

ALDRIDGE & BEACON AREA PANEL

Monday 6th February, 2017 at 6.00 pm

At the Collingwood Centre, Collingwood Drive, B43 7NF

Present:

Councillor Towe (Chair)
Councillor Rochelle (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Andrew
Councillor Bird
Councillor Douglas-Maul (arrived at 6.03pm)
Councillor Harris
Councillor Hughes
Councillor Kudhail (arrived at 6.06pm)
Councillor Murray
Councillor Wilson

In attendance:

Area Manager
Executive Director of Adult Social Care
Senior Programme Development and Commissioning Manager

47/16 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all those who were present.

48/16 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th December, 2016, was submitted.

(see annexed)

Members requested an update in relation to Minute No. 44/16 (CCTV cameras) in terms of deployments and convictions. The Area Manager reported that he had since spoken with the Community Protection Officer who had advised him that the cameras were yet to be purchased, although the Officer had up to 31st March to spend the money.

The Chair expressed his concern that the cameras had not yet been purchased and / or deployed when they had been greatly needed and instructed the Area Manager to contact the Officer concerned to ensure that the cameras were purchased and deployed as soon as possible.

In addition, the Chair requested that Members be advised as soon as the cameras had been purchased and deployed.

A general update was provided in relation to the Tip opening hours, fly tipping and litter within the Borough. The Chair stated that he felt this matter would be best raised directly at Council.

An update was provided in relation to the bus seats at Bridle Lane Aldridge. The Area Manager advised that the police had had no further episodes of ASB reported to them since the removal of the seats.

The Chair reported that further to the resolution of Minute No. 44/16, this line in the budget had since been removed.

Resolved the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th December, 2016, a copy having been previously circulated to each Member, be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

49/16 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

50/16 **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)**

There were no items on the agenda which required exclusion of the public under this Act.

51/16 **Rebalancing the Budget – Presentation by the Executive Director of Adult Social Care**

A presentation was delivered.

(see annexed)

The Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Senior Programme Development and Commissioning Manager delivered their presentation and expanded on the salient points contained therein.

The presentation generated a lengthy debate on many of the difficulties currently being experienced within Adult Social care, both locally and nationally.

The Executive Director of Adult Social Care agreed to take a set of queries from Councillor Rochelle, for which he was awaiting a response, and deliver them directly to the appropriate Officer at the CCG for them to respond directly.

In particular, the Executive Director of Adult Social Care responded to a number of concerns expressed by Members in relation to the following aspects: -

- The backlog of overdue debt collections and what the Council was actively doing to pursue that debt.
- The amount of time it currently took the Authority to issue a bill.
- Whether the amount of savings identified within the Adult Social Care budget was realistically achievable.
- When the financial element of the Mozaic system would be operational and why it was taking so long to implement.
- Whether it was a viable option to make an initial charge and then re-adjust accordingly once an assessment had been carried out.
- What the current situation was regarding the CCG's budget and the potential repercussions for the Council.
- If the Council only pursued debts where it had proof of what was owed / when the Council would get to this position.
- The impact of increasing social isolation in the long run on the Council.

Members also requested that they be update in relation to which local Community Groups / Organisations from the Pheasey area had been involved in the recent events held across the Borough seeking to enhance community support within the Borough. The Senior Programme Development and Commissioning Manager did not have the information to hand and, therefore, agreed to forward the information on to Members.

Resolved that: -

1. the presentation be noted;
2. the Panel has heard the Executive Director's presentation in relation to the Adult Social Care Budget and the vast array of difficulties which the Directorate is currently facing for the foreseeable future. Taking this on board, the Panel recommends that priority be given in the Capital Programme to the implementation of the financial module within the Mozaic system.

52/16

Area Manager's Report

A report was submitted.

(see annexed)

The Area Manager presented the report and highlighted the salient points contained therein.

The Area Manager provided additional updates on a number of the entries.

In addition, the Area Manager reported that a Member of the public who regularly attended the Area Panel had recently had a heart attack. He was due to have a pacemaker fitted on 15th February.

The Area Manager also advised that another well know Community Member had sadly lost his wife quite recently and was unable to pay for her funeral. In view of this, a crowd funding page had been set up to help raise money for the burial. Councillor Bird agreed to seek some further advice on behalf of the individual in relation to paying for the funeral.

A discussion was held in relation to the information concerning 'troubled families'. Previously, information had been requested on the troubled families in private session. However, the Area Manager advised that it would be difficult to do so without revealing confidential information. In view of this, the Committee agreed that they were content to receive the information in its present form as longer as the number of families remained under 10 and that this process be reviewed if the number increased to 10 or higher.

Councillor Andrew queried if anything was known about a new initiative which had been launched called 'shop watch'. Nobody was aware of shop watch. The Chair, therefore, requested the Area Manager to find out about the initiative and report back to Members.

Resolved that the report be noted.

53/16

Funding Report

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

The Area Manager presented the report and highlighted the salient points contained therein.

Members considered the applications, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, and duly: -

Resolved that, both applications be funded on the provision that the bid in relation to the defibrillator can be secured / renegotiated for no more than a maximum of £800.

Termination of meeting

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 8.03pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....