

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES AND OLDER PEOPLE POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY 22 JULY, 2009 AT 4.00 P.M.**  
**IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK**  
**PART 1**

PRESENT: Councillors

Bernard, Mrs. A.F. (Chairman)  
Molineux, G.N. (Vice-Chairman)

Ball, G.D.                      Mitchell, C.  
Davis, Mrs. M.A.            Yates, Ms. W.  
Jones, R.

Also present:                      Mr. J. Bletcher, South Staffordshire PCT  
   Ms. W. Anderson, South Staffordshire PCT

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K.L. Bennett and R. Easton).

**5.            Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters**

| <u>Member</u>    | <u>Nature of Interest</u> | <u>Type</u> |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Davis, Mrs. M.A. | Member of NHS Trust       | Personal    |

**6.            Minutes**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 June, 2009 be approved as a correct record.

**7.            Members Updates**

The Chairman reported on the previous Committee meeting and explained that updates had been requested from Members in relation to the areas of the Committees' Priority Delivery Plan.

Councillor G.D. Ball – Update in respect of Cavity Wall Insulation

Consideration was given to the Briefing Note of the Head of Housing – Provision of cavity wall insulation to the Council's housing stock (Enclosure 4.1 – 4.3 of the Official Minutes).

Ian Tennant, Head of Housing outlined the contents of the Briefing Note and stated that some 3,100 Council properties have cavity walls which would be suitable for cavity wall

insulation. The remainder were either solid wall or non-traditional construction which was not suitable for cavity wall insulation.

He stated that whilst the Council had previously implemented a cavity wall insulation programme, it had not been possible to continue this as a result of financial constraints from 2003 and the fact that it did not form part of the Decent Homes Programme. He also advised that residents had expressed a number of concerns regarding health related issues in respect of the cavity wall filling.

The Head of Housing reported that the Government had made £83.8 million of additional funding available to help social landlords with hard to treat cavity walls. He stated that the Council had made a bid for £235,000 in June, although the Council did not meet the criteria and stated that in his opinion he thought the Council would be unsuccessful.

He advised that if the Council were unsuccessful in securing the funding, discussions with British Gas were ongoing in respect of extending the current agreement for assistance with cavity wall insulation, although the Council would need to meet the balance from its own resources.

Members were keen to know when a decision would be made in respect of the bid. The Head of Housing stated that confirmation was already due and if the Council were successful in their bid, then the necessary approvals from Council and Cabinet would be sought.

The Chairman referred to the current discussions with British Gas and was keen to know how much funding would be required to meet the balance from the Council's own resources if the current agreement was extended. The Head of Housing stated that further discussions would take place depending on the outcome of the bid.

AGREED:

- (A) That an update be received at the next meeting in respect of the current position concerning the bid for additional funding from the Government for cavity wall insulation.
- (B) That an update be received with regard to extending the current agreement with British Gas.

#### Councillor A Bernard – Identification of Vulnerable Households

Consideration was given to the Briefing Note of the Chairman of the Healthier Communities and Older People Policy Development Committee (Enclosure 4.4 – 4.5 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Head of Housing stated that 2,172 properties were linked with the Council's central alarm system, 125 sheltered scheme properties received support from Scheme Managers, 40 elderly households received support from the Council's Vulnerable Adults Tenancy Support Officer, and the Council's Generic Support Officer provided intensive support to 15 households which primarily comprised young people setting up home for the first time. He also advised the Committee that a further 109 vulnerable Council tenants were

provided with support through specialist agencies.

He reported that whilst it was proposed to collect "tenant profile" information on a comprehensive basis, details of the most vulnerable tenants were already held. However, the current housing IT system could not integrate the data with other source functions and would require considerable development before this could be achieved. As the current system was over 10 years old it has been agreed to replace the system and this action formed part of the agreed Priority Delivery Plan.

In response to a question by a Member, the Head of Housing provided a scenario and of how the linking of tenant profile information to other service functions would result in improvements to the housing service.

A Member referred to the Council's central alarm system and asked if people in private accommodation were aware of the services provided by the Council. The Head of Housing stated that he understood that services such as the alarm system were promoted by the Head of Environmental Services.

The Chairman was keen to know the views from the PCT's perspective in respect of the linking of information via IT systems. Mr Jonathan Bletcher, South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust stated that from the PCT's point of view information would be stored through services such as Social Care and Health and HealthNet although they could work with other partners to improve the systems currently used.

The Chairman discussed the possibility of other partners having access to the Council's housing system in order that the information stored could be readily available to partners. The Head of Housing stated that the information would be subject to data protection requirements and this would need to be further investigated.

Members were keen that repetition did not occur of work previously undertaken by the Healthier Communities, Housing and Older People Committee and suggested that the new District Director of Social Care and Health be invited to the next meeting following the work previously undertaken by the previous Director, Phil Smith.

A Member referred to the Council's central alarm system and stated that there was a requirement to raise the level of awareness of the system, which would provide vulnerable people with a certain level of reassurance that they could contact someone for help.

