

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

**ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH
SUB-COMMITTEE**

5.00pm 1 NOVEMBER 2004

BRIGHTON TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Meadows (Chair), Councillors Allen, Burgess (Vice-Chair), Meegan, Morgan, Mrs Norman (OS), Older, Pidgeon, Williams and Willows.

PART ONE

ACTION

28. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

28.1 **RESOLVED** - That Councillor Burgess be elected as Vice-Chair for the remainder of the municipal year.

29. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

29A Declarations of Substitutes

29A.1 Councillor Allen substituted for Councillor Tonks. Councillor Pidgeon substituted for Councillor Wells.

29B Declarations of Interest

29B.1 Councillor Meegan declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in item 33 as he had a child who had Asperger Syndrome. Councillor Williams declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in item 33 as he was the council's representative on MIND, the mental health charity. Councillor Burgess declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in item 33 as his partner worked in Learning Disability services.

29C Exclusion of Press and Public

29C.1 The Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100A(3) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

29C.2 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any items on the agenda.

30. MINUTES

30.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2004 be approved and signed by the Chair.

31. MINUTES OF THE JOINT COMMISSIONING BOARD MEETING HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2004

31.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes be noted.

32. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

32.1 The Chair reported that the Audit Commission would be giving a presentation on the Review of Corporate Governance and Performance Management Arrangements on the Brighton and Hove Section 31 Partnership on Monday 8 November 2004 at 3.30 p.m. in Hove Town Hall, Council Chamber. All Members of the Adult Social Care and Health Sub-Committee were invited to attend.

32.2 The Chair informed the Sub-Committee that she had invited Jane Frost from ASSERT to address the meeting on the Asperger Stakeholder Day. (Item 33).

33 PEOPLE WITH ASPERGER SYNDROME

33.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Housing and City Support that detailed the progress made regarding assessment and services for people with Asperger Syndrome in Brighton & Hove (see minute book).

33.2 The Manager, Integrated Learning Disability Service reported that there were many people with Asperger Syndrome who were coping well, but there were some who needed extra support and access to services. The diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome was increasing nationally, and it was important that staff who provided services had an adequate knowledge of the condition.

33.3 Assessments for Asperger Syndrome could be complex and the condition did not necessarily meet the criteria as a learning disability. Meanwhile, low level timely support could prevent higher cost care packages in the future.

33.4 Jane Frost, Secretary of ASSERT (Brighton & Hove) addressed the Sub-Committee on the Asperger Stakeholder Day held on 17 September 2004. Speakers on the day were Andrew Powell of the National Autistic Society, Dr Amita Shah, a consultant clinical psychologist who specialised in autistic spectrum disorders, particularly Asperger Syndrome and Sarabjit Singh who has Asperger Syndrome.

33.5 The final plenary session was extremely useful and a priority list for action was established.

33.6 Members agreed that there needed to be a further report on the recommendation to identify a lead officer to act as the strategic link for the Council on issues for people with Asperger Syndrome. Members stressed the importance of a specialist worker and how asked how this would affect the budgetary process. The issue of how Asperger Syndrome would be accommodated within the Draft Learning Disability Strategy was also raised.

33.7 The Director of Housing and City Support replied that if Members were asking for an additional worker, it would be necessary to report back with a request for additional resources. At this stage of the financial year, the specific grant available for 2005/06 was not yet known. It was possible that existing staff could take on this role when other tasks came to a natural conclusion. Meanwhile the issue of how Asperger Syndrome would be accommodated within the Learning Disability Strategy would be discussed at the Joint Commissioning Board.

33.8 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the progress made be noted, namely: **Naomi Cox**

- That Learning Disability Development Fund money was used during 2003/04 and research was undertaken, as set out in appendix 1 to the report.
- A Stakeholders Event was held on 17 September 2004. A record of the event is set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

(2) That a lead officer be identified to act as the strategic link for the Council on issues for people with Asperger Syndrome. The Lead Officer has yet to be confirmed and the taking on of this role may require the reprioritising of an existing workload.

(3) That urgent discussion takes place with the Primary Care Trust and South Downs Health to enable the local diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome.

(4) That funding be made available from Integrated Learning Disability and Mental Health Services Learning and Development budgets to enable Asperger Awareness Sessions take place each year for professionals working in the Council and local Health economy.

(5) That a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee concerning the identification of a lead officer to act as a strategic link for the council on issues for people with Asperger Syndrome. The report should also consider the ability of the Council to provide assessment to people with Asperger Syndrome, training and familiarisation for staff and consequent budgetary implications.

34. QUARTER 1 BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE REPORT 2004/04

34.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Services that presented the 2004/05 quarterly performance indicator (PI) results for all indicators for which the Adult Social Care Sub-Committee is the Service Committee (see minute book). These indicators were taken from the statutory Best Value Performance Indicator (BVP1) suite.

34.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Performance Indicator results achieved during the first quarter 2003/04 as detailed in the abridged Q1 Best Value Performance Report 2004/05 be noted as set out in appendix 2 to the report.

(2) That it be noted that the 2003/04 year end results have been audited.

35. PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE ADULTS

35.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Housing and City Support which updated Members on the current situation of the protection of vulnerable adults locally and the areas of development in progress (see minute book).

35.2 The Service Manager, Vulnerable Adults informed the Sub-Committee that a number of cases were being reported to the older peoples' team. Most cases were in residential or nursing care. The information was often received from staff. Agencies were addressing the issue of working together and council officers were now involved with training with the police and the Commission for Social Care Inspectorate (CSCI).

35.3 A bid had been made to the Invest to Save fund for adult protection awareness and a publicity campaign.

35.4 **RESOLVED** – (1) That current developments and work planned for the protection of vulnerable adults be noted.

(2) That the proposed serious case review process, as set out in paragraph 6 of the report be noted.

(3) That the introduction of the Protection of Vulnerable Adults register be noted.

(4) That the House of Commons Health Committee report recommendations be noted.

(5) That a seminar on Protection of Vulnerable Adults be arranged for Members. **Brigid Day**

36. PERFORMANCE REPORT

36.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Housing and City Support concerning the outcomes emerging from recent reviews of performance in Adult Social Care (see minute book).

36.2 Members were informed that the Performance Star Rating would be confirmed on 18 November and the Sub-Committee would receive a further report in December.

36.3 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the outcomes of the recent Annual Review with the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) be noted.

(2) That the Spring 2004 submission of the Delivery and Improvement Statement, which informed the Annual Review, be noted.

37. MEMBERS VISITS TO ESTABLISHMENTS

37.1 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Housing and City Support that sought approval for the production of a Members' visiting rota for a further year. The visits were to the Council's Social Care establishments, including those establishments within services, which have integrated with the NHS (see minute book).

37.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) That Members of the Sub-Committee continue to undertake the function of visiting adult social care establishments on behalf of the council.

(2) That it be noted that individual Members' names will be fed into the rota on an evenly distributed basis before distribution and that visits to establishments will not take place more often than 3 monthly. **Philip Letchfield**

38. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL

38.1 No items were referred to Council.

The meeting concluded at 6.31 p.m.

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2004