

**Coventry City Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) held at 2.00**  
**pm on Wednesday, 6 November 2013**

Present:

Members: Councillor S Thomas (Chair)  
Councillor M Ali  
Councillor J Clifford  
Councillor C Fletcher  
Councillor P Hetherton  
Councillor J Mutton  
Councillor H Noonan  
Councillor H S Sehmi

Other Members: Councillor A Gingell, Cabinet Member (Health and Adult Services)

Employees:

P Barnett, Resources Directorate  
P Fahy, People Directorate  
M Greenwood, People Directorate  
L Knight, Resources Directorate  
M McGinty, People Directorate  
J Moore, Chief Executive's Directorate  
B Walsh, Executive Director, People

Other Representatives: P Dye, Coventry Carers' Centre

Apologies: Councillor A Williams  
D Spurgeon

## **Public Business**

### **24. Declarations of Interest**

There were no disclosable pecuniary or other relevant interests declared.

### **25. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2013 were signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

### **26. A Bolder Community Services (ABCS) Interim Consultation Report**

The Scrutiny Board received a presentation and considered a briefing note of the Executive Director, Place which provided an overview of the A Bolder Community Services (ABCS) Programme consultation and offered the opportunity for the Board to make recommendations or comments as part of the consultation process. A copy of the interim report on the consultation was attached at an appendix to the briefing note. The consultation commenced on 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2013 and was due to

end 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2013. Councillor Gingell, Cabinet Member (Health and Adult Services) attended the meeting for the consideration of this item. Pauline Dye, Chief Executive, Coventry Carers Centre, also attended for this issue.

The consultation report detailed the activity undertaken so far regarding the six ABCS proposals currently being consulted on; the consultation approach; and the general areas of feedback to date.

The Council needed to achieve a savings target from its Community Services budget of £10m by 2014/15 as part of a cumulative savings target of £22.5m to be achieved to be achieved by 2015/16. The programme sought to progress the following six proposals to achieve the savings target for 2014/15:

- Targeting Housing Related Support on the Most Vulnerable
- Improving the Quality of Housing with Care Accommodation
- Focusing Day Opportunities and Transport to Promote Independence and Support for the Most Vulnerable
- Targeting Adult Social Care Information, Advice and Support
- Realigning Reablement Responsibilities – Aylesford
- Remodelling Home Support Reablement in Coventry and Ceasing In-house Provision – HSSTS (Home Support Short Term Service).

By mid-October approximately 8,500 had been contacted by letter or e-mail, over 50 consultation meetings had taken place, and the ABCS website pages had been viewed on more than 2,700 occasions.

Feedback to date had been overwhelmingly in disagreement with the proposals but was to be expected given the scale and nature of the proposed changes, however there was an appreciation of the difficult financial situation to be faced by the Council.

Members of the Board questioned the officers and responses were provided. Matters raised included:

- Clarification of the current position following five disabled people winning their Court of Appeal bid to overturn the Government's decision to abolish the Independent Living Fund
- Transport to day care centres and the use of the ring and ride and bus services
- The impact of the proposals on all family members
- The impact of funding reductions on smaller organisations
- The potential for organisations to act together in consortiums so generating efficiencies.

Pauline Dye, Chief Executive, Coventry Carers Centre, explained the impact of the cuts on her organisation and to the carers that they support. She highlighted that the proposals were likely to result in other organisations incurring additional costs in the long term if the Carers Centre were unable to provide their current level of support.

The Board discussed the importance of commissioning for quality.

**RESOLVED that:**

**(i) The interim report on the ABCS consultation process and the considerations to date be noted.**

**(ii) The Board is consulted on the report on the final proposals from the A Bolder Community Services proposals following the consultation and prior to being submitted to Cabinet.**

**(ii) A report on commissioning for quality be submitted to a Board meeting in the near future.**

**27. Director of Public Health Annual Reports 2012 and 2013**

The Scrutiny Board received a presentation from Dr Jane Moore, Director of Public Health on public health in the city which highlighted significant changes since 1970, identified current issues and detailed the key challenges for the future. The Board also noted two Annual Reports of the Director. The first looked back to when public health was last in local government in 1974 and considered how health had changed since then and the second looked forward to the major challenges that needed to be tackled to improve health in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. These reports had been submitted to the meeting of the Coventry Health and Well-being Board on 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2013 and were also to be considered by Cabinet at their meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2013. Councillor Gingell, Cabinet Member (Health and Adult Services) attended the meeting for the consideration of this item.

The findings of the reports were to be used by the City Council and other key partners in the NHS and voluntary sector to focus action on the particular health needs of Coventry and the groups in the city with the lowest life expectancy. They showed the need for continued effort to improve issues that affect people's health including education and employment which were being tackled through the city's status as a Marmot City. They also highlighted the need to focus on lifestyle issues such as smoking, alcohol, poor diet and physical activity which were the biggest health challenges for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Information from these reports would be shared with local people through the Neighbourhood Forums and would also be shared more widely with partner agencies and the voluntary sector.

The presentation put forward the following five key challenges:

- Focus on closing the health gap
- Target the areas of the city and the people where we have seen the least improvement
- Work with local communities to empower them to make a change (asset-based working)
- Use social marketing, social media and technology to support behaviour change
- Make it easier for people to change.

Ten key actions had been developed to address these challenges.

Members of the Board questioned the officer and responses were provided, matters raised included:

- Partnership working with local universities, particularly in relation to sexual health issues
- Promoting healthy eating to reduce health inequalities and access to healthy foods
- Availability of data from local pharmacies
- The challenges identified in this year's report were the challenges that existed 25/30 years ago
- How to enhance community ambitions and empower people to make difficult decisions
- Partnership working to be able to engage with new communities to help reduce health inequalities
- The potential to increase the options available for exercise in the community
- Modern less physically demanding lifestyles which contribute to unhealthy behaviours
- The banning of smoking at school gates.

The Board indicated that there was an expectation that the content of the reports should be used by all parts of the Local Authority when considering commissioning decisions in the future.

**28. Consideration of Proposals by NHS Blood and Transplant to Make Changes to the Operation of Workplace Bloodmobile Sessions in the West Midlands**

The Chair, Councillor Thomas reported that he had just been informed that representatives from NHS Blood and Transplant were unable to attend the meeting to report on their proposals to make changes to the operation of workplace Bloodmobile sessions in the West Midlands. A statement had been submitted via e-mail.

**RESOLVED that:**

**(i) Consideration of the item be deferred until the next Board meeting scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2013.**

**(ii) The Chair, Councillor Thomas to write to NHS Blood and Transplant regarding their attendance at the next Board meeting.**

**29. Outstanding Issues Report**

The Board noted that all outstanding issues had been included in the work programme, Minute 30 below refers.

**30. Work Programme 2013-2014**

The Board noted the work programme for 2013-14. In response to a question, it was agreed to re-circulate the briefing note on NHS111 to the Board members.

**31. Any other items of Public Business - Shingles Vaccine**

Dr Jane Moore, Director of Public Health informed the Board of the current position regarding the NHS vaccination programme against shingles for people

aged 70 to 79. She indicated that there was a need for clarification to be provided so patients were aware of when they could expect to be vaccinated. The first people to have the vaccine would be those aged 70 or 79 on 1st September, 2013.

(Meeting closed at 4.30 pm)