivered training to staff at the Pump Rooms and Riverside House. Examples of areas to consider in helping people living with dementia were structural design issues. Ms Le Tellier was at pains to

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inform people that people “lived with” dementia; they did not “suffer” from dementia.

The Dementia Action Alliance held meetings where information was exchanged on what other organisations were doing and work that organisations had in common. Once the Council became a member it would need to decide whether it should encourage other businesses to sign up to the Alliance.

In response to Members’ questions, Ms Le Tellier informed them that:

- The work being done by the Alzheimer’s Society was undertaken by a mixture of paid staff and volunteers; there were twice as many volunteers than paid staff and within the Warwickshire area about 8,000 people were living with dementia.
- To diagnose whether a person had the condition, a GP would refer the patient to the Arden Memory Service; however, a definitive diagnosis was only possible at post-mortem, following death.
- Dementia amongst younger people was rare, and unfortunately this meant that the services provided to help were not geared towards them, especially since their needs might require one to one care.
- Organisations could do a lot to help, such as looking at the tone of language used in letters and information, and they could try different types of communication.
- The aim within the Council was to have at least one member of staff in every department to be a Dementia Friend.

The Health & Wellbeing Lead informed Members that the Council had already drafted an Action Plan which was currently being checked by the Warwickshire County Council co-ordinator. The schedule to train staff had already been started and Members would also be trained. A report would be going to the Executive on 10 February recommending the Council become “Dementia Friendly”.

The Chairman thanked Ms Le Tellier for her talk.

13. Joint Healthy South Warwickshire – Funding Award 2016

The Sub-Committee considered a report from Health & Community Protection which advised Members of the outcomes of the bidding process for funding to support health projects in South Warwickshire.

Members were advised that the Council had approved £10,000 each year as match funding with Public Health and the South West Clinical Commissioning Group, totalling £40,000, to fund one-off health improvement projects to assist small-scale schemes with health objectives out in the community. Groups had to bid for funding and the report gave details of the number of bids received and examples of some of these.

Resolved that the report be noted.

14. Review of the Work Programme & Forward Plan

The Sub-Committee considered its work programme for 2015/16.

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Members were keen to discuss what the Council was doing in respect of promoting people to do physical activity. Councillor Mrs Knight was concerned that work needed to be done in tackling social isolation at swimming pools.

The issue of health service planning linked to major new developments and work done on Health Service commissioning related to the Local Plan was also raised. The Head of Health & Community Protection was asked to investigate who might talk to the Sub-Committee about these and to progress the item on the use of S106/CIL money for health issues.

The Sub-Committee asked the Health & Wellbeing Lead to progress the "the health service implications from the night-time economy". It suggested that the Chief Executive of the South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust, Mr Glen Burley, be invited to talk about this too and the Health & Wellbeing Lead was asked to speak to him about this possibility.

Following on from discussion of items for the Work Programme it was

Resolved that the following items be added to the Work Programme:

- (1) the Sports and Leisure Manager attend the next meeting to talk about the Council's role in promoting physical activity;
- (2) 16 March 2016 - health service planning linked to major new developments; and
- (3) Health Service commissioning related to the Local Plan.

Resolved that the following items be progressed:

- (1) guest speaker for mental healthcare;
- (2) health service implications from the night-time economy; and
- (3) use of S106/Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money for health issues.

(The meeting finished at 6.54 pm)