

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet held at 2.00 pm on Tuesday, 3 October 2023

Present:

Members: Councillor G Duggins (Chair)
Councillor A S Khan (Deputy Chair)
Councillor L Bigham
Councillor K Caan
Councillor P Hetherton
Councillor J O'Boyle
Councillor P Seaman
Councillor D Welsh

Non- Voting Deputy
Cabinet Members Councillor S Agboola
Councillor G Hayre
Councillor A Jobbar
Councillor G Lloyd
Councillor S Nazir

Non-Voting Opposition
Members: Councillor G Ridley
Councillor S Gray

Other Non Voting
Members: Councillor N Akhtar
Councillor R Lakha

Employees (by Service area):

Chief Executive J Nugent (Chief Executive)
Adult Services and Housing P Fahy (Director)
Children's Services N Macdonald (Interim Director), N Jeffreys
Finance B Hastie (Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer))
Law and Governance J Newman (Chief Legal Officer), S Bennett

Apologies: Councillors L Harvard, P Male and K Sandhu

Public Business

30. Declarations of Interest

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests.

31. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th August 2023 were agreed and signed as a true record.

There were no matters arising.

32. **Council Youth Justice Plan 2023-2025 Strategy**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Interim Director of Children's Services, that would also be considered at the meeting of Council on 17th October 2023, and which sought endorsement of the Coventry Youth Justice Services (CYJS) – Youth Justice Plan (a copy of which was attached as an Appendix to the report), following its sign-off by its Chair, the Interim Director of Children's Services.

Youth Justice Services (known as Youth Offending Teams) were established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 with the principal aim being to prevent offending behaviour by children. The Act imposed a duty on each local authority together with its statutory partners, Police, Health, and Probation, to ensure that adequate Youth Justice Services were available in their area.

The key tasks of the service were:

- Management and delivery of community sentences
- Assessing and delivery of Out of Court Disposal interventions
- Assessing and delivery of diversion 2 support to children at risk of entering the Youth Justice System.
- Management and delivery of secure estate sentences and resettlement
- Servicing the Youth Court and Crown Courts (in terms of provision of the court team, Bail & Health Assessments, provision of Pre-Sentence Reports and Stand-down Reports)
- Parenting services and management of Parenting Orders
- Victim services

The legislation also imposed a duty to complete and submit a Youth Justice Plan each year. The Youth Justice Board (YJB) provided a grant to the Service, outlined delivery expectations, and oversaw performance for youth justice services. As part of their grant the YJB had mandated a template for all youth justice plans and thus the Plan has been presented in this format.

The Plan demonstrated, in line with the Youth Justice Board (YJB) grant requirement, the continued delivery of services as set out in s38 Crime and Disorder Act 1998. CYJS had submitted the Plan in line with the mandated YJB structure. The Plan demonstrated the delivery of the Service's functions and the methods for achieving this in line with the grant requirement. The Plan presented an analysis of youth justice provision in Coventry, performance, arrangements for delivery and resourcing, and emerging risks and challenges; this analysis had enabled the formation of a new vision, aligned priorities, and a new improvement and business plan for 2023-25.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet endorses acceptance of the Coventry Youth Justice Plan - 2023-25 Strategy and recommends that the Council endorses the Plan.

33. Adult Social Care Annual Report 2022/2023 (Local Account)

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Adult Services and Housing, that would also be considered at the meeting of Council on 17th October 2023, which described the performance of Adult Social Care and the progress made against the priorities for the year in the Adult Social Care Annual Report (also referred to as the Local Account, and which was attached as an Appendix to the report). The report also provided specific examples of operational activities to support service users and carers.

The Cabinet noted that the report had been considered by the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) at its meeting held on 13th September 2022 (their Minute 11/23 refers). A Briefing Note was appended to the report that set out the Boards comments and the following recommendations, which the Cabinet accepted:

The Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) supports the content of the Adult Social Care Annual Report 2022/2023 and recommends that Cabinet:

- 1) Accepts the recommendations in the Cabinet Report.
- 2) Notes the following comment: that where “spend on central charges” was mentioned, this should be clarified for ease of understanding.

Although there was not a statutory requirement to produce an annual report, it was considered good practice as it provided an opportunity to be open and transparent about the successes and challenges facing Adult Social Care and to show what was being done to improve outcomes for those that came into contact with the services.

The production of the 2022/2023 report had drawn on the pool of feedback and information that was gathered over the year from a range of sources including social care staff, Partnership Boards, Adult Social Care Stakeholder Group, providers, Partner Organisations, and people that had been in contact with Adult Social Care along with their families and carers.

The Local Account also looked forward to 2023/2024 and included summary details regarding key areas for development. These were improvements the service intended to make in order to improve service delivery, improve outcomes for people and support the ability to operate within the resources available. The priority was to improve care and support services for adults and to ensure a stable provider market for the City.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet:

- 1) **Notes and agrees the recommendations from the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) as outlined above.**

- 2) Approves the Adult Social Care Annual Report 2022/23 (Local Account).
- 3) Recommends that Council receives and notes the Adult Social Care Annual Report 2022/23 (Local Account).

34. **Outstanding Issues**

There were no outstanding issues.

35. **Any Other Items of Urgent Public Business**

There were no other items of urgent public business.

(Meeting closed at 2.15pm)