

People Select Committee

A meeting of People Select Committee was held on Monday, 25th January, 2021.

Present: Cllr Marilyn Surtees (Chair), Mrs Jean O'Donnell (Vice Chair), Cllr Helen Atkinson, Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Stefan Houghton, Cllr Eileen Johnson, Cllr Barry Woodhouse, Cllr Bill Woodhead MBE.

Officers: Gary Knight (FD&BS); Stephanie Landles (A&H); Jane Smith (CS); Peter Bell, Rebecca Saunders-Thompson, Judith Trainer (MD).

Also in attendance: Gareth Aungiers (Xentrall).

Apologies: Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley

PEO 23/20 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Woodhouse and O'Donnell declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in item 5. Both had family members who had received support from Adult Services.

PEO 24/20 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the minutes from the meeting held on 23 November 2020.

AGREED that the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

PEO 25/20 **Scrutiny Review of Carbon Monoxide Awareness**

Members received evidence on carbon monoxide poisoning to raise awareness on the issue. This was a one-off evidence session.

The key issues were highlighted as follows:

- An introduction to the dangers of carbon monoxide.
- Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- How to act if a carbon monoxide leak is suspected.
- Three information videos from HETAS (Heating Equipment Testing & Approvals Scheme) on the causes and effects of carbon monoxide poisoning and the installation of carbon monoxide alarms.
- Information from NHS UK on the treatment of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Information on Gas Safety Week and Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week.
- The roles of the Private Sector Housing Team and Environmental Health Team in raising awareness of carbon monoxide poisoning were outlined. This included work with local landlords and legal requirements in privately rented properties.
- A representative from the Private Sector Housing Team explained that notices could be served on private landlords if carbon monoxide alarms were not fitted, or unfit appliances present an imminent danger or were not repaired or replaced, within specific timeframes.
- Members were informed that one brand of carbon monoxide alarm is not

preferable over another, but alarms needed to be certified and in date. However, in privately rented properties a suitably located fixed alarm would be preferable to alarms that are free standing, which may be easily removed from a property.

AGREED that:

- 1) the evidence be noted.

PEO 26/20 Progress Update - Scrutiny Review of Mental Health Wellbeing inc. Suicide Self-Harm

Consideration was given to the assessments of progress on the implementation of the recommendations from the Scrutiny Review of Mental Health & Wellbeing inc. Suicide & Self-Harm.

The key issues were highlighted as follows:

- Most of the recommendations had been achieved.
- Members were informed that recommendations 1 and 7 were no longer achievable due to changes in Government policy and structural changes in specialist services.
- Members noted that, nationally, mental health services had been underfunded for several years and that provision should be increased.

AGREED that:

- 1) the Progress Updates be noted and the assessments for progress be confirmed.
- 2) the Action Plan be signed off as complete.

PEO 27/20 Work Programme 2020-2021

Consideration was given to Work Programme.

The next meeting of the People Select Committee would take place on 1 March 2021. A number of annual overview reports would be presented at this meeting.

AGREED that the Work Programme be noted.

PEO 28/20 Chair's Update

The Chair had nothing to update.