

Adult Services Scrutiny Performance Panel Update

1. Remit of the Panel

The overarching purpose of the panel is to: provide ongoing challenge to adult social services performance to ensure that as the service is undergoing major change performance is maintained and that further improvements are made across all areas of the service.

2. Key Activities

The Panel discussed and agreed their work plan for this municipal year in July 2018 and is currently meeting on a monthly basis. Since the last update to the SPC in September 2018, the panel has looked at the following:

- a) Western Bay Health and Social Care Programme (September)
- b) Overview of Supporting People Programme Grant (September)
- c) Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (October)
- d) Update on how Council's Policy Commitments translate to Adult Services (October)
- e) Performance Monitoring Report (November)
- f) Wales Audit Office Report on Strategic Commissioning of Accommodation Services for People with Learning Disabilities (November)
- g) Director's Annual Review of Charges (Social Services) 2018-19 (November)
- h) Update on Social Work Practice Framework (December).

3. Achievements / Impact

We have sent 5 letters to the Cabinet Member for Care, Health & Ageing Well since August 2018 in order to give our views, raise concerns and make recommendations, for example:

Positives:

- Panel encouraged to hear that the Council and the Health Board are in discussions concerning continuing health care as a better collaborative arrangement is needed including pooled budgets.
- Reviews of Allocated Clients – There has been significant improvement in recent figures particularly in the Learning Disability Team which had previously been a concern.
- Western Bay Health and Social Care Programme - Panel queried whether we would have the same results if the Local Authorities had been given the money instead of the region. We heard that some things would have been completed quicker or better but not overall. Also it has forced the Health Board and the Authorities to work together on some difficult issues. Another positive of the regional arrangement is that there is equity of service across the region.
- Strategic Commissioning of Accommodation Services for People with Learning Disabilities – Panel pleased to hear that there is some evidence that the service is starting to reduce spending in this area this year, and getting more control over its budget.

Issues / Concerns:

- Long Term Domiciliary Care – Panel heard Health Board is passing on costs to the Council regarding people with learning disabilities, which has contributed to the overspend in that area. Panel will be monitoring this going forward.
- Western Bay Health and Social Care Programme - Panel expressed concern about two aspects of the arrangements for the Western Bay Partnership. One was the

sheer confusing complexity of the management chart on page 38 of the papers and the lack of clear lines of accountability. Another was the imprecision of the roles of the various task groups cited in the lowest levels of the chart. Panel also suggested that it might have been useful to apply learning from network theory to the development of these arrangements. Officers confirmed that it is not clear that there is an overall vision and that the chart needs to be made simpler. It was agreed that it would be useful for the Panel to see the review of Western Bay arrangements.

Therefore 'Update on Western Bay Arrangements following the Review' was added to the Panel's work programme early in the next municipal year.

- Supporting People Programme Grant - Panel felt probation should be doing more and wanted to know what was being done to make them facilitate their role. Panel was informed there is a review at national level. Information on this review is to be provided to the Panel.
- Delayed Transfers of Care – Panel noted that there was a significant worsening in numbers of individuals delayed due to waiting for package of home care with notable deterioration in August and September. This is a concern for the Panel and we feel the Service is not getting on top of this.

Action Recommended / Agreed:

- Pre decision scrutiny on Outcomes of Residential Care and Day Services for Older People Consultation - Panel requested assurance that if the proposals are accepted and Parkways is to close, that the well-being of residents will be put first and that adequate time will be allowed for all residents and their families to be properly engaged with and assessed and moved into alternative accommodation.

Cabinet Member Response: I am happy to provide this reassurance and would fully agree that maintaining the wellbeing of residents affected is of paramount importance. If a decision is made to proceed, all individuals affected will be allocated a social worker to support them before, during and after any move. We have intentionally not set a definitive closure date, as we recognise that we need to be flexible to ensure that appropriate move on arrangements are in place for all concerned.

- Panel felt it would have been useful to be able to identify the source of the responses – whether an individual or a body/organisation.

Cabinet Member Response: I would agree with this view, and this is certainly a lesson learnt for us as an organisation when carrying out consultations in the future.

4. Future Work Programme

The programme for the remainder of this municipal year is as follows:

Meeting date	Item to be discussed
Additional meeting 11 Feb 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft budget proposals for Adult Services
Meeting 9 19 Feb 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Monitoring • Update on how Council's Policy Commitments translate to Adult Services • Adult Services Complaints Annual Report 2017-18
Meeting 10 19 Mar 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Commissioning Review - Domiciliary Care and Procurement • Safeguarding Arrangements update • Briefing on Safeguarding – Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking (Referred from SPC)
Additional meeting 26 March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Executive and Chairman of ABMU HB attending to inform Panel of their vision for Swansea once the number of authorities in ABMU is reduced to two.

Meeting 11 16 Apr 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on Adult Services Improvement Plan• WAO report on Commissioning Services for People with Learning Disabilities – Follow up on recommendations• End of year review
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5. Action for the Scrutiny Programme Committee

None.