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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Adults and Health Committee**
held on Monday, 23rd January, 2023 in the Committee Suite 1,2 & 3,
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor J Rhodes (Chair)
Councillor A Moran (Vice-Chair)

Councillors P Butterill, J Clowes, L Jeuda, A Kolker, R Vernon, J Weatherill,
N Wylie, D Edwardes and L Wardlaw

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Roisin Beressi, Principal Lawyer (Adults & Education)
Jill Broomhall, Director of Adult Social Care
Shelley Brough, Head of Integrated Commissioning/Acting Director of
Commissioning and Integration
Dan Coyne, Head of Service, Communities and Integration
Helen Charlesworth-May, Executive Director, Adults, Health and Integration
Stephen Kelly, Senior Communications Officer
Patrick Rhoden, Lead Finance Business Partner
Karen Shuker, Democratic Services Officer
Joanne Sutton, Acting Head of Integrated Commissioning
Rod Thomson, Public Health Consultant
Nichola Thompson, Director of Commissioning & Integration

49 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair referred to the recent sad death of Councillor Steve Carter. There was a minute's silent reflection in tribute.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Gardiner, Councillor B Evans and Councillor D Murphy.

Councillors L Wardlaw and D Edwardes attended as substitutes.

50 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In the interest of openness, Councillor L Wardlaw declared that she was the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee and had sought advice before attending the Committee meeting.

51 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2022 be approved as a correct record.

52 PUBLIC SPEAKING/OPEN SESSION

Charlotte Peters-Rock attended the Committee and spoke in respect of the Stanley Centre, Knutsford. The potential impact that any closure of this Centre would have on the community was outlined. The Committee were asked to protect its disabled residents and friends by ensuring that the Stanley Centre remains open for use.

The Chair advised that, should the proposal be accepted by the Corporate Policy Committee and Full Council, there would be a full consultation process.

53 MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2023-27 CONSULTATION

The Committee received a report on the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2023-2027 and the revenue and capital proposals contained within the MTFS relating to the Committee's responsibilities. As part of the consultation process the Committee was asked to provide comments and feedback to the Corporate Policy Committee on proposals related to the responsibilities of the committee.

The following comments were raised by Committee:

- *Proposal 8 Home First Strategy: Increased Care Home capacity* – Members raised concerns around the proposal to maximise the use of block booked beds and the potential impact this would have on relationships with care home providers, sustainability of the care market and carers.
- *Proposal 10: Learning Disabilities Future Service Development and Review* – Members raised concerns around the ability to achieve the savings associated with this proposal. Reassurance was sought that Cheshire East would not pick up any additional costs as a result of working in partnership with health colleagues on shared Continuing Health Care (CHC) funding.

Councillor Clowes referred to the capital addendum items put forward in 2020 which proposed to use Mountview and Bexton Court for the purpose of delivering extra care with the view of establishing improved facilities to incorporate Stanley House on the ground floor of that new facility. Councillor Clowes requested that those capital addendums, which were previously budgeted for (Addendum items could be released by the portfolio holder and Chief Financial Officer subject to an appropriate business case, demonstrating how the proposals would be funded), were explored as an alternative to the full closure of Stanley House.

It was agreed that a written response would be provided by the Director of Adult Social Care to members in respect of Mountview and Bexton House.

- *Proposal 16: Direct Payment – Audit Recoveries* – Members felt that the £750k saving associated with this proposal was ambitious and may not be achievable.

It was agreed that a written response would be provided by the Executive Director of Adult, Health, and Integration in respect of the concerns raised by Councillor Clowes that people may not be receiving the right support and guidance on using their direct payments.

- *Proposal 20: Building Based Short Breaks* – Members raised concerns around the potential closure of buildings and the impact this would have on those being discharged from hospital. Members asked what could be delivered better and what could make the facilities used to their full potential and service their communities better. Councillor Clowes asked if it would be better to reconsider block booked contracts in the context of Learning Disabilities rather than close the facility. It was requested that consideration was given to expanding the role of the Shared Lives initiative.
- *Proposal 21: Adults and Health Non-Essential Commissioning/Contracts* – Members requested reassurance that the services that would not be renewed would not impact negatively on the organisations that would be relied upon to deliver other elements of the budget proposals.
- *Proposal 22: Building Based Day Services* – Councillor Clowes requested that this item be incorporated with earlier suggestions regarding Bexton Court and potential capital addendums.
- *Proposal 23: Day Care Review* – it was suggested that further consideration was given to this proposal to ensure that 1) the savings are not at the expense of further isolating elderly recipients and 2) that carers receive the right support. It was proposed that community hubs are explored further.

