

ITEM 4

Time commenced : 6.00pm
Time finished : 7.30pm

SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH COMMISSION 6 DECEMBER 2004

Present: Councillor Hussain (in the Chair)
Councillors, Dhindsa, Hird, Jones, Nath, Turner , Webb and Willits

Co-opted members – Philip Johnson and Sir Michael Raymond

38/04 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Leeming and Jackson.

39/04 Late items

There were no late items.

40/04 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

41/04 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 October 2004 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

42/04 Call-in

There were no call-ins.

43/04 Commission for Social Care Inspection Presentation

The Commission received a presentation from Anne Carswell - Commission for Social Care Inspection - CSCI, about the roles and responsibilities of the Commission for Social Care Inspection. Anne reported that the main duties of the CSCI were:

- to carry out inspections of all Social Care organisations against national standards and publish reports
- register services that meet the national minimum standards
- carry out inspections of local social services authorities
- publish annual reports to Parliament on social care and an analysis of where resources had been spent
- validate all published performance assessment statistics on social care

- publish the star rating for Social Services authorities.

Anne advised that the CSCI Draft Corporate Plan for 2006/08 was out for consultation with stakeholder, the consultation would end on the 28 January 2005. Booklets could be found on the website (www.csci.org.uk) and if members wished to comment this would be welcome.

Anne clarified that legislation required two inspections per year for care homes, one to be unannounced. There was no requirement to carry out an announced inspection so the proportion of announced inspections would reduce with more care homes receiving two unannounced inspections per year.

The Commission was advised that the Department of Health had agreed to review the standards and regulations over the next year.

Councillor Hussain asked for a brief summary of the standards. Anne advised that she would supply the Commission with a brief summary of the standards.

Councillor Hussain commented on the lack of publicity of any care homes that did not meet the standards. Anne advised that there were 500 care homes in Derbyshire and during the first year of these new standards, each care home was inspected to each of these standards. This was used to audit and provide a benchmark to produce an action plan for improvements. 2004 was the first year where action had started to be taken against care homes not meeting standards.

Councillor Webb commented that Social Services Departments all over the country were overspending, were the CSCI able to influence the Government through the inspection regime regarding funding? Anne advised that the CSCI looked at all trends and all findings were reported to the Government.

44/04 Performance Monitoring

The Commission considered a report of the Director of Corporate Services on the Council's performance indicators under the new Social Care and Health Commissions area of responsibility listed in the Performance Eye, particularly focusing on the 10 key threshold indicators.

Margaret McGlade advised that the Performance Assessment Framework – PAF - was not compatible with the Performance Eye indicators.

Councillor Hussain advised that he wanted information provided to the Commission every three months, and that the pre-amble of the report should contain information on the position according to the PAF.

Councillor Dhindsa commented that the Performance Eye tool was being used across the Council and in some areas would be showing exactly the performance in that department and in others only showing the aspirations of the position that the Council wanted to be at. If this was the case, then surely it was too early to be using this tool as a performance indicator. Margaret McGlade commented that the Performance Eye indicators did work, however Social Services needed to ensure that the commentary indicated the position against the PAF.

Resolved to request the Director of Social Services provide commentary on all the red and orange colour bands, so that the performance can be explained against the Performance Assessment Framework.

45/04 Work Programme of the Commission for 2004/05

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Corporate Services detailing five suggested topics for topic review, that should form part of the work programme for the Commission for the forthcoming year.

Resolved to conduct a review of Looked-After Children's Services.

46/04 Response of the Council Cabinet to any Reports of the Commission

Disabled Facilities Grants - appointment of a progress chaser

The Commission considered a minute extract from the Council Cabinet meeting on 30 November 2004, where the decision to establish a progress chaser post on a permanent basis, to improve the delivery of Disabled Facilities Grants was made.

Resolved to note the minutes.

47/04 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

The Commission identified the following item on the Council Cabinet Forward Plan for consideration at a future meeting:

Reference	Decision Matter
57/04	Best Value Review of Home Care for Older People - final report and improvement plan

MINUTES END