

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL
ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH CABINET MEMBER MEETING

4.00pm 6 MARCH 2009

COMMITTEE ROOM 1, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor K Norman (Cabinet Member)

Also in attendance: Councillor Lepper (Opposition Spokesperson)

Other Members present: Councillor Wrighton.

PART ONE

54. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

54(a) Declarations of Interests

54.1 There were none.

54(b) Exclusion of Press and Public

54.2 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ("the Act"), the Cabinet Member considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100I(I) of the Act).

54.3 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting.

55. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

55.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the Adult Social Care & Health Cabinet Member Meeting held on 22 January 2009 be agreed and signed by the Cabinet Member.

56. CABINET MEMBER'S COMMUNICATIONS

56.1 There were none

57. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION

57.1 **RESOLVED** – All items were reserved for discussion.

58. PETITIONS

58.1 There were none.

59. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

59.1 There were none.

60. DEPUTATIONS

60.1 There were none.

61. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

61.1 There were none.

62. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

62.1 There were none.

63. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

63.1 There were none.

64. OLDER PEOPLE MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING FRAMEWORK 2009/10 TO 2011/12

64.1 The Director of Community Care introduced the report of the Director of Strategy, Brighton & Hove City PCT, which set out the vision for the future development and commissioning of services to support older people with mental health needs, and their carers, in Brighton and Hove (for copy see minute book). The planning framework and the three year action plan were attached as appendix 1. In twelve months time, when year one of the action plan has been implemented, the framework would be updated and a full commissioning strategy would be published. Meanwhile, the framework would be reviewed in light of the publication of the National Dementia Strategy on 3 February 2009.

64.2 The Director of Adult Social Care & Housing explained that the Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 5 March had discussed the new Dementia Strategy and had expressed an interest in helping to inform the Older People Mental Health final strategy document. A report on this matter would be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission. The Director reported that Ian Bainbridge, the Deputy Regional Director of Social Care, Department of Health, South East, was keen for Brighton & Hove to bid for money as a demonstrator site for dementia. However, there was no extra money for the work on the strategy.

- 64.3 Councillor Lepper asked what kind of liaison had been carried out in relation to caring for people with dementia. The Commissioner for Older People Mental Health replied that there had been a consultation process and there would be Implementation Sub-Groups.
- 64.4 Councillor Wrighton informed the meeting that that the there had been enthusiasm at the Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee in setting up a panel to consider dementia. This would be probably be arranged jointly with the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Councillor Wrighton considered the framework a positive approach to help people receive an earlier diagnosis and access help at an earlier stage. However she made the point that many people were in the more severe category. She asked how these people could be helped to engaged and helped into directed care. The Director replied that officers had a great deal of experience in terms of engaging people who do not have the capacity to engage themselves. A great deal could be learnt from the work carried out in learning disabilities.
- 64.5 Councillor Lepper made the point that there were a significant number of older people with a problem with alcoholism and some with a substance misuse problem. There did not appear to be much information in the report about this issue. The Director of Community Care agreed that there were a high number of admissions of older people with alcohol problems. There was a need to have clear pathways into main stream services.
- 64.6 The Cabinet Member thanked the Commissioner for Older People Mental Health for her work in preparing the report.
- 64.7 **RESOLVED** - Having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:
- (1) That the Brighton and Hove Older People Mental Health Planning Framework 2009–2012, be approved.
- 65. PHYSICAL DISABILITY STRATEGY - CHOICE, INDEPENDENT LIVING AND PERSONALISED CARE - A DRAFT STRATEGY FOR PHYSICAL DISABILITY SERVICES 2009-2012**
- 65.1 The Director of Community Care introduced a report of the Director of Adult Care & Housing which set out the first Physical Disability Commissioning Strategy for the City. It was a joint strategy across Brighton & Hove PCT and Brighton & Hove City Council and outlined the development of services for adults with physical disability over the next three years 2009-2012 (for copy see minute book).
- 65.2 Councillor Lepper acknowledged that people were happier in their own homes but expressed concern that some were left to fend for themselves. She would like assurances that help was at hand when things broke down. The Director of Community Care replied that there was a need to ensure that there was a choice of accommodation for people and that officers worked with the adaptations team. The role of advocates and continuity plans were important. There needed to be robust planning to ensure people were not left to fend for themselves.

- 65.3 Councillor Lepper reported that she had come across problems with a long waiting list for adaptations to bathrooms. For example, she knew of someone who had waited a year for a shower to be fitted. The Director of Adult Social Care & Housing replied that adaptations were a national issue. Locally, a lot of work had been carried out in this area and she expected an improvement in the next year. For example, officers were looking to improve procurement. Local authorities with short turnarounds had tighter criteria. The Director did not wish to see tighter criteria and subsequently fewer people being able to access help with adaptations. Councillor Wrighton reported that scrutiny was taking up the issue of adaptations.
- 65.4 Councillor Wrighton asked if there was a different way women could approach the strategy. She also raised the issue of the impact on equalities. The Commissioner for Physical Disabilities replied that an example would be the parenting role for disabled women. The Commissioner mentioned other examples of how the strategy would affect different groups, such as men's health promotion, helping hard to reach groups such as the BME community. A health trainer could outreach hard to reach groups. There had been a great deal of input from different groups and the strategy would need to be broad and responsive to the range of individual needs.
- 65.5 The Director of Adult Social Care & Housing stressed that clear direction on physical disabilities had been a gap in the city. She thanked the Commissioner for Physical Disabilities and the General Manager, Adult Social Care for producing a report of such quality.
- 65.6 **RESOLVED** – Having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:
- (1) - That the attached strategy be noted and endorsed.

The meeting concluded at 4.40pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of