

**HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND INCLUSION SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE  
PANEL**

19 June 2006 at 6.00 p.m.

Panel Members present

Councillor Oliver (Chair)  
Councillor Micklewright  
Councillor Robertson  
Councillor Woodruff  
Councillor D Pitt  
Councillor Barton  
Councillor Paul

Officers present

Kathy McAteer, Interim Executive Director SC&I  
Sue Byard, Assistant Director Strategic Housing  
Karen Reilly, Interim Head of Adult Services  
Steph Simcox, Head of Finance SC&I  
Brandon Scott-Omenka, Performance & Outcomes  
Manager SC&I  
Elaine Carolan, Strategic Development Manager  
Colin Teasdale, Performance and Scrutiny Officer  
Nikki Ehlen, Scrutiny Officer

**08/07 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillor Ault

**09/07 SUBSTITUTIONS**

There were no substitution(s) for the duration of this meeting.

**10/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND PARTY WHIP**

There were no declarations of interest or party whip identified at this meeting.

**11/07 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

Members noted that there were no items for consideration in private session at this meeting.

**12/07 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS**

**Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2007, copies having previously been circulated, be approved as a true and accurate record.



### **13/07 TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

The panel noted the training opportunities as previously circulated.

(annexed)

### **14/07 FORWARD PLAN**

The forward plan as at 18 May 2007 was submitted:

(annexed)

### **Resolved**

That the forward plan be noted.

### **15/07 Overview of Service Areas and Hot Issues**

Sue Byard and Karen Reilly gave an overview of their services areas including achievements for 2006/07 and priorities and hot issues for 2007/08.

Councillors asked questions around affordable housing as they felt that this should be a priority for the service.

Sue Byard clarified that this was a priority which was picked up on the slides under 'improve the standard, sustainability, choice and access to housing.' She stated that a range of affordable options were in place and more being built, including low cost and shared ownership.

Officers clarified that the slide titled 'priorities 2006/07' should have read 'priorities 2007/08' and this was just an error on the slide but the priorities were indeed forward looking.

### **16/07 Performance Monitoring 2006/07**

Brandon Scott-Omenka gave an overview of the performance outturn figures for 2006/07 and asked the panel how they would like performance reported in the future.

Councillors raised concerns about the use of agency staff and asked if recruitment information such as level of vacancies and turn over could be reported on. Kathy McAteer responded that there a number of statutory indicators of this type that could be included on the scrutiny scorecard if the panel wanted.

Councillors asked if it was possible to report on the number of homelessness cases where housing was offered but not taken up. Sue Byard responded that she would look into this to see what it was possible to provide.

Councillors queried if they could get information on the turn around time for housing cases by partners. It was agreed that as this wasn't within the power of the service it shouldn't be included in the scorecard but that the panel should ask the major social housing partners for more information on this.



The panel agreed that as performance indicators on residential admissions were both top performers these two could be dropped off the scorecard to make room for the other indicators they wanted on there.

## **Resolved**

That the Health, Social Care and Inclusion Panel:

- agree to continue with the current method of reporting performance
- agree that the two indicators on residential admissions are taken off the score card
- agree that indicators on the monitoring of staffing issues are added to the scorecard
- agree that information on homelessness cases where housing offered but not taken up is added if possible
- agree that the major social housing partners should be asked for information around their turn around time for cases.

## **17/07 Financial Monitoring**

Steph Simcox presented to the panel information on financial outturn 2006/07 budgetary pressures for 2007/08 and budget scoping for 2008/09.

Following a query from a member Kathy McAteer clarified that star ratings focussed on outcomes for services users and not budgets.

Following a query from a member Steph Simcox clarified that the overspend within the Social Care & Inclusion Directorate was accounted for by under spend in other Directorates and that overall the Councils budget for 2006/07 balanced.

Councillors queried how much confidence there could be in the predicted figures going forward due to unknown factors such as demographic changes. Officers responded that extremely robust systems were in place, including the receipt of a lot of data from the strategic partnership and public health. They admitted, however, that there was always an element of the unknown and that a risk assessed reserve was held by the council for this reason.

## **18/07 Panel Work Programme 2007/08**

Kathy McAteer presented to the panel information on the powers of health scrutiny which the panel had the option to keep for itself or delegate to a sub-panel for health as they had done last year.

The Chair moved that the health panel was reconvened with Councillor Woodruff as chair and that membership should be opened up to the rest of the panel for expressions of interest. This was unanimously agreed.

It was agreed that Councillors Paul, Micklewright and Robertson would join the membership of the health scrutiny panel and Councillor D Pitt would stand down from the health panel, though for the benefit of members not present it was agreed not to close off nominations at this stage.



Kathy McAteer presented to the panel information on carry over items from last year and potential new items for this year for the panel to consider their work programme for 2007/08, including any work groups.

Members discussed the items that officers had brought forward and agreed that some of these would fall naturally into the remit of the health panel and others could be taken as monitoring items at full panel. It was agreed that the PFI of Manor Hospital (and its impact on social care) along with the reconfiguration of Mental Health Services should be considered by the Health Panel.

The Chair proposed two groups, first on housing strategy, sustainability and choice- which would be proposed to the Regeneration Panel as a joint working group. Secondly a working group focussing on care criteria and the older people's strategy.

It was agreed that draft remits for these two panels should be drawn up and circulated to members for expressions of interest.

### **Resolved**

That the Health, Social Care and Inclusion Panel:

- The carry over of the following work items, be agreed as part of the panels work programme;
  - Community Meals updates
  - Monitoring of learning disability day services
  - Reprovision of older peoples residential care
  - Monitoring of older peoples inspection action plan
- Reconvene the Health Scrutiny Panel with Councillor Woodruff as chair and Councillors Paul, Micklewright and Robertson as members with membership open to other members should they express their interest to join.
- Include the PFI of Manor Hospital and the reconfiguration of Mental Health Services on the work programme for the Health sub-panel.
- Establish a working group on the Older People's strategy and care criteria.
- Invite the Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel to establish a joint working group on housing strategy, sustainability and choice.
- That remits for the two working groups be drafted and circulated to the panel for expressions of interest.

### **19/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 26 July 2007

The meeting terminated at 7.20 pm.

Chair:

Date: