

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 22 September 2015 at 2.19pm.

**Present:** Councillors GLENNIS MIDDLETON, JIM HOUSTON, BRIAN BOYD, LYNNE DEVINE, MAIRI EVANS, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, MARTYN GEDDES, SHEILA HANDS, CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, SHEENA WELSH, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, EWAN SMITH and PAUL VALENTINE.

Councillor MIDDLETON, Convener, in the Chair.

### 1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors David May, Donald Morrison and Margaret Thomson with Councillors Craig Fotheringham and Sheena Welsh substituting for Councillors May and Morrison respectively.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Committee agreed to note that no declarations of interest were made.

### 3. MINUTES

#### (a) Previous Meeting

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 11 August 2015 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

#### (b) Executive Sub Committee

The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of 26 August 2015, a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted and noted (**APPENDIX 1**).

### 4. IMPLEMENTATION OF SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT IN ADULT SERVICES UPDATE

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 14 January 2014, there was submitted Report No 364/15 by the Strategic Director – People advising members of the progress made in implementing the Social Care (Self Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 within Adult Services.

The Report indicated that the implementation of the Social Care (Self Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 in Adult Services had required a major change in how the Council delivered their assessment and care management services. This had involved staff changing their practice, learning new approaches, systems and processes.

One of the main principles of Self Directed Support (SDS) was that the individual must have as much involvement as they wished in both the assessment and provision of support. The assessment and support planning process were therefore often taking much longer than was the case prior to SDS.

As at 10 August 2015, 56.2% of existing service users in adult services still required an SDS assessment. The report proposed the extension of the timeframe for all service users be extended to 31 March 2016. This was considered to remain a challenging timescale. To achieve the timescale and to ensure that those service users who were receiving an Angus Council home support service had an SDS assessment by 31 October 2015, an additional small team of home care assessors had been established.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made in implementing the legislation within adult services;
- (ii) to note the changes to service delivery arising from Self Directed Support implementation, the challenges therein, and the steps taken to address these challenges;
- (iii) to approve the extension to the timescale for completion of Self Directed Support reassessments for existing service users to 31 March 2016; and
- (iv) to note the introduction of a programme manager post for Self Directed Support implementation, to be filled by secondment from within Adult Services.

## **5. PROVISION OF RESPITE CARE FOR ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES AT BEAREHILL HOUSE, BRECHIN**

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 20 May 2010, there was submitted Report No 365/15 by the Strategic Director – People requesting the Committee grant an exemption from certain provisions of the Financial Regulations of Angus Council to allow for the contract for the provision of respite care for adults with learning disabilities at Bearehill House, Brechin to be renewed.

The Report indicated that it was proposed to enter into a contract with Four Seasons Healthcare to commission four beds on a block basis at a cost of £329,668 per annum for a period of two years, commencing from 12 April 2015, with the option to extend for a further year.

The costs for the four beds were significantly higher than the standard care home rate as the costs reflected the staffing and skills levels required to meet the needs of the service users. The Council also had the option to spot purchase up to a further two beds at a cost of £1,142 per bed for week, if required. Should the option be fully utilised, the cost to the Council would equate to £118,768 per annum. In the event that the Council had a future requirement to spot purchase any other beds, over and above the six, then this would be at a negotiated rate.

The Committee agreed to enter into the contract for a period of two years with the option to extend for a further year.

## **6. HELP TO LIVE AT HOME PROGRESS REPORT**

With reference to Article 20 of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 18 June 2015, there was submitted Report No 366/15 by the Strategic Director – People summarising developments in Help to Live at Home (HTLH), a project intended to identify and deliver service efficiencies within Adult Services in the People Directorate; outlining progress made with planning the programme delivery; the proposed structure of the programme and the key areas of work to be progressed.

The Report indicated that the outline business case (OBC) documented the case for change which included an assessment of the strategic context for the service, the ability of the Council to meet strategic change such as the introduction of Self Directed Support, the integration of Health and Social Care and more generally, the predicted future service demand. The OBC provided an economic analysis of the costs and benefits of proposed changes, consideration of the approach to developing the provider market, and a management case to take the project forward.

Due to the size, complexity and duration of the project, it was to be developed as an overall programme, within which there were a number of projects and workstreams. The HTLH programme included in its scope three main areas of Old People's Service which were Home Care Services, Supported Housing and local authority residential care.

Two key delivery workstreams where greater efficiency, cost savings and increased capacity could be realised were outlined in Section 4 of the Report.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the project progressing to the next stage in the programme, as outlined in the Report; and
- (ii) to seek further progress reports from the Help to Live at Home Programme Board at regular intervals which would clearly set out the proposed changes to service delivery and the implications thereof.