



City and County of Swansea

Notes of the **Scrutiny Performance Panel – Adult Services**

Committee Room 5 - Guildhall, Swansea

Tuesday, 16 April 2019 at 3.30 pm

Present: Councillor P M Black (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

G J Tanner
Y V Jardine
E T Kirchner

Councillor(s)

C A Holley
P K Jones
H M Morris

Councillor(s)

P R Hood-Williams
S M Jones

Co-opted Member(s)

T Beddow

Other Attendees

Mark Child

Cabinet Member - Care, Health & Ageing Well

Officer(s)

Peter Field

Principal Officer Prevention, Wellbeing and
Commissioning

Liz Jordan

Scrutiny Officer

Deborah Reed

Interim Head of Adult Services

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): J A Hale and J W Jones

Co-opted Member(s): Katrina Guntrip

1 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

Disclosures of interest – Chris Holley.

2 Notes of previous meetings

The Panel agreed the notes of the meeting on 19 March and 26 March as an accurate record of the meeting.

3 Public Question Time

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

4 Update on Adult Services Improvement Plan

Deborah Reed, Interim Head of Adult Services updated the Panel on the Adult Services Improvement Plan.

Discussion points:

- Panel does not agree with savings methodology used and is concerned savings are being classed as income rather than deferred costs.
- A bid has been submitted to support another five Local Area Coordinators (LACs) and a deputy team leader. Three to be appointed as soon as possible and another two later in the year.
- Panel would like to see performance indicators that show the value of Local Area Coordinators and the value they are adding. The Authority is going to see if it can import the 'Wiltshire tool' to enable it to do this. Cabinet Member agreed to provide academic reports to evidence LACs are saving twice as much as they cost.

Actions:

- Cabinet Member to provide academic reports on Local Area Coordinator savings.

5 WAO report on Commissioning of Accommodation Services for People with Learning Disabilities - Follow up on progress with recommendations

Peter Field, Principal Officer, Prevention, Wellbeing and Commissioning followed up on progress with recommendations from Wales Audit Office on commissioning of accommodation services for people with learning disabilities.

Discussion points:

- Re-tendering process was open to all providers but no new ones applied.
- Panel feels a simple route map (diagram) is needed on the range of services available to support people with learning disabilities.
- The Authority tried to involve 'hard to reach' service users in the consultation. All service users were contacted and invited to participate in the consultation and independent advocates were involved.
- Panel would like to know what the Authority is currently commissioning and requested further information on this.
- Panel asked about engagement with carers. An Equalities Scrutiny Inquiry is currently underway, and was informed by the Carers Centre that carers and parents are concerned about engagement with social workers. Panel look forward to seeing the report when completed.

Actions:

- Further information on what the Authority is currently commissioning to be provided to the Panel for information.

6 Work Programme Timetable

The Panel considered the work programme and the items scheduled for the first meeting of the new municipal year.

7 Letters

Letter received and considered by the Panel.

The meeting ended at 5.30pm.



To:
Councillor Mark Child
Cabinet Member for Care, Health & Ageing
Well

Please ask for: Scrutiny
Gofynnwch am:
Scrutiny Office 01792 637314
Line:
Llinell
Uniongyrochol:
e-Mail scrutiny@swansea.gov.uk
e-Bost:
Date 13 May 2019
Dyddiad:

Summary: This is a letter from the Adult Services Scrutiny Performance Panel to the Cabinet Member for Care, Health and Ageing Well following the meeting of the Panel on 16 April 2019. It covers the Adult Services Improvement Plan and the follow up on progress with recommendations from WAO report.

Dear Cllr Child

The Panel met on 16 April to discuss the Adult Services Improvement Plan and follow up on progress with recommendations from the WAO report on commissioning of accommodation services for people with learning disabilities. We would like to thank you, Deb Reed and Peter Field for attending to present the items and answer the Panel's questions. We appreciate your engagement and input.

We are writing to you to reflect on what we learnt from the discussion, share the views of the Panel, and, where necessary, raise any issues or recommendations for your consideration and response. The main issues discussed are summarised below:

Adult Services Improvement Plan

We were updated on progress to date and the associated savings. We informed you that we do not agree with the savings methodology used and are concerned that savings are being classed as income rather than deferred costs.

We were informed that a bid has been submitted to support another five Local Area Coordinators (LACs) and a deputy team leader and that three would be appointed as soon as possible and another two later in the year. We were pleased to hear this but are concerned about the uncertainty of future funding for these posts.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY / TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU

SWANSEA COUNCIL / CYNGOR ABERTAWE

GUILDHALL, SWANSEA, SA1 4PE / NEUADD Y DDINAS, ABERTAWE, SA1 4PE

www.swansea.gov.uk / www.abertawe.gov.uk

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We informed you that we would like to see performance indicators that show the value of Local Area Coordinators and the value they are adding. We heard that the Authority is going to see if it can import the 'Wiltshire tool' to enable it to do this. You also agreed to provide academic reports to evidence that LACs are saving twice as much as they cost.

Progress addressing WAO Recommendations relating to Strategic Commissioning of Accommodation Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities

We heard that the re-tendering process was open to all providers but no new ones applied.

We informed you that we feel a simple route map (diagram) is needed on the range of services available to support people with learning disabilities.

We were informed that the Authority tried to involve 'hard to reach' service users in the consultation. We heard that all service users were contacted and invited to participate in the consultation, and that independent advocates were involved.

The Panel would like to know what the Authority is currently commissioning and requested further information on this.

We asked about engagement with carers. We informed you that an Equalities Scrutiny Inquiry is currently underway and members of that Panel were informed by the Carers Centre that carers and parents are concerned about engagement with social workers. We look forward to seeing the report when completed and will then decide if we require further briefing on this area.

Your Response

We hope you find this letter useful and informative. We would welcome your comments on any of the issues raised but please provide a written response by Wednesday 12 June 2019 to the following:

1. Provide academic reports to evidence LACs are saving twice as much as they cost.
2. Provide further information on what the Authority is currently commissioning.

Yours sincerely



PETER BLACK

CONVENER, ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL
CLLR.PETER.BLACK@SWANSEA.GOV.UK