

**Minutes of the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee Meeting held on 3  
December 2018**

Present: Johnny McMahon (Chairman)

**Attendance**

Charlotte Atkins	Alastair Little
Deb Baker	Paul Northcott (Vice-Chairman)
Jessica Cooper	Jeremy Pert
Janet England	Bernard Peters
Ann Edgeller	Carolyn Trowbridge
Phil Hewitt	Ross Ward
Alan Johnson	Victoria Wilson
Mick Oates (Substitute for Richard Ford)	

**Apologies:** Richard Ford, Janet Johnson, Dave Jones and Kath Perry

**PART ONE**

**48. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

**49. Minutes of the last meeting held on 29 October 2018**

A Member asked if any information had been received which the Committee had requested at the previous Committee. The Scrutiny and Support Manager agreed to chase the information and forward it onto the Committee as soon as possible.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 29 October 2018 be received as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**50. Adult Learning Disability Community Offer 2022 – Day Opportunities for Adults with a Learning Disability and/or Autism**

Councillor Alan White, Cabinet Member for Health Care and Wellbeing, Richard Harling, Director of Health and Care, and Amy Evans, Commissioning Manager, Learning Disability Commissioning Team attended the Committee to present the report and gave a short presentation.

The Committee was asked to consider the future of Day Opportunities for Adults with a Learning Disability (ALD) and/or Autism in advance of recommendations to Cabinet. The report and presentation specifically focused on the provision of Day Opportunities

including Complex Needs Services provided by the Council; Day Opportunities provided by the independent sector; and, services provided by Personal Assistants.

The purpose of the ALD Community Offer was described as “To establish the assessed eligible needs and desired outcomes of the Adult and Learning Disability cohort and ensure that there are appropriate and sustainable services across the county to meet the identified needs: supporting citizens to maximise their independence, in accordance with Staffordshire County Councils (SCC) new Whole Life Disability Strategy (WLDS)”. It was reported that the WLDS tries to address the financial challenge of the ageing population, rising costs and a budget that is falling in real terms.

There were currently 1,800 service users; six complex needs centres; and 55 independent providers. It was hoped that the outcomes of the programme would empower citizens and their carers; move from a community presence to genuine community inclusion; maintain or increase quality of support provided; establish clear contracting arrangements; address the differentials in prices paid; ensure the offer is equitable transparent and proportionate to need; and contribute to budget savings.

A Member asked if services would be changing or relocating as in some areas service users travelled considerable distances to access services for short periods of time. The Member also questioned the quality of some of the services which were commissioned through direct payments and were not monitored for quality or value for money. In response, the Director said there were no plans at the moment, but he was not sure that all services were sustainable in the long term. A payment formula would need to be developed to provide fair funding to people based on their needs and taking into account their geographical location and the need for to travel. The Member also questioned how information on providers was exchanged as it seemed to depend on the local area and if you know the right people.

A Member questioned how different disabilities could be categorised in an assessment. In response, the Committee was informed that the person centred approach attempted to address these issues with services for those with complex needs being very different to those with moderate needs. This raised the question of whether this should be reflected in the funding allocated to people.

A Member asked if it was worth looking at the 55 Social Service providers who cared for 400 individuals and if we would reduce this number by using an in-house trading company such as Nexxus. In response the Cabinet Member agreed to look at this suggestion.

A Member felt that the systems need to be right from childhood through into adulthood and into employment. Another Member asked if we were trying to meet a persons needs or their aspirations. In response, the Director confirmed that the Council’s duty was to meet assessed eligible needs and that we would try to do this in a way that met their aspirations, within the resources we have available.

It was suggested by a Member that the Council could reduce the number of providers. It was acknowledged that this did bring into question the potential of having to change provider and some service users will have established relationships with their service provider/carer.

Members suggested that there was a need for a whole life plan that considered transport needs, carers, aspirations, language need etc, but was also flexible. The number of individuals working who were also in receipt of care was requested.

**RESOLVED:** The Committee made the following main points which should feed into the consultation prior to Cabinet in January 2019:

- There was concern that people in some geographical areas had to travel great distance to access services. It was suggested that consideration is given to including geographical location in the assessment with extra payments for people in those areas with the need to travel longer distances to access services.
- Direct Payments encouraged people to access their own provision from the private sector and should be supported.
- The Independent Sector were often not monitored for quality, this was a concern and needs to be addressed.
- The possibility of providing guidance to service users about providers was discussed and should be explored.
- It was felt that the need to consult and deal with issues in public, to ensure transparent decision making was important.
- The number of individuals who are working and also in receipt of care was requested.

#### **51. Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) - Childrens and Maternity Care**

Helen Riley, Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) and Tilly Flanagan, Head of Child Health and Wellbeing attended the Committee to present the report and give a short presentation.

