

Adult and Community Services Overview Committee

Minutes of a meeting held at
County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester on 16 April 2014.

Present:

William Trite (Chairman)

David Walsh (Vice-Chairman)

Michael Bevan, Ronald Coatsworth, Robin Cook, Fred Drane, Beryl Ezzard, Ros Kayes, Paul Kimber, Kate Wheller and John Wilson.

Toni Coombs (Cabinet Member for Education and Communications), Spencer Flower (Leader of Cabinet), Robert Gould (Cabinet Member for Corporate Resources), Jill Haynes (Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care), and Rebecca Knox, Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding and Families, attended under Standing Order 54(1).

Officers:

Catherine Driscoll (Director for Adult and Community Services), Andrew Archibald (Head of Adult Services), Glen Gocoul (Head of Specialist Adult Services), Paul Leivers (Head of Community Services), Phil Rook (Group Finance Manager for Adult and Community Services), Alison Waller (Head of Commissioning and Improvement) and Rebecca Guest (Senior Democratic Services Officer).

For certain items as appropriate:

Harry Capron (Programme Director, Better Together Programme), Ivan Hancock (Trading Standards Service Manager), and Simon Parker (County Emergency Planning Officer).

Also in attendance

Mike Walsh and Russell Thompson, Directors of Care and Health Solutions (Minute 49).

(Note: These minutes have been prepared by officers as a record of the meeting and of any decisions reached. They are to be considered and confirmed at the next meeting of the Adult and Community Services Overview Committee on **23 June 2014**.)

Apology for Absence

39. An apology for absence was received from David Jones.

Code of Conduct

40. Ros Kayes declared a disclosable pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct at minute 59 in respect of Revenue Budget Monitoring 2013/14, including Forward Together (Residual Meeting Future Challenges (MFC) update) as she was a Director of a Social Enterprise that received funding.

Minutes

41. The minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2014 were confirmed and will be signed, subject to the wording of the first sentence of minute 22.3 being amended to read 'Members noted that the Peer Review held in March 2014 identified that Dorset was more generous and provided more support than other Local Authorities'.

Matters Arising

Minute 18.4 – the Reconfiguration of Phoenix House

42.1 The Chairman informed the Committee that the outcome of the consultations and future recommendations for Phoenix House would be reported back to the Adult and Community Services Overview Committee on 23 June 2014, and to the Cabinet in July 2014.

Public ParticipationPublic Speaking

43.1 There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(1).

43.2 There were no public statements received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(2).

Petitions

44. There were no petitions received in accordance with the County Council's petition scheme at this meeting.

Pathways to Independence Programme - Update

45.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Adult and Community Services to update members on the Pathways to Independence Programme being implemented within the Adult and Community Services Directorate. It followed the vision for Pathways to Independence which was agreed by Adult and Community Services Overview Committee and the Cabinet in December 2013.

45.2 Members noted that Pathways to Independence was a 3-5 year programme that would redesign the way the County Council delivered adult social care services. It was expected to generate £7M savings by 2015/16 (£3.8M in 2014/15 and £3.2M 2015/16).

45.3 There were three main elements to the Programme: the future of provider services (£2M savings target); review of packages of care (£1.5M savings target); and Directorate restructure (£1.5M savings target, of 5% of the overall staffing budget). Members were asked to note that £2M of savings had already been delivered through joint working arrangements with the National Health Service (£1.6M) and use of the Public Health Grant to fund the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) (£0.4M).

45.4 The Director for Adult and Community Services highlighted that the Programme also related to the way in which the Directorate delivered help and support to users and met its statutory duties.

45.5 A member raised her concern that the newly established Adult and Community Services Challenge Group was unconstitutional and it was suggested that this include cross party representation. This was supported by another member of the Committee. The Chairman advised that he would look into the members' concern. The Director for Adult and Community Services confirmed that the Head of Legal and Democratic Services/ Monitoring Officer had confirmed that the membership of the Challenge Group was appropriate. The existence of officer groups were consistent with other County Council Programmes. In addition, all decisions were made by members following referral to the Cabinet or Council for determination.

