

Time commenced 6.00 pm
Time finished 8.05 pm

ADULT SERVICES AND HEALTH COMMISSION
30 OCTOBER 2006

Present: Councillor Marshall (in the Chair)
Councillors Baxter, Dhindsa, Dhamrait, Gerrard, Harbon,
Leeming Mitchell, Richards, Skelton, Turner and Webb

Co-opted Members: Philip Johnson and
Elaine Jackson

30/06 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

31/06 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

32/06 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Gerrard declared a personal interest in minute number 35/06 as his wife received Direct Payments.

33/06 Minutes

The minutes of the Adult Services and Health Commission meeting held on 11 September 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

34/06 Call-In

There were no call-ins.

Items for Discussion

35/06 Direct Payments

The Commission received a presentation from Stephen Sadler – Direct Payments Officer on Direct Payments. It was reported that Direct Payments were introduced in 1997 following 10 years of campaigning from disabled people.

Direct Payments can be spent on personal assistance from an agency or a friend or family member, equipment or day activities. The money must be spent on meeting the needs and outcomes identified at assessment. It was noted that originally it was younger physically disabled people that were taking up Direct Payments, but the government are keen to promote take up across all service user groups. It was

reported that as of March 2006 nationally there were 41,623 people receiving Direct payments, 241 of those were in Derby. Members asked what the percentages of take up were in relation to ethnicity.

Resolved

- 1. to note the presentation**
- 2. to bring a report to a future meeting of the Commission on the take up of Direct Payments within different ethnic groups.**

36/06 Reducing Health Inequalities

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services that detailed the progress being made to the recommendations of the reducing health inequalities topic review.

It was reported that in 2003 the Social Care and Health Commission undertook a topic review on reducing health inequalities, focussing on Osmaston, Normanton and Derwent. The review identified significant differences in the health of people living in deprived communities compared with those living in the more affluent parts of the city.

The Commission was informed that good progress was being made against a number of the recommendations including on the smoking cessation. However, there was no progress on appointing a dedicated member of staff to tackle the issues of health inequality as recommended by the Commission when health inequalities was last discussed in April 2006.

The Commission was informed that recommendation five that asked to establish key local health indicators was also not progressed due to lack of resources.

Councillor Mitchell asked if there was anyway of knowing if the number of tobacco sales had reduced. It was reported that environmental health were working on the statistics that detailed household expenditure on various products including tobacco and they would be presented to a future meeting of the Commission.

Councillor Gerrard considered that there should be an education programme for seven and eight year olds in deprived areas to prevent children starting smoking.

Resolved

- 1. to note the report**
- 2. to receive an update on recommendation 5, on agreeing a set of local indicators to address health inequalities, at a future meeting of the Commission.**

37/06 Performance Eye

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services that detailed the performance indicators that fell within the remit of the Commission.

Perveez Sadiq – Head of IT and Performance Management Systems provided the Commission with details on the two red and five amber indicators and Heather Greenan, Planning and Performance Manager gave information on the Performance Eye. The Commission requested a complete profile on the two red indicators.

Resolved

- 1. to note the report**
- 2. to receive a complete profile on indicators AO/D55 (BV195) and HCOP 1.1**

38/06 Review of Home Care Services and Charges

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services that detailed recommendations on the scale, type and financing of home care services, in accordance with the Council's request.

On 19 July 2006 Full Council resolved to ask the Commission to undertake a review on Home Care charges. The Commission agreed at it's first scheduled to conduct the review and formulated a work plan that used information from the Best Value Review and a range of witnesses.

The Commission considered the Review of Home Care Services and Charges report and accepted recommendations two, three and four without amendments.

Councillor Dhindsa considered that a number of people think that the charges should not be reintroduced.

Councillor Skelton suggested that all of the recommendations, including the arguments in favour and against the reintroduction, should be presented to Council Cabinet, in order to give a balanced view.

Resolved to present the recommendations from the review to Council cabinet with amendments as below:

- **delete the word medium from point 113 (Recommendation 1).**
- **Insert the following into points 122, arguments in favour**

'The money can be also support service charges, Council Tax and other budgets'

'The cost of collection should be less than before. This needs to be set within the context of the forthcoming difficult budget round '

'Due to the growing older population, more people will be requiring care services and we need to spend more just to maintain at the current level.'

- **Change 'A number' to 'The majority' in arguments against the charge.**

39/06 Identify Items for Retrospective Scrutiny

No items were identified for retrospective scrutiny.

40/06 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

There were no items.

**41/06 Matters referred to the Commission by Council
Cabinet/Council Cabinet Members**

There were no items.

MINUTES END