RESOLVED:-

1. That the Committee notes:-

1. The year-end forecast outturn position for 2022/23 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
2. The financial context and proposals contained within the Executive Summary of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (as set out in the MFTS report at Annex C, Section 1).
3. The Revenue Grant Funding as set out in Appendix 4 to the report
4. the Earmarked Reserves, as set out in Appendix 5 to the report

2 The Committee feedback be noted on the proposals within the MFTS, as related to the Committee's responsibilities, that can support and advise full Council in

fulfilling its responsibilities to approve a balanced budget for 2023/23 in the following areas:

1. Revenue Proposals, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report
2. Capital Programme, as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report.

Councillor D Edwardes left the meeting and did not return.

54 LOCAL COST OF CARE

The Committee considered a report which set out the work that Cheshire East Council had undertaken to meet the Government's policy requirements on its position on market sustainability for providers of registered residential and nursing care for people 65+ and for registered domiciliary care for people over 18. Permission was sought to publish the outcome of that work in a report on the local cost of care, in line with Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) requirements.

A question was raised in respect of the wording of recommendation 3.1 of the report. It was clarified by the Executive Director of Adults, Health, and Integration that recommendation 3.1 should read as

“Approve the publication of the cost of care reports attached at Appendices A and B of the report on the Council's website and submitted to DHSC”.

The Committee thanked the team for their work in undertaking the exercise.

RESOLVED (Unanimously)

That the Adults and Health Committee:-

1. Approved the publication of the cost of care reports attached at Appendices A and B of the report on the Council's website and submission to DHSC.
2. Noted that a further report would be brought to Adults and Health Committee in March 2023 for approval of the final Market Sustainability Plan which would be informed by the cost of care findings and take account of the approved budget.
3. Noted the level of risk associated with the funding shortfall between the local Cost of Care and the confirmed and estimated level of Market Sustainability Fund allocations and the mitigating factors as set out in 8.6 of the report.
4. Delegated authority to the Executive Director of Adults, Health and Integration to make any changes to the report resulting from DHSC feedback prior to its publication on the Council's website.

55 CHESHIRE EAST PLACE DEMENTIA PLAN 2023 - 2027

The Committee considered a report which provided an update on the final version of the Cheshire East Place Dementia Plan. The engagement and co-production of the plan had continued since the draft version of the plan had been brought to Committee in January 2022.

Several gaps and issues had been identified in the plan and following the consultation process the draft plan had been amended. A positive proposal resulting from the consultation process was the training of Cheshire East Council staff and members. Those who had attended had found the training useful and informative.

Members raised concerns that the wording on page 14 of the Cheshire East Place Dementia Plan conferred blame, that if you got dementia it was due to the lifestyle factors listed. Officers confirmed that they would review the wording following members comments to ensure it was more user friendly.

Officers agreed that the revised plan would be circulated to committee members, and the fully costed implementation plan would come back to a future committee.

RESOLVED (Unanimously)

That the plan be adopted as the final version subject to the amendments outlined above.

56 ADULT SOCIAL CARE PERFORMANCE SCORECARD - QUARTER 2 2022/23

Consideration was given to a report that outlined the performance data and measures related to services that fell within the responsibility of the Adults and Health Committee, from Quarter 2 of 2022/23.

It was reported that there continued to be some data issues in respect of Telecare number's and these were being addressed.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

The Committee adjourned for a short break

57 NOTICE OF MOTION: COST OF LIVING

The Committee considered the report on the Notice of Motion relating to the Cost-of-Living Crisis which was proposed by Councillor Clowes and seconded by Councillor Tony Dean at the Full Council meeting on the 19th October 2022. The report outlined the Council's approach to the Cost-of-Living Crisis and the interventions that were underway. A further report around impact of interventions would be presented back to Committee at a later date.

The Committee had a full discussion on the matter and noted the content of the report. It was moved and seconded to accept the Notice of Motion in part, specifically the resolutions outlined on page 167 of the report.

The Committee thanked Dan Coyne and his team for all their hard work.

