

## SCRUTINY ADVISORY BOARD - ADULTS

Minutes of a Meeting of the Scrutiny Advisory Board - Adults held on Friday, 24 March 2023 at 10.00 am at Council Chamber, County Hall, Kendal, LA9 4RQ

### PRESENT:

Mr M Wilson (Chair)

Mrs C Bowditch  
Mr A Bowness  
Mr SB Collins  
Mr D Gawne

Ms C McCarron-Holmes  
Mr GRPM Roberts  
Mr CP Turner  
Dr S Haraldsen

### Also in Attendance:-

Mr A Farrar	-	Democratic Services Officer
Mr A Horrobin	-	Senior Manager - Safeguarding Adults
Ms N Phipps	-	Assistant Director - Provider Services
Mr J Readman	-	Executive Director (People)
Mr D Stephens	-	Strategic Policy & Scrutiny Advisor
Ms C Whalley	-	Assistant Director - Adult Social Care (Deputy DAS)
Ms A Glanville	-	Interim Service Manager -Edge of Care and Residential

### 54 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr WJ Wearing, Mr W Clark, Mr A Connell and Miss D Garton. Dr S Haraldsen was substitute for Miss D Garton.

### 55 MEMBERSHIP

Ms C Driver was no longer a member of the Committee.

### 56 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

### 57 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

**RESOLVED**, that the press and public not be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item on the agenda.

### 58 MINUTES

**RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 January 2023 be agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

## 59 ADULT SOCIAL CARE POSITION & LGR TRANSITION

The Assistant Director (Deputy DAS) gave a presentation on the Adult Social Care Position & Local Government Reorganisation Transition this combined agenda item 6 Adult Social Care Position and agenda item 7 LGR Transition which included the following areas:-

- Focus upon final preparation and assurance for ending well (ASC Operations, Provider Services, Contracts & Commissioning)
- Final preparation and assurance around disaggregation and transitioning to two new authorities
- Stabilising Adult Social Care Services and the Challenges Ahead

A member commented on the Safeguard risk and if it was possible that the risk may be further reduced in time.

The Senior Manager Safeguarding Adults remarked that systems were in place to further reduce the risk in time.

A member noted that unsustainable Adult Social Care demand was outstripping capacity and was that in specific areas or across Adult Social Care and what were the factors.

The Assistant Director (Deputy DAS) remarked that it was across Adult Social Care and the single biggest factor was workforce.

A member commented how were the private sector responding to respite facilities.

The Assistant Director - Provider Services noted that she was not aware that the independent sector had declined anyone respite care and that Cumbria Care had opened up facilities for respite care.

A discussion took place about future CQC inspections and the Assistant Director (Deputy DAS) remarked that a self-assessment process had been undertaken and that any inspection will be specifically about Adult Social Care.

A member commented on staffing levels and if there would be an increase in staff numbers.

The Assistant Director (Deputy DAS) remarked that in the transition process managers portfolio had been increased but over a smaller geographical area but there were no additional roles.

A member raised what would happen when family circumstances would cross boundaries.

The Assistant Director (Deputy DAS) noted it would not have a significant impact, this situation currently takes places with neighbouring authorities.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Director (Deputy DAS) for her presentation and commented that he felt pride about the work done.

## **60 CONSIDERATION OF AREAS OF SCRUTINY FOR FUTURE AUTHORITIES**

The Strategic Policy and Scrutiny Adviser presented the report and drew out the key topics :-

- Adult Social Care Position
- Quality Assurance Within Provider Services
- Workforce
- Discharge Arrangements
- Shared Outcome Frameworks
- CQC Assurance
- Carers
- Safeguarding Adults at risk from abuse and neglect

A round table discussion took place with everyone in agreement with these items added to the list :-

- Structure of Adult Social Care
- New Models of Care
- Extra Care Housing

## **61 SAFEGUARDING ADULTS AT RISK FROM ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

The Senior Manager Safeguarding Adults presented a report providing an update and analysis of adult safeguarding activity in the third quarter of 2022/23, briefing members on progress against key areas of performance relating to 'Making Safeguarding Personal', providing a benchmark against other local authorities and describing actions planned to strengthen and consolidate improvements in adult safeguarding in Cumbria through the Safeguarding Adults Board.

During the question and answer session that followed, a member remarked that it should be seen as a success that cases are picked up and queried if new members would receive specific Safeguarding Adults training.

The Senior Manager Safeguarding Adults commented that training had been commissioned specifically for members.

The Chair thanked the Senior Manager Safeguarding Adults for his report.

## **62 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that this was the last meeting of the Scrutiny Advisory Board – Adults in the life of Cumbria County Council.

The Executive Director – People thanked the members for their support, challenge and discussion that they had provided and thanked the Chair for his commitment and support.

Members commented that the Chair had provided exemplary support and commitment to all members on the Board.

The Chair thanked members and officers for their hard work and dedication and noted that he wanted to be able to ask questions to support the people of Cumbria.

The meeting ended at 12.10 pm