

SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 20TH APRIL, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor G. Thomas [Chair]

Councillors:

S.M. Allen, S.M. Caiach, I.W. Davies, T.T. Defis, D.J.R. Llewellyn, K. Madge, E. Morgan, J. Owen, E.G. Thomas, J.S. Williams and M.J.A. Lewis (In place of W.T. Evans).

Also in attendance:

Councillor J. Tremlett, Executive Board Member for Social Care & Health

The following Officers were in attendance:

Mr R. Staines - Head of Housing & Public Protection
Ms S. Sauro - Performance, Analysis and Systems Manager
Mrs M. Evans Thomas - Principal Democratic Services Officer

Chamber, County Hall, Carmarthen : 10.00 a.m. - 10.55 a.m.

1. APOLOGIES AND OTHER MATTERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors W.T. Evans, B.A.L. Roberts and J. Williams.

The Chair referred to the fact that Councillors T.T. Defis, D.J.R. Llewellyn, J. Williams and J.S. Williams would not be returning after the elections. She thanked them for their valued contribution to the work of the Committee and wished them well for the future.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

Councillor	Minute No(s)	Nature of Interest
Councillor K. Madge	Minute No 5 – Communities Departmental Business Plan 2017-20.	His daughter works in Social Services and his wife works in Amman Valley Hospital.

3. DECLARATION OF PROHIBITED PARTY WHIPS

There were no declarations of prohibited party whips.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

The Chair advised that no public questions had been received.

5. COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS PLAN 2017-20

[NOTE: Councillor K. Madge had earlier declared an interest in this item.]

The Committee considered a report providing an update on progress made against departmental priorities in respect of the social care and health elements contained within the Communities Departmental Business Plan 2017-20.

The following issues/observations were raised on the report:-

- Reference was made to the difficulties faced by staff as the budget continues to decrease while demand continues to increase and officers were thanked and congratulated for all the work they do for the people of Carmarthenshire;
- Asked what are the biggest challenges faced by the department in relation to social care and health. The Head of Housing & Public Protection stated that one of the challenges is the demand and the changes in demand, however, one of the greatest challenges is the workforce. He referred to the fact that in England 900 paid carers leave the care sector every day and it was therefore essential to ensure that we have a trained and experienced workforce in place in order to be able to redeploy. He stressed the importance of making sure that caring is regarded as a valued and worthwhile profession;
- Reference was made to the number of awards won by the Authority's social care staff at the British Association of Social Work Cymru Awards in October and the staff were congratulated on their achievements and thanked for their dedication and commitment.

RESOLVED that that the Communities Departmental Business Plan 2017-20 be received.

6. SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ACTIONS AND REFERRALS UPDATE

The Committee considered a report detailing progress made in relation to actions, requests or referrals which emerged from previous meetings of the Committee

RESOLVED that the update report be received.

7. EXPLANATION FOR NON-SUBMISSION OF SCRUTINY REPORT

The Committee received a report detailing the reasons for the non-submission of the following scrutiny reports:-

- Local Action Plan in response to Jasmine Report (including WG Escalating Concerns Procedures)
- Welsh Language in Social Care Services for Older People

RESOLVED that the explanations for the non-submissions be noted.

8. MINUTES - 6TH MARCH 2017

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6th March, 2017 be signed as a correct record.

CHAIR

DATE