Across Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent, the Children's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) provided an understanding of the needs of children and young people. As a result of the JSNA, the STP had recognised that improving outcomes for Children and Young People was a priority. Following consultation, it was identified that the following areas were priority themes:

- Maternal and infant health
- Childhood obesity
- Emotional wellbeing
- Children and disabilities
- Hospital activity
- Children's social services

The Committee was informed that the childrens work stream had only recently been added to the STP programme and so they were at the beginning of the review process and issues were still emerging as work progressed. However, initial discussion had identified the following themes: Transition from child to adult services; Designing pathways for people not services; Treat cause not symptoms; Mental Health; Access to information; The voice of the child; Early years with a focus on parenting.

A Member asked if children who were carers were included in the review. In response, officers confirmed that these children should be known and should have Children in Need plans, but this was an important area and it was agreed that this would be included in the review.

A Member asked if all the previous work and research that had been carried out had fed into the review as it would be a waste to not take it into account and lose previous knowledge. It was confirmed that this had been included but things had moved on and all partners need to concentrate on the same areas with the approach being early help which reduces the need for more support later.

A Member asked if the results of the trail blazer bid had been received yet. The SRO responded that we were still awaiting more information but if it was successful it could mean an additional £3m to £4m for the service area although it was prescriptive and could only be used for specific roles.

A question was asked on information sharing and if all partners were sharing and passing on information. In response, the Committee was informed that this was an area which needed to be progressed.

A Member asked about the cost of out of county placements, if there should be mental health first aiders in schools and if this support was available through transition from primary to secondary school. In response, the cost could range from £3,000 to £4,000 per week for out of county placements and special school in reach support was part of the place based approach. The Committee was also informed that there had been a large increase in the number of children with moderate special needs accessing special schools which was one of the highest in the Country. Officers felt that this was as a result of mainstream schools not being able to support special needs. Work was underway to work with special schools to see if they could go into mainstream schools and offer specialist support which would then release specialist place in special schools.

A Member was concerned that this was the last workstream to join the STP and yet was a priority. There was concern that the plans would not be developed enough or would be ones based on historical information or that partners would not be signed up to delivering them. There was also concern that schools all provide their own Personal, Social, Health and Education (PSHE) programmes which the STP didn't feed into. In response, the SRO confirmed that there was concern that it had taken two years to recognise the Children and Young People workstream. However, the STP programme was new but this hadn't stopped work taking place across existing partnerships in the county and the city and this now needed to be pulled together and linked to the other workstreams. With regard to the schools PSHE, the Council had no statutory power to tell a school what support they had to offer or how to deliver their programme. A programme was being developed which would provide information on best practice and recommendations for schools. This approach was based on consultation undertaken with schools. This consultation confirmed that schools recognised that PSHE was their responsibility.

The JSNA ward and Division profiles could be forwarded to all members for information. This information was updated regularly.

A Member suggested that the workstream had be linked to other STP streams such as prevention and work had to take place with parents pre birth in order to achieve the best outcomes.

**RESOLVED:**

- a) The Committee made the following recommendations to the STP:
- Young Carers to be considered in the review
  - Early help and prevention are key in most areas but particularly in self harm and mental health
  - Information on the trail blazer bid was requested (if successful this could generate between £3m or £4m)
  - Information needs to be shared between the partners.
  - Ward and District profiles should be sent to all Councillors for information.
  - Partners developing a local PSHE programme which will be informed by schools
  - The County wide STP consultation was due to start soon. It was felt that as the Children's workstream had been late in joining the programme, it may be beneficial to have a separate consultation just on Children's services, thus giving the service more time to develop proposals and get the service right.
- b) That a progress report detailing the priority areas come back to this Committee in April 2019.

**52. District and Borough Health Scrutiny Activity**

The Scrutiny and Support Manager presented the report which outlined the activity of the Borough and District Councils since the last meeting.

The Cannock Chase District Council representative reported that they had meet in November and looked at obesity

The East Staffordshire's Borough Council representative reported that they had meet in November for a special meeting to look at the termination of the Virgin Care contract for End of Life care. Their next meeting was due to be held on 19 December.

The Lichfield District Council representative reported that they had met in November and looked at Community Hospitals in the area and the use of facilities.

There was a short discussion on the availability of Boroughs and Districts to send substitutes if they are not able to attend.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted

**53. Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee Work Programme 2018/19**

The Scrutiny and Support Manager presented the Committee Work Programme report. The following items of business were suggested for inclusion in the work programme.

1. At the last meeting the Committee considered the CAMHs Strategy and the Chair requested that the Committee ask for a six months update including the delivery plan and results of the trailblazer bid come back to this Committee.
2. Following the appointment of the new Chief Executive, The University Hospital North Midlands could be invited to discuss their financial position and any service changes.
3. Healthwatch Staffordshire Commissioning contract.
4. Discharge to Assess – South of the county and the relationship with providers.
5. Allied Health Care contract and the fragility of the market and the role of Nexxus.
6. Breast screening services in the South of the County.
7. Cancer and the End of Life Services and what is happening to services now.

The effect of Brexit on healthcare professionals was discussed. It was felt that at this stage, this item could be considered under the workforce workstream.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted and items as listed above be added to the Work Programme.

**Chairman**