45.6 Members highlighted the advantages of elected members working together with officers, including the prospect of a more successful Programme and visible accountability.

45.7 A member strongly voiced his objections to the Programme and stated that he believed these to be in contradiction to his member champion role. These concerns had been sent to the Director for Adult and Community Services via email, and he advised that he remained unconvinced of the Programme's merits. In particular he referred to the use of telephone assessments, the need to introduce an Executive Advisory Panel, monitoring of the Programme, and the implications of any restructure to the Directorate and its staff. It was suggested that telephone assessments be permanently deleted from the Programme. This was supported by another member of the Committee who, while acknowledging both

Adult and Community Services Overview Committee – 16 April 2014

time and budget constraints, advised that elderly people, particularly those with dementia, could easily get confused during a telephone call.

45.8 In light of concerns raised regarding member participation, a member proposed that the report's recommendations be amended and that a further paper be presented including greater member involvement to the next committee meeting, and including the establishment of an Executive Advisory Panel (EAP). The proposal was seconded.

45.9 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care advised that members would be involved and via the Cabinet, a couple of EAPs would be set up to achieve the Programme's aims.

45.10 The Director for Adult and Community Services informed members that telephone assessments were only being considered in relation to people affected by the Care Bill's funding reforms. This would have huge financial implications for the Council as 80% of people in care homes currently paid for their own care. It was proposed, in the absence of information held in relation to these people, and insufficient numbers of social workers to perform face-to-face assessments, that telephone assessments be carried out. The alternatives would have serious resource implications for the Directorate.

45.11 In regards to recent recruitment, the Director advised that funds had been made available via the Forward Together Transformation Programme for human resources and accountancy officers to be recruited (the latter being employed internally if the need arose). Currently there were no details regarding the restructure or potential staff reductions, but she assured members that she would try to protect front line services.

45.12 The Leader of the County Council welcomed members' enthusiasm to participate and confirmed the sensitive nature of the issues being addressed. He reiterated that the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care had stated that EAPs would be established to assist the Programme, but asked members to be aware of the short timescales available to complete such a major piece of work. He assured members that they would not be prevented from taking part in the discussions, but he repeated the need for timely decision making.

45.13 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care advised that money had been spent on learning disability specialists as an invest to save, using money previously agreed by the Cabinet to ultimately reduce high costs. The Challenge Group had been set up by the Chief Executive as a discussion group to highlight the direction of the Programme and discuss best practices. Development of the Challenge Group had been swift to help progress the Programme. She assured members that the Cabinet would discuss greater member involvement.

45.14 Members discussed the report's recommendations, and the amendment. They supported greater member involvement, but agreed that they could not wait for the next meeting to receive an additional paper. The proposer suggested that the amendment be revised to highlight members' concerns and ask that the Challenge Group include cross party membership.

45.15 The Director for Adult and Community Services reiterated that there was a number of Challenge Groups across the County Council and that this recommendation would be too restrictive. The Leader of the County Council asked for greater clarity in the recommendation. He reminded members that EAPs were by definition cross party panels and he confirmed that a number of Challenge Groups existed that could not be underpinned by the Committee's recommendation. He assured members that the members' points had been noted and that the establishment of an EAP was the appropriate mechanism for member participation.

45.16 The proposer of the amendment disagreed with Challenge Groups not having member involvement, but due to timescales, agreed to amend her proposal, asking that a cross party EAP be set up that clearly linked to the work of the Challenge Group.

45.17 The Leader of the County Council reiterated that the recommendation was overly complicated as EAPs were cross party. He advised members that the Cabinet might have to reject the recommendation, if it found it unacceptable.

