

**People Select Committee
Chair's Update – March 2018**

Scrutiny Review – Mental Health and Wellbeing including Suicide and Self-Harm	
Achieved since last meeting	<p>The last Committee meeting in February 2018 considered evidence from organisations providing treatment and support for those with mental health and wellbeing issues. Information from the A&E department at North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust highlighted the positive impact of Liaison Psychiatry and the CAMHS Crisis Suite, and the reduction in numbers of young people being admitted to hospital with a mental health issue.</p> <p>TEWV (Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust) representatives from both CAMHS (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services) and Adult Mental Health Services gave evidence. CAMHS provided details of their Crisis Team and the new Intensive Home Treatment service, an 8-12 week intensive support package focusing on high-risk young people who are at risk of hospitalisation. Adult Mental Health Service information focused upon a collaborative approach to self-harm (aged 18+), and highlighted links with homelessness and alcohol.</p> <p>SBC Adult Social Care staff from STEPs were present to give an overview of their service which promotes inclusion by assisting and enabling disabled individuals excluded from mainstream community networks to discover, explore and interact with facilities and organisations in their own neighbourhood.</p>
Problems or concerns	<p>Due to the number of key organisations still required to contribute to this review, it has been agreed to use the 16th April 2018 Committee meeting as an additional evidence session (as opposed to summarising the evidence/formulating draft recommendations as originally scheduled) – this will move back the submission of the final report to Cabinet from June to July 2018.</p> <p>An additional meeting has also been arranged for the 23rd April 2018 to further accommodate key contributors to this review.</p>
Planned next month	<p>The next meeting will hear evidence from SBC Children's Services (role and responsibilities around mental health and wellbeing, Early Help work and Future in Mind school pilot feedback), Stockton-on-Tees Local Safeguarding Children Board (SLSCB) (role, review of suicide cases and issues around e-safety), and Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB) (role and issues identified in relation to young adults).</p>
On track – yes / no	<p>Yes.</p>

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Overview / Performance and Quality Assurance

Key Issues / Problems or concerns

Overview reports for the following services were considered by Committee at the 26th February 2018 meeting (key issues raised by Members are noted):

Administration, Democratic and Electoral Services

- Proposal to move next Planning Committee cycle to four-weekly instead of three-weekly.
- Try to avoid scheduling meetings during all school holidays where possible.

Culture, Leisure and Events

- With reference to the preparations for the celebration of the bi-centenary of passenger rail in 2025, it was a shame that we don't have the original ticket office building.
- Disappointing to see cuts being felt in parts of the service, along with a greater administrative burden.

Finance and Business Services

- Perception that jobs commissioned by the Council can cost significantly more than a local tradesperson undertaking it.
- Will the Smarter Working in Stockton programme consider Elected Members? Noted that a report has been requested to identify potential savings, and that Members would have to buy into working differently if decisions were made around new technologies/improved methods.
- Localisation of business rates is a misnomer – noted that all money will be redistributed across Local Authorities based on an agreed formula (to be reviewed).

HR, Legal and Communications

- Have lost a significant number of staff which impacts on those remaining employees (stress/sickness) – need to have support services in place.
- If we want to increase BME employee numbers, how is this balanced against the decreasing trend in the amount of Council staff?
- Good to see posters up encouraging staff to support their colleagues, but need to ensure relevant contact details are included as some may want to talk to someone independent.
- What are the levels of agency workers? Noted that numbers have reduced and regular reviews of these take place.

Xentrall Shared Services

- IT support is good and very responsive.
- How is core internal work and external opportunities balanced? Noted that Stockton (and Darlington) Council work is prioritised, and that no high-risk external work is taken on. External work does help pay for core services.

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Requests for more information	None.
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Monitoring

Key Issues / Problems or concerns	Committee has not considered any monitoring updates since the last meeting. The next monitoring updates are scheduled for the June 2018 cycle of meetings.
Requests for more information	None.

Next Meetings

Monday 19th March 2018 (1.30pm)
Monday 16th April 2018 (1.30pm)
Monday 23rd April 2018 (1.30pm)