

## **Corporate, Adult Services & Social Inclusion Select Committee**

A meeting of Corporate, Adult Services & Social Inclusion Select Committee was held on Tuesday, 12th July, 2011.

**Present:** Cllr Tracey Stott (Acting Chair), Cllr Michael Clark, Cllr Eileen Johnson, Cllr Terry Laing, Cllr Norma Wilburn

**Officers:** T Beckwith, Mrs L Hanley, I Ramshaw (CESC); Mrs J Murphy (R); G Birtle, A Duffy, Mrs T Harrison (LD)

**Also in attendance:** No other persons were present

**Apologies:** Cllr Derrick Brown, Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Mick Stoker

### **1 Evacuation Procedure**

The evacuation procedure be noted.

### **2 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **3 Minutes to be signed by the Chair - 15th March 2011**

The minutes of the 15th March were signed by the Chair.

### **4 Minutes of the meeting held on 14th June 2011**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 14th June 2011.

AGREED that the minutes be approved

### **5 EIT Review of Commissioned Carers and Independent Living Services**

Members received information regarding the measurement of value for money, strategic relevance and quality of providers from the Head of Support Services, Independent living Joint Strategic Commissioner, Interim Head of Adult Strategy and a representative from Finance.

The main issues discussed were as follows:

- Commissioned Carers and Independent Living Services were previously funded through Government grants and were now part of the Council funding.
- The focus was to enable people to live independently.
- The services were not statutory but there was a need to understand why they existed.
- The Council no longer provided moderate services with the Fair Access to Care Services process, however it was identified that many of the services in this review fell into the 'moderate' category.

- It was observed that some service delivery could no longer be required.
- Discussion took place regarding accountability of providers and how officers could insist that services met standards.
- Officers would look at the strategy in line with the overarching adult strategy to ensure contracts were in keeping with the council's aims.
- Officers would provide Members with a copy of the Executive Summary

In considering which services to visit:

- Eastern Ravens and the George Hardwick Foundation Carers services requested involvement.
- Discussion took place regarding the inclusion of mental health services and it was noted that the Alzheimer's Society could be a resource.
- Members requested that BME Carers be included on the list.
- Clarification was given regarding a question in relation to VAT registration for voluntary organisations. Members were advised that officers had carried out a thorough review to determine whether the organisations were grant funded or contracted and whether they were VAT registered. There were very few that were still grant funded and the threshold limit for VAT registration would soon mean that there would be no grant funded organisations.
- Members queried how important Stockton Borough Council funding was to the organisations and were advised that officers would establish this.

AGREED that:

1. The information be noted.
2. A Quality self assessment tool be sent out to remaining service providers giving a short response time to enable thorough data analysis.
3. Self assessment documentation on value for money will also be sent out with the same deadlines as above.
3. Further information be provided as requested.

## **6 Work Programme**

Members were advised that the next meeting would be held on 13th September 2011 due to the August recess.

During the recess it was agreed that a number of site visits to service providers be organised.

AGREED that the Scrutiny Officer will organise site visits.

## **7 Chair's Update**

The Chair was absent so there was nothing to report.