45.18 The Group Finance Manager informed members that principles were already in place in regards to EAPs and systems were in place to manage these. The Chairman confirmed that members' concerns regarding the initial lack of member involvement had been noted.

45.19 As a result of the discussions, the proposer revised her amendment.

Resolved

46. That the progress made in relation to the Pathways to Independence Programme be considered and noted.

Recommended

47. That the Cabinet set up an Executive Advisory Panel to determine the direction of travel in relation to the Pathways to Independence Programme.

Reason for Recommendation

48. Pathways to Independence would ensure the Forward Together Programme was fully implemented to secure both the organisational benefits and financial savings necessary to deliver a balanced budget up to and beyond 2016/17.

Options for In-House Provider Services – Adult Social Care

49.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Adult and Community Services that highlighted the main issues and outlined the medium term viability of the future options for in-house services for Adult Social Care. Adult and Community Services was redesigning the way it delivered adult social care services to ensure high quality services continued while meeting the requirements of the Care Bill and other national legislation, and contributed to the County Council's financial challenges.

49.2 The Director for Adult and Community Services advised that the report was being presented to members to fully engage with them on proposed changes to provider services. She reminded members that the Cabinet had approved progression to a full business case in December 2013. To move towards that goal, Care and Health Solutions had been engaged to produce a high level options appraisal and outline business case for provider services. Members were asked to note that the report was for information at this time, and not for approval as a full business plan had not been completed. When finalised, the chosen business plan would need Council approval, via the Cabinet.

49.3 The Group Finance Manager highlighted the need for the preferred option to complement a list of influences/factors. The preferred business plan would detail the impact on support services, and work in tandem with the Better Together Programme. Every aspect was being carefully considered and officers were currently working with Legal Services regarding associated employer and legal implications. The Head of Specialist Adult Services advised that at a meeting held last week, staff had discussed options and were very positive about the potential changes.

49.4 The Chairman welcomed Mike Walsh and Russell Thompson, Directors of Care and Health Solutions to the meeting. The Directors introduced themselves and their company, reassuring members that they were well placed to understand the challenges and

offer workable solutions. Members were advised that if the County Council failed to change its current practices there would be financial consequences. While there were a number of constraints facing the Council, they were confident that savings and income generation were possible, if more sustainable proposals were accepted. They assured members that the Council was in full control of the way the County Council moved forward, and that Care and Health Solutions were there to offer advice and guidance.

49.5 A member raised a number of concerns. In particular he referred to the ability to influence a culture change within months, rather than years; the lack of elected members on the proposed Board; and lack of expertise on the membership of the shareholder communications group. It was suggested that an elected member be on the Board as an observer to enable decisions to be monitored. This was supported by other members. Care and Health Solutions advised that they would consider a member on the Board to be a conflict of interest, as the County Council had commissioned the Company. Ultimately, it would be for the Council, through the business plan to decide who would be on the Board. However, they would promote the inclusion of someone who understood balance sheets and profit and loss accounts.

49.6 A member sought assurances that the ageing population within Dorset had been taken into consideration and voiced concerns on the effect of the proposals on staffs' motivation levels. The Directors of Care and Health Solutions reiterated that the needs of the County Council had to be satisfied by the creation of any Local Authority Trading Company (LATC) and the contract terms for any such company, including penalties, key performance indicators etc would be determined by the Council.

49.7 A member voiced her approval of LATCs, confirming that these could be successful. However, she raised concerns that it could have commercial principles, seeking to make money to provide services and most importantly the potential for the company to launch into a different vehicle. Care and Health Solutions advised that when writing their report, they had to provide general context and all options were made available. It was for their clients to make the final choice. They stated that each year the LATC would have to present a report to the County Council, and its terms and conditions of staff could not be amended without County Council approval.

49.8 Further concerns were voiced regarding the impact on staff of a two tier workforce. The Director for Adult and Community Services advised that she was clear when commissioning the appraisal, that she would not support a business case that would drive down pay rates and encourage inequality. However she emphasised the need to remove current unsustainable inequalities and to be able to justify pay and conditions to the general public.

