

MINUTE of MEETING of the HEALTH AND CARE POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL of WEST LoTHIAN COUNCIL held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LoTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, on 8 DECEMBER 2016.

Present – Councillors Anne McMillan (Chair), John McGinty, Janet Campbell, Mary Dickson, George Paul and Frank Toner

In attendance – Mary Benson, Senior People's Forum Representative

Apologies – Bridget Meisak, Voluntary Sector Gateway West Lothian

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

2. MINUTE

The Panel confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 20 October 2016. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

3. NHS LoTHIAN HEALTH BOARD MINUTE

A report had been circulated by the Depute Chief Executive to which was attached the Minute of the NHS Lothian Board meeting held on 3 August 2016.

Decision

To note the contents of the report and Minute.

4. WEST LoTHIAN INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD MINUTES

A report had been circulated by the Depute Chief Executive to which was attached the Minutes of West Lothian Integration Joint Board meetings held on 23 August and 18 October 2016.

Decision

To note the contents of the report and Minutes.

5. CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Social Policy providing an overview of the statutory work undertaken during the period 2015-2016. The Chief Social Work Officer's Report 2015/2016 was attached at appendix 1 to the report.

The Chief Social Work Officer's Report 2015/2016, attached as an appendix to the report, provided an overview of the role and

responsibilities of the Chief Social Work Officer and outlined the governance arrangements that were in place in West Lothian. The report highlighted the council's statutory duties, the decisions that were delegated to the Chief Social Work Officer and provided a summary of service performance. The role of the Chief Social Work Officer was to provide professional governance, leadership and accountability for the delivery of social work and social care services, whether these be provided by the local authority or purchased from the voluntary or private sectors. In addition, there were a small number of duties and decisions that related primarily to the curtailment of individual freedom and the protection of both individuals and the public, which must be made either by the Chief Social Work Officer or by a professionally qualified social worker to whom responsibility had been appropriately delegated.

The Senior Manager, Community Care Support and Services, advised that the delivery of social work services was challenging and in light of the current economic situation the importance of delivering vital services to the most vulnerable and marginalised in the community would test the council's capacity, creativity and commitment over the forthcoming year.

The Senior Manager then responded to questions from Panel members, confirming that it was essential to continue to develop and improve services while constantly seeking to become more efficient. Constrained public spending was a high challenge for social policy services as well as increases in demand for services due to an increasing population and increased complexity of needs. West Lothian Social Policy was well placed to address these challenges and would continue to contribute significantly to the delivery of positive outcomes for the people of West Lothian.

It was recommended that the Panel note the contents of the Chief Social Work Officer's annual report for 2015-2016 which was submitted to the Scottish Government's Chief Social Work Advisor.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

6. WINTER PLAN 2016/17

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Director providing details of the winter plan developed for 2016/17 outlining the activities underway to prepare for the winter period when it was recognised that demand for services was likely to be at its highest level.

The Senior Manager, Primary Care & Business Support, advised Panel members that an integrated plan between West Lothian HSCP and St John's Hospital was in place for the winter period to provide safe and effective care for people using services. The plan focused on integration, improving delayed discharge, improving unscheduled care performance and planning for the additional pressures and business continuity

challenges that were faced in winter. The HSCP and St John's Hospital were represented at the major winter planning meetings in NHS Lothian and West Lothian Council.

The delivery of the Winter Plan required additional resources to support implementation, particularly in relation to the higher levels of demand on services, increased capacity within St John's Hospital, REACT, Community Nursing and AHP teams.

In response to a question from Panel members in relation to resource issues and bed availability at St John's Hospital, the Senior Manager advised that a recruitment process was underway to provide additional nursing and medical staff to support proposals to implement increased capacity within St John's Hospital. Alternative models of care were also being considered, i.e. 'Hospital at Home' service. Panel members were advised that the recruitment process commenced in September 2016, however, difficulties had been experienced in recruiting hospital nursing staff. It was reported that there was an increase in Community Nursing Staff, OT staff and Physiotherapists. Members were also advised that a review was being carried out to assess the best model for weekend discharging.