AGREED:

- (A) That the new District Director of Social Care and Health be invited to the next meeting of the Committee on 14 September, 2009 in respect of the work previously undertaken by the previous Director, Phil Smith at the former Healthier Communities, Housing and Older People Select Committee.
- (B) That Cabinet be requested to consider the need to raise the level of awareness by advertising the Council's central alarm system for vulnerable people.

#### Councillor G.N. Molineux – Information on the Priority Delivery Plan (PDP)

Councillor Molineux stated that he was progressing with this item, although Mr Steve Shilvock, Head of Environmental Health pointed out that Quarter 1 performance against the PDP would be received at the next meeting.

#### Councillors Mrs. M.A. Davis – Mental Health Patients Follow Up Care

Councillor Mrs. Davis stated that she was currently progressing with this item.

#### Councillor R. Jones – Technology and Equipment for the Vulnerable

Councillor R. Jones made reference to Solihull MBC and stated that not all local authorities were the same in terms of the equipment they provided for the vulnerable. He stated that he was currently progressing with the item and would have more information available at the next meeting.

AGREED:

That updates be received from Members at the next meeting on 14 September, 2009 with regard to the research being undertaken in respect of the areas of the Committees' Priority Delivery Plan.

### **8. Presentation – South Staffordshire PCT**

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Jonathan Bletcher and Ms. Wendy Anderson from South Staffordshire PCT who gave a presentation to Members on the Cannock Chase Adult Weight Management Service.

Mr. Bletcher provided a report to Members of the Committee in respect of the introduction of Adult Weight Management for the Cannock Chase area. The report set out the framework which would be aligned to the Health and Wellbeing Service for the District.

The key points of the report stated that the overall aim was to contribute to the delivery of the local Public Service Agreement that related to obesity – that was : -

- By 2010, to halt the year on year increase in overweight and obesity.
- Decrease the number of patients aged 15-75 on a GP register with a BMI of 30 or greater in the last 15 months as a percentage of the total number of people aged 15-76 years on the GP register.
- The service would be designed to be widely accessible to all with a focus on those with the greatest need.

The models of intervention had been further developed and the framework comprised the following interrelated tiers: -

Tier 1 – Primary Prevention programmes would target 'risk' groups. Those groups included those at risk of becoming obese, those who are stopping smoking, families where one or more parents are overweight or obese and other social groups.

Tier 2 and 3 – management of those that are overweight and obese. The services would be based on individual needs, circumstances and readiness to change behaviour. Would combine trained support, advice on diet and physical activity etc.

Tier 4 – This would be surgical procedures (e.g., gastric banding).

Mr. Bletcher also reported on the Care Pathway and Commissioning Intentions and timescales.

Ms. Anderson gave a presentation on the health trainer service was launched in November, 2008 and 7 health trainers had been appointed in August 2008 and undertook a 6 week training assessment.

The service currently provided one to one diet and lifestyle intervention to overweight and obese people, the service was delivered in GP practices and the PCT were looking to extend to other locations.

Ms. Anderson reported on the outcomes of the health trainer service and stated that the service had been running less than a year however the PCT were on target.

Information was provided on how a referral would take place from the Primary Care Team or Secondary Care, slimming on referral, the Waist Lines Service and the Tier 4 Bariatric surgery.

Future developments at Tier 2 included pilot seated exercise classes, a new childhood weight management service and healthy eating and cookery workshops. At Tier 3 future developments included referring patients to exercise on referral and linking childhood tier 3 obesity services.

Members were keen to know if work in respect of weight management was taking place in schools. Mr. Bletcher referred to the Public Health 5 year plan and stated that work was being carried out with schools in a family context but would need to provide information at a separate meeting of the Committee.

In response to a question by Members, Mr. Bletcher stated that some sections of Tier 1 were up and running, however further work would be required and the 5 year plan provided more detail.

The Chairman stated that she would like to be kept informed on the progression and the effect the programme was having on people in respect of the Health Trainer Services Outcomes – Number clients referred: 540 at a future meeting of the Committee. Mr. Bletcher advised that evaluations were carried out at 1, 3, 6 and 12 months.

The Chairman was keen to know if there was any support the Council could provide to the PCT with regard to the Adult Weight Management Service. Mr. Bletcher stated that the Council already supported Healthfit and indicated that the leisure scheme was also of benefit as some clients were referred to the leisure scheme. Furthermore, he advised the Committee that the old practice room at the Chase Leisure Centre would be converted in order that PCT services could access it, and would be available for people with certain health related conditions to use.

Members discussed the Weight Management Service and the possibility of visiting health trainers to discuss certain issues. Mr. Bletcher advised that if Members of the Committee wished to see individuals they would need to seek their permission first.

AGREED:

That a visit be arranged for Members of the Committee to meet Health Trainers as part of South Staffordshire PCT's Adult Weight Management Service

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CHAIRMAN