49.9 In response to a statement, Care and Health Solutions advised that in their experience staff were excited and motivated to be part of their own company. As all employees made a contribution to the way in which the company was run, this helped to energise the workforce.

49.10 The Director for Adult and Community Services highlighted the options available, stating that the time had come to progress a change in the way adult social care services were delivered. This had been met with enthusiasm by both managers and staff. Consideration of a number of options was important to enable the County Council to state why, if appropriate, a LATC was the appropriate choice. In response to a question, she advised that ultimately the County Council was exploring options for geographical Dorset. However initially this would be unfeasible due to ownership, operational and governance issues.

49.11 A number of members voiced their initial agreement with the proposal to set up a LATC, but also voiced the need to proceed with caution. The need to protect the County Council's services and reputation was paramount.

Noted

Better Care Fund and Better Together Draft Business Plan

50.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Adult and Community Services that informed members of the updated Better Care Fund (previously referred to as the Integration Transformation Fund), which was announced in June as part of the 2013 Spending Round.

50.2 The Better Care Fund provided an opportunity to improve the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in society, giving them control, placing them at the centre of their own care and support, and, in doing so, providing them with a better service and better quality of life. The Plan encompassed a substantial level of funding to help local areas manage pressures and improve long term sustainability.

50.3 The Plan had been scrutinised by both the Dorset, and Bournemouth and Poole Health and Wellbeing Boards. Each statutory Health and Wellbeing Board would sign off the plan for its constituent councils and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs). The Fund Plan must be developed as a fully integral part of a CCG's wider strategic and operational plan, but the Better Care Fund elements must be capable of being extracted to be seen as a stand-alone plan. At least 70% of the Plan, and attached matrix, had to be delivered in order to attract the appropriate funding. This highlighted the need to achieve successful joint working and integration of the Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole councils' adult social care functions with the health sector in Dorset.

50.4 Formal feedback from the NHS England Area Team for the Better Together Programme was still awaited, however it had confirmed that the plan was acceptable and no issues had been raised to date. The Programme was one of the biggest, financially, in the country. However members were asked to note that there would not be a single pooled budget. It would be made up of a number of shared financial planning mechanisms.

50.5 Further work in relation to the Better Care Fund would be required following submission in respect of contingency planning, costing the benefits of each initiative and identifying the use of the social care grant for 2015/16. The £1.1bn which local authorities would already have received in 2014/15 would continue to be distributed using the existing formula, so each area would continue to get the same amount of the £1.1bn. However from 2015/16 this would be distributed through CCG allocations.

50.6 A member raised concern over the governance of the Programme and the possible peer pressure from partner organisations to reduce costs, at the expense of service provision. While caution was advised, members requested that all be done to ensure that people did not sit in acute beds unnecessarily and that proposed alternative initiatives were successful.

50.7 A member questioned the risks of the Programme, as the report listed both the current and residual risks as 'high'. The Programme Director, Better Together Programme, acknowledged that the delivery of targets was going to be very difficult with the pace that had been given. This had been recognised nationally, however the Programme was achievable, with the appropriate joint working and finances in place. The biggest challenge was to give assurances to protect adult services. A cautious response has been submitted from the Health and Wellbeing Boards deliberately. The determination to implement the changes was evident in both. Members noted that resources would have to be moved to meet service needs and the Pathways to Independence Programme would help deliver the Better Together Programme.

50.8 Members were advised that there was a series of outcome measures that would be fed back to the Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board and Overview Committee to keep members abreast of developments.

Noted

Trading Standards Service Delivery Plan 2014/15

51.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Adult and Community Services that set out the proposed Trading Standards Service Delivery Plan (TSSDP) for 2014/15. Particular aspects of food and feed standards enforcement and age restricted sales enforcement were highlighted, as required annually.

