

AT A MEETING  
- of the -  
**HEALTH AND SOCIAL  
CARE MODERNISING  
SERVICES WORKING  
GROUP** held at the Council  
House, Walsall on  
**Wednesday 27 July 2005** at  
6.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor Ault  
Councillor Woodruff

J. Greensill  
Kathy McAteer  
Julie Metcal  
Andy Cross  
Pat Warner

APOLOGIES

Apologies for non attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillor Munir, Councillor Walker and Trish Skitt

CHAIR

In the absence of Councillor Oliver, chair of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel Councillor Woodruff chaired this meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND PARTY WHIP

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

LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES – PROGRESS UPDATE

John Greensill, Head of Learning Disability Services submitted his briefing paper: -

(see annexed)

John advised the panel that the Learning Disability Partnership Board would be receiving an “easy read” version of the panel review document on Assessment of Day Care Services for People with Learning Disabilities at their next meeting in September.

He went on to say that a special event will also be organised to enable service users and carers to share developments to date.

In summarising the development actions and timescales for this service he said that small service models or person centred services would be

developed. This will mean that the service users and families can see and experience the concepts involved in person centred integrated services. This he said would allow the development of people's knowledge of alternative services.

He continued that an employment pathway has been developed for users together with methods of enabling service users to keep in touch with their friends.

He said that the research phase of this service culminates in the draft modernisation plan in January 2006. There would be a substantial concentration exercise including an open day leading to a full plan being available in April 2006.

He recommended that the committee note the report and agree to receive updated information on the development of the service at quarterly intervals and that part of the publication of the draft plan for consultation proposals are presented to the working group for consideration.

The working group thanked John Greensill for his presentation and AGREED:-

- To note his report and to receive updated information on the development of the learning disability service at quarterly intervals.

It was further agreed that prior to the publication of the draft plan for consultation the proposals for this service are presented to this working group for discussion.

#### INTERIM INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTRE – PROGRESS UPDATE

Julie Metcalf, Joint Head of Adults and Younger Disability Services advised the committee of the current position in respect of the establishment of an interim independent living centre in Walsall.

Julie advised the working group that the manager had now been appointed for this centre and would commence duties in September with a view to establishing an admin support staff also. She said that progress was such that she was now in a position to commence with deciding what services would be available from the centre.

She said that the services would be based at the Tameway Tower building and that a lease was in the process of being obtained for a five year period. The newly appointed manager would be establishing a management board and steering group to run the centre and develop a plan for how the services will work for the first year.

Funding is available in the form of £75,000 to adapt the facilities at Tameway Tower including the access to the back of the building particularly for the use of disabled patients. She said that access to the back of the building would automatically lead to the first floor of Tameway Tower and a lift would therefore need to be established to enable people to gain access to the

ground floor via that rear access. It was hoped that this facility would be open to the public by the end of this financial year.

The working group thanked Julie for her presentation and expressed their support for the work which had been done to date and AGREED as follows: -

- 1) That an update report be submitted to the working group at the earliest opportunity.
- 2) That the working group undertake a site visit to the site of the interim ILC at Tameway Tower prior to the next meeting.

#### FEEDBACK FROM SITE VISIT TO SANDWELL ILC

Councillor Woodruff advised the working group that she had found the site visit to be very informative and that the size of that facility was what Walsall aspired to.

#### REDESIGN OF OLD PEOPLES SERVICES – PROGRESS UPDATE

A report was presented by Andy Cross, Head of Older People Services: -

(see annexed)

Andy advised the committee that the report provided information on the redesign programme and the status and progress of each project and a summary of the key activities which are being undertaken towards the redesign of the older people's services.

Councillor Ault raised a query about the Meals on Wheels provision in the light of recent TV programme which expressed concern about the quality of meals delivered to the elderly in their homes around the country.

Andy Cross said that the Meals on Wheels Service within Walsall was being thoroughly investigated for the future development. He said consultations were currently taking place with recipients of the service and later wider consultation with other stakeholder groups will take place to ensure that the services provided would be the best that could be provided.

He confirmed that a report would be submitted to the September meeting of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel setting up the current position in respect of the meals on wheels service within the borough following which the report will be submitted to cabinet.

Andy referred to the extra care implementation project which was concerned with the smooth implementation of the successful Department of Health Care Housing Fund bid. He said the development is an adaptation of an existing sheltered housing complex which is in Old Vicarage Close situation in Pelsall. This is a development in partnership with Accord Sheltered Housing Association. He said that concerns had been raised about the consultation process prior to the commencement of this project and as a result further consultation is being undertaken and that a steering group had now been established to look at the whole process. He said that Councillor Perry, a

ward councillor for the area had agreed to become part of the steering group. He said the steering group would look at best practice in other authorities to bring the service back on track. This would be done via site visits to other boroughs.

The working group felt the proposed site visits would be an excellent way of bench marking services in other boroughs.

The working group agreed that the site visits should include members of this working group.

Andy Cross agreed to make arrangements for members of this working group to be included as part of the team undertaking the site visits.

Andy Cross briefly outlined the Day Care Services Provision for the Elderly advising that the review had now reached a stage where the mapping of services of both provided and purchased from the independent and private sector is near completion. He said that a range of services in the borough had to be improved because of the new generation of elderly people who expected these services to be higher quality than that received of elderly in the past and as a result consultation was taking place with those elderly people to establish what kind of services were required by them.

The working group thanked Andy Cross for his presentation and the very detailed report and noted that a report on the Re-provision of Elderly Services would be submitted to the September meeting of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel and then to cabinet in October.

### DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATED SERVICES

Kathy McAteer advised the panel of the development of the integrated service within the borough.

She said that Walsall was building on the success to integrated building services and mental health services with the desire to fully integrate these services within the health service across the borough. She said that this was a joint vision with the Walsall Pct and steps were currently being taken to ensure that this vision becomes a reality.

She said that a number of initiatives including the appointment of managers for the elderly services and the independent living service and the restructuring of the younger/elderly services, the modernisation of the learning disability services was working well towards a single assessment service through a joint agency board.

She said that the next step would be to plan how the services will go forward and to this end the health services management centre would be commissioned to help. The Executive Directors of the local authority and the Walsall Pct's would be meeting with heads of services to put together a strategy followed by work streams with the help of the Health Service Management Centre.

She said that it was hoped by September or October the work would be near completion and this working group would be kept informed.

The working group thanked Kathy for her presentation and looked forward to receiving updated information on the progress of the integrated services.

#### WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2005/6

The working group considered the work programme for this municipal year and agreed the following: -

<u>Item</u>	<u>Date of commencement</u>	<u>Action</u>
Learning Disability Services	October and January	John Greensill to report back on current position.
ILC	September	Site visit to Tameway Tower to examine interim ILC service – Julie Metcalf to arrange..
ILC	Date to be agreed	Site visit to house at Allen's Rough specified for long term ILC – Consultation events re: long term development.
Older People's Services – Extra Care Implementation Project	Date to be agreed	Andy Cross to arrange site visits re: Bench Marking other authorities.

#### DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The panel agreed a series of dates for future meetings of the working group as follows: -

- First meeting to take place in October - the date to be agreed with members and officers.
- Tuesday 10 January 2006
- Tuesday 7 February 2006.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 7.20 p.m.