

THE MORAY COUNCIL
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2009
COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors L Bell (Chairman), A McKay, J Cree, B Jarvis, G Leadbitter, G McIntyre, I Ogilvie, P Paul, D Ross, and A Wright.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Director of Community Services, the Acting Head of Community Care, the Integrated Learning, LD Services Manager, the Service Manager, Criminal Justice Services, the Contracts & Commissioning Manager, the Carers' Strategy and Development Officer, Mrs D Bosworth, Principal Accountant, Mrs R Gunn, Senior Solicitor (Litigation & Licensing), Mr D Westmacott, Committee Services Apprentice and Mrs S Kennedy, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Meeting.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors A McDonald, J Mackay and J Sharp.

1. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The meeting resolved that in terms of Section 50A(4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items of business appearing at the relevant paragraphs of this minute as specified below, so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Para No of Minute

Para No of Schedule 7A

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2. DECLARATION OF GROUP INTERESTS

There were no declarations from group leaders or spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how members will vote on any item on the Agenda or any declarations of Members Interest in respect of any item on the Agenda.

3. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

There were no written questions at this meeting.

4. COMMUNITY CARE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING 2009/10

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of the current position with regard to the Community Care and Criminal Justice Revenue and Capital budgets as at 30 September 2009 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

5. COMMUNITY CARE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER 2 JULY-SEPTEMBER 2009

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services asking the Committee to scrutinise progress made against priority areas and targets detailed in the Community Services' Service Improvement Plan and actioned by the Community Care and Criminal Justice Services to the end of quarter 2, (July - September 2009). The Committee was also asked to scrutinise progress against Performance Indicators and Complaints to the end of quarter 2, September 2009.

During discussion the Director of Community Services responded to members' concerns and questions and in particular with regard to paragraph 5.3.3, of the report relating to Forres and Keith mental health recovery centres, it was agreed that a reminder to review these in 2010/11 would be incorporated within the Service Plan.

Councillor Wright commended the good practice used in the reporting style which incorporated a 'Latest Note' column and stated that he was of the opinion that this should be rolled out across the Council.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed to:

- (i) note the performance against Community Care and Criminal Justice Service Performance Indicators, at the end of Quarter 2, (July-September 2009);
- (ii) note the progress against priorities identified in the Community Care and Criminal Justice Service Improvement Plans for Quarter 2, (July-September 2009);
- (iii) note the performance achieved by the Community Care and Criminal Justice Complaint Targets, at the end of Quarter 2, (July-September 2009);
- (iv) approve the removal of two priority actions from the Service Improvement Plan namely Priority 3.1 action 3 and Priority 3.3 action 6(a & b), detailed in sections 5.3.1 and 5.3.3, due to these having government or financial influences making them impossible to pursue in the current financial year subject to a reminder being incorporated in the Service Improvement Plan to ensure that these are reviewed in 2010/11; and

- (v) approve the format of this quarterly report.

6. GUIDANCE ON COMMUNITY SERVICE TO SUPPORT REVISED NATIONAL STANDARDS (UPDATE)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee of the progress made in relation to the operation of the revised National Standards for Community Service.

During discussions the Director of Community Services responded to members' concerns and questions with regard to Community Sentencing and in particular he advised that plaques and leaflets had been ordered to ensure that the public are made aware of the work being undertaken by offenders.

Thereafter, the Committee approved the progress made by the Criminal Justice Services in implementing the revised National Standards on Community Service.

7. NATIONAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee of confirmed guidance from Scottish Government in relation to the National Eligibility Criteria. The Committee also noted that the National Eligibility Criteria had been supported by Cosla Leaders.

8. UPDATE ON DIGITAL STORIES PROJECT

There was submitted a noted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of the progress being made with regard to the Digital Stories Project.

9. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions at this meeting.

10. PROPOSED DIRECT PAYMENT AGENCY RATE (PARA 9)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services asking the Committee to consider the introduction of an agency rate to the direct payment scheme.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to the introduction of a proposed agency rate subject to ensuring that all Clients are made aware of Employment Law conditions.

11. CURRENT STATUS OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE CONTRACTS (PARA 9)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services seeking Committee approval for a range of contracts.

Following consideration the Committee approved the contracts and the associated funding levels negotiated as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.