51.2 The main elements of the draft TSSDP were presented, particularly where emphasis was changing to reflect changing circumstances. Members noted that the overall objectives were not fundamentally altered, but in several areas the approach had been updated and reflected the changing trading environment and legal demands.

51.3 The Trading Standards Service Manager advised of the work undertaken with the South West and Bournemouth and Poole Trading Standards teams, and that through regional and national forums, there was access to significant funds.

51.4 Members sought clarification regarding the work undertaken by officers to protect vulnerable people against scams and the support given to people to help them confidently remain in their own homes. The Trading Standards Service Manager informed members that his team could help people in regards to rogue traders using consumer legislation, where the Police may not be able to. However, this was restricted to the United Kingdom (UK). The City of London Police had powers and mechanisms to deal with scammers outside the UK.

51.5 Confirmation was also given that officers actively worked at Portland Port and worked closely with other Ports in the local area to check on goods coming in, with UK trading standards officers sharing information on imported goods problems. External funding was available to analyse samples taken. The ongoing approval of analysts for food standards work was questioned and confirmation was given that previous changes to delegation now meant that any changes to the appointment of Public Analysts to work on behalf of the County Council were now made by the Director after consultation with the Cabinet Member.

51.6 In response to a question, the Trading Standards Service Manager advised that the regional Trading Standards Partnership South West gained funding for certain projects, that in turn Dorset's TSS could participate in and gain funding from. Dorset's TSS did not work in isolation and would continue to gain value from collaborative arrangements. The regional partnership, in line with many other regional trading standards groupings, was currently considering options around establishing a limited company to ensure that funding opportunities could be maximised and risks to individuals and authorities minimised. Authority was being sought to engage with any such company or legal partnership developments, to assist appropriate partnership arrangements.

Recommended

52. That the Cabinet be recommended to:

- (a) approve, subject to any amendments by members, the draft Trading Standards Service Delivery Plan (incorporating a revised Enforcement Policy, a specific Food and Feed Service Plan, and the Age Restricted Sales Enforcement Programme), for 2014/15; and
- (b) approve in principle the participation by Trading Standards Service in any limited company or corporate structure required to enable more effective

collaborative working on operational trading standards activity (subject to consideration of any business case by the Directors for Adult and Community Services and for Corporate Resources after consultation with their Cabinet Portfolio Holders).

Reasons for Recommendation

53.1 The TSSDP sets out how the Service would address its statutory duties, local demands, central government department priorities and contribution to the County Council's aims and performance measurement. A revised Enforcement Policy was included to meet the needs of a new Regulators' Code and to underline a commitment to supporting businesses through advice and guidance where appropriate.

53.2 To accord with the requirement of the Food Standards Agency's Framework Agreement on Local Authority Food Law Enforcement that the Food Service Plans for food enforcement authorities be produced and approved by Councils.

53.3 A planned programme of enforcement activity for dealing with the illegal sale of age-restricted products helps protect young people and their communities from the adverse and possible addictive effects of these products.

53.4 It contributed to the new aim of growing our local economy.

Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board Draft Business Plan for 2014/15

54.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Adult and Community Services that sought members' comments and observations on the Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board (DSAB) annual Business Plan. The Business Plan sits within the Board's 3 year strategy and was presented to the DSAB's meeting on 27 March 2014. The plan was being circulated to all agencies for consideration and comments, to ensure a robust final plan be presented to the Board for agreement at a future date.

54.2 From 2014, the DSAB was required to produce an annual report to describe how best to protect adults in vulnerable situations, and to report on its progress. Much of the content and substance of the report reflected on the progress made in the implementation of the Business Plan for the preceding year. The Overview Committee would have an opportunity to consider the Annual Report for 2013-14 at its meeting in June 2014.

54.3 Members noted that the diverse plan had been drawn from sub-groups of the Board. Through regular reports, safeguarding issues were highlighted and the Plan contributed towards long term solutions.