It was recommended that the Panel note the contents of the report and the progress made in developing the Winter Plan, which would ensure key services were maintained for critical patients and customers, and the organisation's reputation was protected.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

7. OLDER PEOPLE'S COMMISSIONING PLAN

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Social Policy providing details of the development of the Strategic Commissioning Plan for Older People. The Older People's Commissioning Plan 2016/17 – 2018/19 was attached as an appendix to the report.

The Senior Manager, Community Care Support and Services, advised Panel members that at its meeting held on 24 March 2016 the Integration Joint Board (IJB) approved its Strategic Plan which included details of how high level outcomes were to be achieved through a process of strategic commissioning. A short life working group was established to develop the three year commissioning plan. The draft plan was subject to stakeholder consultation including the IJB Strategic Planning Group. At the time of writing the report the final draft of the Strategic Commissioning Plan for Older People had not been considered by the (IJB). This was submitted to the meeting of the IJB on 29 November 2016 and subsequently approved.

During the course of the discussion the Senior People's Forum (SPF)

representative highlighted that the SPF did not have representation on the IJB. She stated that other authorities in Scotland had invited a SPF representative to participate in meetings. She asked if consideration could be given for a representative from the SPF to be invited to participate in meetings of the West Lothian Integration Joint Board to allow senior people's views to be shared. The Senior Manager undertook to forward the SPF representative's comments to the Director.

It was recommended that the Panel notes the Strategic Commissioning Plan for Older People.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report; and
2. To note that the Senior Manager undertook to forward the Senior People's Forum representative's request for a representative of the SPF to be invited to participate in WL IJB meetings to the Director.

8. LEARNING DISABILITY COMMISSIONING PLAN

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Social Policy providing an update on the development of the Strategic Commissioning Plan for Adults with a Learning Disability. The Learning Disability Commissioning Plan 2016/17 – 2018/19 was attached as an appendix to the report.

The report explained that the Integration Joint Board (IJB) approved its strategic plan at its meeting held on 24 March 2016, which included details of how high level outcomes were to be achieved through a process of strategic commissioning. The Strategic Plan also included a commitment to develop a series of care group based commissioning plans.

A short life working group was established to develop the three year commissioning plan. The draft plan was subject to stakeholder consultation including the IJB Strategic Planning Group. The Senior Manager, Community Care Support and Services, advised Panel members that West Lothian has a faster than average population growth, an aging population and growing numbers of people living longer with disabilities, long term conditions and complex needs. Health and Social Care services were required to ensure that resources were targeted to achieve the greatest impact on those most in need.

The final draft of the Strategic Commissioning Plan for Adults with a Learning Disability was approved by the IJB at its meeting on 18 October 2016. The IJB would receive regular progress reports and there would be an annual review of the plan.

It was recommended that the Panel notes the Strategic Commissioning Plan for Adults with a Learning Disability as approved by the Integration Joint Board meeting on 18 October 2016.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

9. OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INFORMATION DAY

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Social Policy providing details of the outcomes following a public information event to promote occupational therapy (OT) services to members of the public held during National OT Week.

The Senior Manager, Community Care Support and Services, introduced the Group Manager for OT and Housing with Care to the Panel. Members were advised that West Lothian has a well-established partnership approach to joint working with benefits in efficiency and sharing good practice. The joint OT teams planned an open day to promote the service to members of the public, raising awareness in the community of the benefits, support and advice that was available. An update was then given on the OT Information Day held at Howden Park Centre, Livingston, on 8 November 2016, which was positively supported by those in attendance. Although the event did not attract a large amount of people, those that did attend benefited by obtaining information on other resources and increasing their knowledge of OT. Staff from Health and Social Care also gained information regarding their colleagues and services supporting their practice.

In response to questions from Panel members in relation to advertising home aids and adaptations on the CHCP web site to promote the service to members of the public, the Senior Manager advised that the CHCP web site was being reviewed to improve the look and content of the web site in general. The Group Manager also confirmed that OT staff liaise regularly with Operational Services staff to ensure medical and OT equipment were recycled rather than being disposed of in bulky uplifts.

It was recommended that the Panel notes that the OT Information Day event on Tuesday 8 November 2016 was positively support by attendees.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

10. WORKPLAN

The Panel noted the contents of the workplan which would form the basis of the Panel's work over the coming months.

Decision

To note the contents of the workplan.