

Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17 January 2017 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Parkins (Chair); Councillors, Edgington, Mrs Falp, Mrs Knight, Mrs Redford and Quinney.

31. **Apologies and Substitutes**

- (a) Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D'Arcy and Mrs Falp; and
- (b) there were no substitutes.

32. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

33. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2016 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

34. **Domestic Violence & Abuse Policy**

The Sub-Committee received a report from Housing & Property Services that outlined the draft Domestic Violence & Abuse Policy.

The Policy had been developed to address gaps within the Council's Policies with a view to developing new procedures and staff training.

The Policy had been brought to the Sub-Committee at this early stage to enable them to comment and influence its development.

The Sub-Committee welcomed the introduction of the Policy in this area and recognised that for it to be effective, the procedures, staff training and communication of this strategy would be key.

35. **Draft Housing & Homelessness Strategy 2017**

The Sub-Committee received a report from Housing & Property Services that set out the process that had been undertaken in developing a new Housing & Homelessness Strategy for 2017 and those steps that would be used for it to be adopted.

The Sub-Committee welcomed the refresh of this Policy and the work to date on it.

Members were mindful of the many reasons why people became homeless and the challenges in supporting them. They were pleased to hear that officers were considering how further support could be provided to the homeless specifically during adverse weather conditions.

HEALTH SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)

The Sub-Committee noted that there was no statutory requirement to provide night shelter during severe weather but equally the Council could provide additional cover if it so wished.

The Sub-Committee was pleased to hear that a county wide trailblazer project had been awarded over £800,000 funding from central government to help prevent homelessness.

36. Health & Wellbeing Update

The Sub-Committee received a report from Health & Community Protection that updated it on the work that was being undertaken across the Council to improve the health and wellbeing of those who lived, worked and visited the District.

A summary of the health and wellbeing interventions undertaken during 2016 were set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

As part of this report the Head of Health & Community Protection provided an explanation of the Sustainable Transformation Plan (STP) for Health. It was explained that the plan that had been released was not designed for public consumption as it was a technical assessment for NHS direction. The purpose of the STP process was to produce a plan that enabled consultation on this. Each authority would however retain its decision making responsibilities and even if a plan was supported the relevant organisation could chose not to fund the work outlined.

The Sub-Committee welcomed this summary and requested that the Head of Health & Community Protection circulated the lay guide to the STP along with an outline of each strand of the STP.

The Sub-Committee agreed that its meeting in March should be used as a briefing for all Councillors about the STP and that the arrangements for this should be made by the Head of Health & Community Protection in liaison with Committee Services and the Chair of the Sub-Committee.

37. Feedback from Outside Bodies Meetings

The work of the South Warwickshire Foundation Trust Task & Finish Group and Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Task & Finish Group had yet to start.

Councillor Grainger was not present to provide an update on the work of the Warwickshire Health & Wellbeing Board.

Councillor Mrs Redford circulated the minutes of the latest Warwickshire Adult Social Care & Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

It was agreed that at future meetings Councillor Mrs Bunker should be asked to provide a written summary of her role as a Governor of the South Warwickshire Foundation Trust.

HEALTH SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)

38. **Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee Work Programme**

The Sub-Committee considered a report from Democratic Services which informed it of its work programme for 2017 and the current Forward Plan for February to May 2017.

Resolved that the following amendments be made to the Work Programme:

- (1) the March meeting be a single agenda meeting which is formed of a presentation to all Councillors on the Sustainable Transformation Plans;
- (2) the reports due to the March meeting be moved to the first meeting of the next municipal year;
- (3) the Care Quality Commission speaker should be revised as a briefing for all Councillors on their work and how the Council could assist them; and
- (4) the report on the Housing Assessment Team including Disabled Facilities Grants be removed from the workplan.

(The meeting finished at 7.25 pm)