54.4 The Head of Specialist Adult Services clarified that MCA stood for Mental Capacity Act, and he explained that the Winterbourne Action Plan was as a direct result of service user abuse at the Winterbourne View private hospital in South Gloucestershire during in 2012.

Noted

Civil Contingencies and Emergency Planning arrangements for Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole

55.1 The Committee considered a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director for Adult and Community Services that detailed a business plan that had been presented for consideration by Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Local Resilience Forum (LRF) members which advocated the formation of a permanent Civil Contingencies Unit (CCU) for the LRF. This followed on from a recent six months pilot of the approach.

55.2 Recent floods and adverse weather showed how important both planning for and response to incidents were. The performance of Dorset County Council and other statutory agencies, local community leaders and the voluntary sector from December 2013

Adult and Community Services Overview Committee – 16 April 2014

through to February 2014 was positive. However there was acknowledgement that improvements in multi-agency planning and preparation was required.

55.3 The LRF, the executive group of which was chaired by the Chief Constable, was the key body, having local responsibilities covering the police force area and was an important channel of communication with the Cabinet Office and Government.

55.4 Collaborative arrangements for emergency planning had been trialled through a six month pilot for a CCU, undertaken by a Steering Group chaired by the Chief Fire Officer, with representatives from the County Council, Police, the Borough of Poole, Bournemouth Borough Council, South Western Ambulance Services NHS Foundation Trust, the Environment Agency and District Councils.

55.5 Members were asked to consider the proposal to set up a substantive CCU. The report outlined the benefits, risks and indicative costs of the approach, together with the options and rationales.

55.6 Members expressed concern that they had not seen the 'lessons to be learnt' document referred to within the report, and that they were being asked to make recommendations based on incomplete information. The Head of Community Services advised that he could provide the missing document and he gave members a summary of its contents. He highlighted a number of tensions between councils, in particular in regards to financial arrangements. Further work had been initiated to bring clarity and to highlight what services would be delivered by Dorset County Council versus the CCU.

55.7 The County Emergency Planning Officer informed members that he was working closely with the six district councils. All wanted to see savings but not a reduction of service delivery. This was a challenge to all councils and the district councils were still considering their positions as to future arrangements with the CCU and the County Council. He also expressed his concern as to the effectiveness of the CCU in delivering required outcomes in light of recent experience to the winter severe weather response and from the output from the end of the pilot period.

55.8 Greater member engagement was encouraged and officers were asked that following the February 2014 storms, a discussion take place to review weaknesses and strengths. Officers confirmed that this was a most challenging time, and it was recognised that better planning was required, especially in regards to the availability of sandbags.

55.9 Members reiterated their concerns and highlighted that the report gave a lack of conviction for the proposals. It also suggested that the CCU may cost more than the current arrangements. Neither was the report clear regarding services that would remain within County Hall. The Head of Community Services advised that due to the given timescales, officers determined that consultation with the Committee at an early stage was preferable. However it was recognised that work was in progress and greater detail would be presented to the Cabinet. He stated that the report highlighted risks and challenges, offering an opportunity for these to be addressed. There was acknowledgement that significant work was required before the CCU was signed off, but members were asked to note that the County Council could not sit outside multi-agency work in this respect. In regards to staffing numbers at the County Council, a skeleton team of four officers would remain to minimise risk.

55.10 Members discussed the report's recommendations and raised concerns as to the move away from the County Council providing emergency planning services and wished to see further evidence as noted in 55.9 above. While concerns had been voiced in recommending the report to the Cabinet in its current form, members were reassured by officers that they would be able to present further evidence to the Cabinet. Clarification was

given regarding the suggested decision making authority. As a result of discussions, an amendment on the final recommendation listed within the report, was proposed and agreed.