RESOLVED: (Unanimously) That:-

The committee acknowledged the work done to date by officers on the cost-of-living crisis, including:

- (1) The approach taken by Cheshire East Council (the Council)
- (2) How the Council have increased their reach
- (3) How the Council are monitoring the immediate increase in need
- (4) The interventions introduced and;
- (5) How the Council are the monitoring the impact the cost-of-living crisis is having going forward

RESOLVED: (By Majority) That:-

Cheshire East Council:

1. Work with the Government to ensure that it delivers the much-appreciated support to the residents of Cheshire East as quickly as possible.
2. Proactively identify those most in need of support in Cheshire East and ensure that they access all the Government support for which they are eligible.
3. Identify further local opportunities in Cheshire East for energy generation to help increase the supply of energy to further aid the long-term lowering of prices, support the Government's aim of domestic energy security and create local jobs.

58 **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Executive Director of Adults, Health and integration assured the committee that all forward business had been reviewed to ensure that anything that required a decision before the May elections would come to the March Committee. There would be further revisions made to the work programme once the budget had been finalised.

Following questions raised by Members officers reported that:

- The Market Sustainability Plan as part of the Local Cost of Care would be coming to the March committee.
- A date to bring back the evaluation of the 2022/23 Winter Plan would be confirmed.
- The learning Disability and Mental Health strategy was already underway so when it is reviewed by Committee there could be discussion in respect of the constituent elements of it to ensure transparency.

Following a suggestion by Councillor Kolker to establish a task and finish group in respect of the impact of the buildings closure it was reported that following the budget meeting in February there would be a full consultation process. This would include direct engagement with those individuals who use the services and ward councillors. This would be brought back as part of a report to committee if it was required.

RESOLVED:-

That the Work Programme be noted.

59 MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEE

RESOLVED:-

That the minutes of the Cheshire East Health and Wellbeing Board be received and noted.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 12.18 pm

Councillor J Rhodes (Chair)

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Working for a brighter future together

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c/o Municipal Buildings
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Crewe
CW1 2BJ

Helen.charlesworth-may@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Date: 24.03.2023

Dear Councillor Clowes,

Re. Bexton Court and Mountview

Further to your budget queries raised at Committee and our meeting of 2nd February 2023, I have set out below the issues and considerations respect of the budget considerations for The Stanley Centre and Warwick Mews.

As requested, we have reviewed the Council decision made in February 2020, which added two proposals to the Capital Programme Addendum, for the consideration of extra care housing for Bexton Court and Mountview for individuals with learning disabilities, and which would incorporate replacement day care facilities for Carter House and the Stanley Centre, respectively.

In respect of the Capital Programme Addendum, it in its entirety, was removed last year. This was a delegated decision taken by the Section 151 Officer. The capital programme without the addendum lines was approved by Council in February 2022.

Separately, we have reviewed the substance of the business cases in context of the current service requirements.

Bexton Court

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic all proposed projects were suspended. During this period, the Stanley Centre and other building-based Care4CE day services were closed and at the time it was uncertain when and whether they would reopen. As a consequence of our learning during the pandemic we undertook a full review of day services. During this process people with learning disabilities and carers told us that they would like to see a wider day service offer in the community and to reduce their reliance on building-based facilities. This was incorporated into our Day Opportunities Strategy, which set out the aim to move away from building-based provision. The strategy was agreed by Committee in November 2021.

OFFICIAL

Mountview

In late 2019 we sought to develop an extra care facility for individuals with a learning disability. Unfortunately, CQC advised that they would not register such a development. An alternative proposal was developed for the provision of supported living at Mountview, which was put out to tender using the housing development framework, with the aim of securing a development partner. Unfortunately, this was unsuccessful.

Subsequent to our conversation on 2nd February I can confirm that Housing will be leading a full procurement exercise for reprovision on the site, with a full demolition and re-build. Colleagues are currently seeking advice as to whether this will require a further Committee decision.

The current savings proposals in respect of both the Stanley Centre and Warwick Mews, reflect the immediate and urgent need to identify savings that can be delivered in 2023/24. In addition, they also reflect the agreed strategic priority set out in the Day Opportunities Strategy.

Finally, I do wish to reassure, everyone currently using services at The Stanley Centre and Warwick Mews that there will be full specific consultation on the proposals with individuals and their carers, and that individuals' needs will continue to be met, whatever the outcome of that further consultation. We have now written to the people who use services, or their carers where appropriate, staff, and Ward Councillors, and we have begun preliminary briefings. The final decision on the outcome of the consultations will come to the first committee of the new administration.

I hope that this provides the information that you require. Should you need any additional information or clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Helen Charlesworth-May', is written over a faint circular stamp or watermark.

Helen Charlesworth-May
Executive Director Adults, Health and Integration