

AT A MEETING  
- of the -  
**HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE  
SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE  
PANEL** held at the Council House,  
Walsall on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January  
2005** at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor Oliver (Chair)  
Councillor Woodruff (Vice Chair)  
Councillor Walker  
Councillor Ault  
Councillor Barton  
Councillor McCracken  
Councillor Munir  
Councillor Pitt  
Councillor Robertson

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor O'Hare

154 CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

There were no changes in membership.

155 APOLOGIES

None

156 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of interest

157 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny and Performance Panel held on 6 December 2004 be confirmed and signed as an accurate record by the Chair.

158 Working Groups

158a Health Scrutiny 20<sup>th</sup> December

Resolved

That the notes of the meeting be received.

158b Modernising Services Work Group

Resolved

That the dates of the future meetings be received.

158c CPA Housing Improvement Work Group 14 January

Resolved

That the notes on the meeting be received.

159 Performance Monitoring

Kathy McAteer highlighted performance indicators showing red traffic lights at Quarter 3 as follows:

C 26 - Admissions of supported residents aged 65 or over to residential or nursing care.

C28 - Intensive home care per 1000 population aged 65 or over.

It was likely that these would remain red at the end of the year.

Actions to improve these indicators included:

- Home care capacity being reviewed
- Active recruitment campaigns for previously frozen posts
- Targets being reviewed to be more realistic for 2005/6
- Trends now being monitored weekly
- A service level agreement being developed for intensive home care to increase the capacity
- New policy on dementia provides more intensive care
- Targets had been set for assessment
- Improving professional practice
- The skill mix of the teams was being reviewed
- Adverts were out for senior practitioners.

It was emphasised that the purpose of these services was to provide the relevant one that people needed. Management of this service was now very proactive and improvements were expected.

Resolved

That the report be noted by the panel

160 Financial Performance Quarter 3

James Walsh reported the financial position of the directorate at the end of quarter 3.

**2004-2005 Projected Year End Position  
Revenue\***

<b>Gross Budget</b>	<b>=£114.793m</b>
<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>=£75.04m</b>
<b>Estimated Out-turn</b>	<b>=£74.215m</b>
<b>Planned underspend</b>	<b>=£0.825m</b>

\*(all figures are exclusive of 1.333m equal pay claims)

**2004-2005 Projected Year End Versions Revenue Main  
Service Areas**

<b>Service Area</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Older People Services</b>	<b>-640</b>
<b>Physical disability Services</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>Supported Housing</b>	<b>-95</b>
<b>Management &amp; Support</b>	<b>-223</b>
<b>Children &amp; Families</b>	<b>53</b>

Resolved

That the financial position be noted.

161 Draft Corporate Revenue Budget 2005/6 – 2009/10

Vicky Crowshaw presented details on the above to members. The annual budget process was explained along with the role of Scrutiny in the budget process.

The draft revenue budget was as follows:

**Draft Revenue Budget 2005/6 +**

- **2004/5 Basic Forecast = £321.313m**
- **Plus : Budget refresh (inflation, pay awards, etc) £21.116m**
- **Plus Financial Prudence £1.435m**

- **TOTAL BASIC FORECAST 2005/6 = £343.864m**  
(includes £0.375m of unsupported borrowing to finance £9m capital schemes through Prudential Code)
- **LESS : targeted use of balances (£1.489m)**
- **SUB TOTAL =£342.375m**
- **Plus : other investment of £6.596m (incl. full year impact of 2004/5 approved bids of £2.624m)**
- **Less : savings of £6.489m**
- **TOTAL DRAFT BUDGET = £342.482m**
- **DRAFT COUNCIL TAX INCREASE OF 3.94%**

Resolved

The panel bring the following issues to the attention of cabinet

1. The panel repeated their view that
  - a. the anti poverty unit should not be included in the scope of the Putting the Citizen First Partnership.
  - b. That the management responsibility and accountability of the Anti-Poverty Unit be transferred from the Resources Directorate to the Health and Social Care Directorate.
2. There were concerns about the level of funding allocated to the Anti-Poverty Unit and that this funding was from the supporting people grant and not from mainstream funding. It was further agreed that confirmation would be given by officers as to mainstream allocations in this current year's budget.

162 Draft Capital Programme 2005/6 – 2009/10

Vicky Crowshaw presented details of the above to members.

The principles behind the capital programme were explained to the panel.

Resolved

The panel bring the following issues to the attention of cabinet:

1. The additional capital funding for aids and adaptations and disabled facilities was welcomed and questions were raised as to the capacity of the service to complete the increase and backlog of work of 250%.

163 Social Care and Supported Housing Estimated Draft Forecast 2005/6 and Draft Preliminary Forecasts 2006/7 to 2009/10

James Walsh presented details of the estimates for the Directorate:

## 2005/6 – 2007/8 Inflation, Growth & Efficiencies

	2005/6 £'000	2006/7 £'000	2007/8 £'000
PAY & GENERAL INFLATION	4,035	3,771	3,718
BROUGHT FORWARD GROWTH	1,304	468	0
NEW GROWTH	1,604	935	47
New efficiencies	-3,535	0	0
<b>NET POSITION</b>	<b>3,408</b>	<b>5,174</b>	<b>3,765</b>

## 2005/6 Base Budget Position

	£m	% of 2004/05
Base Budget 2004/05	82.761	
Inflation	1.918	
Pay Award	1.435	
Other	1.567	
Removal of one-off growth	-0.885	
<b>Basic Forecast 2005/06</b>	<b>86.796</b>	<b>+4.88</b>
Growth 2005/06	2.908	3.51
Savings 2005/06	-3.535	-4.27
<b>Net Budget 2005/06</b>	<b>86.169</b>	<b>+4.12</b>

## Summary of financial changes (Revenue)

Service Area	2005/6 £'000	2006/7 £'000	2007/8 £'000
Adults	4,521	3,966	2,591
Support Services	132	120	110
Children & Families	-1,245	1,088	1,064
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,408</b>	<b>5,174</b>	<b>3,765</b>

## Growth

- £2.908m growth made up of unavoidable budget pressures:
  - Client demand - £792k
  - Fee Increases/Care Standards £381k
  - Fall out of grant £374k
  - Costs of LAC - £445k
  - Supported Housing - £161k
  - Supported People £64k
  - Support and infrastructure costs - £691k

## Efficiencies

- £3.535m savings made up of
  - reduction in costs of LAC - £1.240m
  - Children's Residential Restructure - £300k
  - Reduction in adult residential demand and fees - £827k
  - Workforce Strategy - £1.168m (3.9%)
- Within the base for 05/06 £625k has already been taken into account for the 05/06 effect of 04/05 savings.

Resolved

The panel make the following comments to cabinet:

1. There were concerns that plans to manage vacancies and reduce agency costs should not affect service delivery.
2. There were concerns that the externalisation of Supported Workshops should not affect clients and employees of that service that appear in the budget papers as a saving of £350,000 in future years
3. Questions were raised as to whether projected savings in looked after children were realistic, having been projected and missed in previous years.

### 164 Forward Plan

Resolved

That the forward plant be noted.

### 165 Consultations

None

## TERMINATION OF MEETING

The meeting terminated at 8.20 p.m.

Chairman .....

Date .....