Recommended

56. That the Cabinet be recommended to approve:
- (i) full engagement in any new approach to civil contingencies and emergency planning in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole; having regard to the County Council's past contribution to emergency planning and its commitment to multi-agency working through the Local Resilience Forum;
 - (ii) further work to be carried out to clarify annual revenue costs, transitional costs and details in relation to human resources (HR) considerations;
 - (iii) further work to be carried out to ensure that all parties have a clear view of the detail of changes proposed in the transition between services currently provided for district councils by the County Council and the CCU; and
 - (iv) that if necessary and unavoidable, the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Leader of the County Council, be granted delegated authority for final decision-making.

Reason for Recommendation

57. The proposal related to the County Council vision and both aims:
- (i) **Vision**
Working together for a strong and successful Dorset
 - (ii) **Aims**
Growing our local economy
Enhancing health, wellbeing and safeguarding

Bridport Engagement and Consultation

58.1 The Committee received a verbal report by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and the Head of Commissioning and Improvement on the outcome of a major public engagement and consultation programme about adult social care services delivery in Bridport, which ended on 7 March 2014.

58.2 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care emphasised that this was a new way for the Council to engage with people in Dorset. She advised members that with strategic partners, alternative premises to Sidney Gale House were being considered. There was potential for a Local Authority Trading Company (LATC) or Housing Association to erect a fit for purpose building. In addition the service would also provide extra care and an extra building.

58.3 Through consultation the County Council had established how the community wanted day services to be provided. Feed back established that this should be in the form of a community hub, which should provide service information and a safe environment for people to enjoy. The next part of the process was to identify sites where the care home and extra care housing building could be located.

58.4 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care advised that there had been good engagement with the community and this should be continued. Service users wanted to be engaged in the design of any building and this was to be encouraged. The challenge was now how to engage more with younger people. To achieve this, less formal meeting places were being considered.

58.5 The County Council Members for Bridport and Beaminster expressed their pleasure with the level of consultation that had taken place and welcomed the continued involvement of local member groups and wider consultation.

Noted

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2013/14, including Forward Together (Residual Meeting Future Challenges (MFC) update)

(Ros Kayes declared a disclosable pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct in respect of Revenue Budget Monitoring 2013/14, including Forward Together (Residual Meeting Future Challenges (MFC) update) as she was a Director of a Social Enterprise that received funding.)

59.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Corporate Resources which reported on the budget monitoring for the Adult and Community Services Directorate at the end of February 2014, which included the Forward Together Programme.

59.2 The Adult and Community Services Group Finance Manager summarised the current financial position which showed a forecast overspend against service budgets for the County Council of £3,735k compared to £5,665k at the end of November 2013.

59.3 It was noted that the overspend would be offset by the forecast underspend on other central budgets of £4,733k meaning a net forecast underspend of £998k, largely from lower than expected borrowing costs, additional interest receipts and the Council's contingency budget. The position for the Adult and Community Services Directorate was a forecast overspend of £984k.

59.4 The Committee acknowledged that the Adult and Community Services Directorate's projected overspend was in relation to Specialist Adult Services (£2,703k), Adult Services (£338k) and Dorset Adult Learning (£321k). However, it was also noted that there were underspends in all other parts of the Directorate.

59.5 Members received clarification in regards to the Dorset Adult Learning budget and were advised that the report contained transitional costs relating to the academic reporting year to how Dorset Adult Learning is funded. The financial situation had now improved with the new services hosted by Bournemouth and Poole.

Noted

Corporate Performance Monitoring Report - Third Quarter 2013/14 and Draft Corporate Plan 2014/15

60.1 The Committee considered a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Director for Adult and Community Services on the monitoring of the County Council's Budget and Corporate Plan for the third quarter of 2013-14, with a specific focus on those elements of the plan which were managed by the Adult and Community Services Directorate.

