

## **Notes of the Adult Services Scrutiny Performance Panel 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

### **Attendees**

Peter Black (Chair)  
Paxton Hood-Williams  
Gloria Tanner  
Tony Beddow (Co-opted member)

Mark Child, Cabinet Member for Healthy City and Wellbeing

### **Officers**

Phil Roberts, Dave Howes, Alex Williams

#### **1. Apologies**

Chris Holley, Sue Jones, Uta Clay

#### **2. Meeting Notes 8 March**

Noted

#### **3. Objective Setting for Senior Officers**

Phil Roberts, Chief Executive, gave a presentation to the Panel (circulated separately).

#### *Discussion points*

- Relationship with Cabinet structure and the difference between national government (civil service accountable to ministers) and local government (officers accountable to council)
- Political objective setting via policy commitments agreed by Council
- When things go wrong? Chief Executive holds officers to account as head of paid service, Chief Executive is held to account by members.
- Relationship between senior officers and cabinet still very important and requires trust and respect
- Importance of scrutiny in accountability framework and importance of council chamber as ultimate level of scrutiny
- Need for scrutiny to be properly resourced albeit in the context of reducing resources – essential for scrutiny to be focussing on right things
- Importance of having specific objectives and being able to say when something has been achieved (targets cannot include the word 'ongoing')
- Plans to make Chief Executive objectives public in future

#### **4. Local Area Coordination Evaluation Report**

Alex Williams, Head of Adult Services, and Councillor Mark Child, gave a presentation to the Panel (circulated separately)

In summary: The evaluation shows the preventative benefits of the programme and the Council is planning to fund two additional coordinators. The council will be asking the Public Services Board to fund a further two.

#### *Discussion Points*

- The credibility of the monetary case for the programme particularly the lack of 'cashable' benefits that could be applied to specific budgets as savings
- The value, nevertheless, of the well-being benefits of the programme
- The difficulty generally of evaluating prevention programmes balanced against the need to take action in the face of rising demand and potential future crises for services as a result
- The robustness of the evaluation and the corroboration from other areas
- The piloted, cautious approach to implementation
- Whether this investment could be better spent on other prevention programmes?
- The potential for the programme to stimulate 'hidden need' that might otherwise not require services
- The importance of partner funding / involvement
- The importance of having the right indicators of success – and of continuing monitoring by scrutiny – will be incorporated into Adult Services Performance Report

#### **AGREED**

- Overall a good report and a good start but further work needed on developing performance measures in particular

#### **5. Update of Western Bay Intermediate Care Services Model**

Karen Gronert, Head of Nursing, ABMU, attended for this item and gave a presentation along with Alex Williams (circulated separately).

#### *Discussion Points*

- The staffing and opening hours of the acute clinical response service
- Swansea hospital admissions for those 80+ and whether more research would be useful
- Accommodation issues in Gorseinon – a solution is being sought to this problem
- Disparity in pay scales for Occupational Therapists between council and health staff – Local authority staff are paid a market supplement to address this – the aspiration is to have common terms and conditions for all health and social care employees at some point
- The importance of ensuring the right performance indicators – these are included in the Adult Services Performance Framework

#### **6. Review of the Year**

*Issues for improvement:*

- Number of agenda items / length of presentations
- Work planning / early involvement of officers

*Topics for future scrutiny:*

- Local Area Coordination
- Intermediate care
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards
- Focus on Performance Framework for Adult Services – at least quarterly

## **7. For Information – Convener’s Letter (8 march Meeting)**

Noted

-----

### **AGREED**

Letter to be sent to the Cabinet Members covering the main points.