60.2 The Director for Adult and Community Services introduced the report and commented that as the third quarter ended on 31 December 2013, the information within the report felt out of date. There was a need therefore to review the timings of the report to ensure relevant information was presented to members.

60.3 It was further explained that the 2014-15 Corporate Plan, which included the new Forward Together Programme, would demonstrate a significant change of direction from the current plan. While it was unusual for a Corporate Plan to be for a one year period, this would allow for an intensive community engagement programme to be undertaken. This would subsequently deliver a sharper focus for future Plans.

60.4 Members commented that the Corporate Plan did not do enough to proactively encourage economic growth. Further details were requested. In addition further information was requested on opportunities that were available for school leavers. Members were asked to note that this was outside the Committee's remit.

Resolved

61. That the future reports be received in a more timely fashion.

Performance and Development Review (PDR) Completion 2013/14

62.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Adult and Community Services that set out the performance for the Directorate for the PDR cycle 2013/14, from data provided from the DES system on 1 January 2014. This reflected the information presented to the Staffing Committee on 3 February 2014.

62.2 Members noted that the Directorate's performance was higher than the average percentages achieved across the County Council, with 92.23% of PDRs completed and recorded. In addition 69.61% of mid year reviews were completed and recorded. Both were an increase on those reported in 2012/13.

62.3 The Directorate Management Team (DMT) monitored the PDR performance of the individual services on an ongoing and regular basis, and action was being taken to seek improvement in the reporting of PDRs and PDR reviews.

62.4 Members acknowledged the improvements made by the Directorate despite the challenging work environment.

Noted**Policy Development Panels****Policy Development Panel on Charging for Social Care Services**

63.1 The Chairman of the Panel presented an verbal update, advising members that the Panel was hoping to consider the implications of the Care Bill, however this would not receive Royal Assent until May 2014.

63.2 The Panel were advised of work officers were undertaking using a cost model sponsored by the Association of Directors of Adult of Social Care (ADASS). Early indications showed the initial financial impact to be the region of £24m, although this was subject to further work. It was recognised that under the Bill, carers would have a legal right to an assessment and this alone would have a huge financial impact on the Authority.

63.3 As a result of this initial work, it was recommended that the Panel's Terms of Reference be reviewed and a revised timeline produced to ensure compliance and preparation for the Care Bill to be achieved. Further advice and guidance was being sought from officers about the impact of any delays or amalgamation with Care Bill preparation work.

Noted**Future Topics for Policy Development Panels**

64. It was noted that there were no additional topics to be considered by Policy Development Panels at present.

Noted**Adult and Community Services Overview Committee Work Programme 2014**

65.1 The Committee considered and agreed its work programme for 2014.

65.2 In light of the earlier discussion on the Pathways to Independence Programme, the Director for Adult and Community Services suggested that this be added to the work programme as a standing item. Specific topics would then be presented to each meeting of the Committee to facilitate detailed debate.

Resolved

66.1 That the work programme be noted.

66.2 That an outline report and specific topic relating to the Pathways to Independence Programme be presented as a standing item at future meetings.

Schedule of Member Seminars and Events 2014

67.1 The Committee received a schedule of forthcoming seminars and events arranged for members for the remainder of 2014.

67.2 The Director for Adult and Community Services informed members that a seminar on Pathways to Independence would be held after the Overview Committee meeting on 23 June at 2.00pm. Members were asked to note this date in their diaries.

Noted**Member Briefings**

68.1 Members were informed of the arrangements for member briefings following meetings of the Overview Committee.

68.2 A Member suggested that a summary on the main features of the Care Bill be presented at a future member briefing. The Director for Adult and Community Services advised that a briefing paper for members of the House of Commons would be circulated to Committee Members in addition to the proposed member briefing.

Noted**Outside Bodies**

69. There were no comments from members appointed to outside bodies received at the meeting.

Questions from Members of the Council

70. No questions were asked by members under Standing Order 20(2).

Meeting Duration: 10.00am – 1.40pm